

From The Art Room

Hi, it has been a busy start to the year – all grades have been creating self-portraits with a twist. Grade prep created themselves using watercolour, grade 1/2 turned themselves into superheros, grade 3/4 Lego portraits and grade 5/6 have been creating portraits using a filter on 'Face Effects'. Over the next few weeks, we will be making sculptures and construction using recycled materials. If you have cereal boxes or other recyclables that you think may be useful at home and wouldn't mind bringing them in to school, I would be very grateful!

Thank you for all the donations that magically appear all the time –it is greatly appreciated!

Art smocks needed please! You don't have to buy one! If your child doesn't have an art smock yet an old t-shirt or shirt from mum, dad, grandma or grandpa will do just fine.

Thank you!

Jenny – Art room



Amelia Longhurst – Prep



Iyla Dalley – 1/2



Harry Kerr – 3/4



Hugo Stannus – 5/6

Classroom Helpers:

What a great first session we had this morning. Thanks to those who attended! Session 2 for this group will be next Wednesday at 9:00 am.

We have also needed to add another group and this will begin on Wednesday 27th of February at 2:00pm!

If you are still interested, you now have a choice of a morning session and an afternoon session.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Fiona Dobson

Classroom Helpers

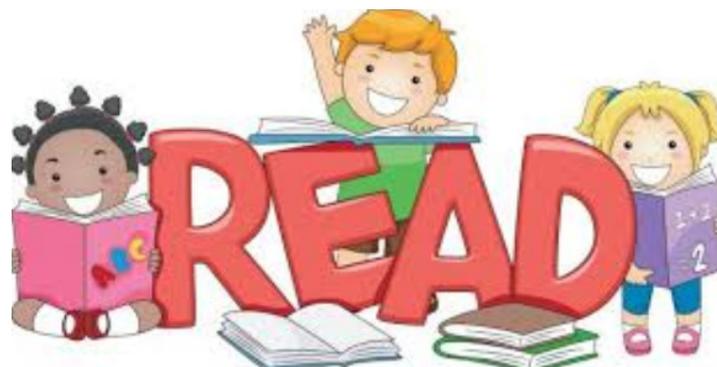


Tips on supporting your children's learning at home:

Below you will see some helpful tips on helping your child read at home.

1. Establish a home reading routine. Read aloud with your children every day. Ten minutes for each child around a book of his/her choice. If English is your second language, read in your home language. If you lack confidence in reading aloud, the fact that you are reading with your child is what matters. Talk about the illustrations and contribute where you can. Share your excitement for reading and this will be the model your child will adopt.
2. The reader holds the book! There is a lot of power and control in the world of reading. The reader needs to have the power.
3. During home reading time, turn off electronic devices and give each child ten minutes of your undivided attention.
4. Before you read a book, set your child up for success. Reading is not a test! Reading time is only ten minutes so do some of the following: Keep the introduction short – one minute is enough. Talk about the illustrations and the title. Read the blurb and talk about the author, talk about any unusual words, read a page here and there as your child flicks through the book, discuss the characters. This is a short introduction, not an interrogation. If the book is already a familiar one, then this step is unnecessary.
5. Find a reading time that works for your family. Limit the time and set the timer if reading in the past has always been difficult. It is better to have an enjoyable 10 minutes than a laborious 30 minutes where everyone is left feeling frustrated.
6. At the end of the 10 minutes, ask questions that encourage discussion, for example: What was your favourite part? Tell me about the characters. What do you think will happen next? What did you think about that setting? What do like/ dislike about this book? There is no need to interrogate the reader. Make it a conversation as you would in a book club.

Encourage your child to read independently. A bedside light is one of the best enticements for your child to read before going to sleep. After the 10 minutes of reading with you, the child can elect to continue reading independently.



There is **never** an occasion when violence is an acceptable behaviour.