Dear Families,

Welcome back to our final and busiest term. This term I am looking forward to working with you and your children to see continued personal and academic growth.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every family for taking the time from your busy schedules last term to participate in our learning journeys. During learning journeys I felt so proud watching every child enthusiastically share their learning with you.

From swimming to concerts this term has it all! So I would encourage you to read the newsletter and website to keep up with upcoming events and dates.

**Inquiry Units**

To meet the needs of the Australian Curriculum this term year 1 and 2 students will be inquiring into different topics. To accommodate this learning year one students will spend two hours a week working with Michael and his year ones while year two students from our class and Michael's will work with me. Inquiry investigations will still take place in the classroom.

**Inquiry Year 1 - ‘Look! Listen!’**

Light and sounds surround us, bringing a wealth of information about our world. We use light and sound to communicate with each other. Sounds can be as different as beautiful music or screaming sirens. Light can transmit the pictures from a television screen or the expressions on someone's face. Through this unit students will investigate how sources of light and sound are produced and how they travel.

Big idea- Light and sound are produced by a range of sources and can be sensed.

**Lines of Inquiry:**
- Our senses are used to learn about the world around us
- The sun as a source of light
- Objects can be seen when light from sources is available to illuminate them
- We use light and sound to communicate with one another

**Inquiry Year 2 - ‘Push–Pull’**

Forces are at work in everything that we do- we push to open doors and pull to tie ropes. Gravity pulls on things to make them fall down or to keep them down. Through this unit students will have the opportunity to explore pushes and pulls by investigating, observing and gathering evidence about how these forces act in air, water and on the ground. Students will identify the effect of the pull of gravity and learn that both air and water can ‘push’.

Big Idea - Forces change the way things move.

**Lines of Inquiry:**
- Forces can be harnessed to do useful things
- The balance between opposing forces determines whether objects float or sink
- The forces of gravitation determine how things move

Through this inquiry students will work with the Australian Curriculum Science areas. Students will develop the skills of planning and conducting experiments and processing and analysing data and information. For further details, please see the link below:

**Literacy**

**Reading**
This term we will continue with our established everyday literacy experiences, including explicit teaching of the reading strategies. Children will work on their reading goals independently and together with buddies. I encourage you to regularly listen to your child read, as well as share interesting stories with them. I look forward to seeing the Turner School Reading Log on a regular basis to see what is capturing the children's interests and ensure there are a variety of different books being read at home. If you need another Reading Log to record please see me.

**Writing**
To begin our term, we will have a focus on procedural writing to link in with our Science inquiries. Following this, we will move into exposition writing and engage with persuasive texts. Students will learn the structure and language features associated with these types of texts in real life contexts. We will continue to learn about grammatical features and put these understandings into practice while engaging in the writing process. You can support your children at home by sharing procedures you have in your house and how you use them, for example, recipes, board game instructions or even those easy to follow instructions for flat pack furniture. As we move into exposition writing I am sure there will be plenty of opportunities to point out how your children try to persuade you on a daily basis.

**Word Study**
Word study and spelling are explicitly taught in the classroom and then practised during writing time. I believe it is important for children to see spelling as a tool for writing, not stand alone learning. Our word study groups are ability based groups formed using writing and spelling assessments. The groups are differentiated to meet the needs of all students within the class. I am so impressed with each child’s progress in spelling this year.

**Talking and Listening**
Every day students take part in formal and informal talking and listening activities. Our talking and listening groups provide students with an opportunity to focus on their speaking and listening skills with explicit teaching. It is a very important part of our learning to provide children with opportunities to talk and think aloud.

**Mathematics**

**Multiplication and Division**
This term we will continue building understanding of multiplication and division as sharing items between groups. Children will engage with a variety of mental computation strategies to assist their fluency and accuracy of problem solving.

**Volume & Capacity**
This term students will be involved in measuring and comparing the capacities and volume of objects using appropriate uniform informal units.

**Mass**
To link in with measuring of volume and capacity, children will also be engaged in measuring and comparing the mass of objects using balancing scales. You can support your child at home by giving them kitchen scales and measuring jugs and getting them to weigh and measure. Cooking with your child this term will consolidate their understanding of both measuring and procedural writing.

**Time Durations**
Later in the term, children will be focusing on time durations including months, seasons, weeks, days and hours and apply this knowledge in understanding how to read a calendar.

**Library with Norma John**
This term in Library students are completing independent projects on Australian authors and illustrators using The Literature Centre website via Turner's very own virtual library, Library for Kids. These projects will be presented using a graphic organiser in Microsoft Word and displayed in the Library later on in the term. Our library day is Tuesday.

**Physical Education**
This term 1/2 children will continue to practise a variety of fundamental movement skills. This will include regular Perceptual Motor Development sessions where children will work on toning muscles to build upon their ability to receive, interpret and respond successfully to sensory information. Please ensure that each day your child has appropriate footwear, clothing, a brimmed hat, plenty of water and healthy food for optimum energy. With the warmer weather this term we adjust our lessons accordingly.
Swimming
Do not forget that swimming programs will take place in weeks 4 to 6. The Aqua safe program is available for all year 2 children and the AIS clinic is a great opportunity for the year 1 children to strengthen their skills and have fun in the water! Please get those permission slips in or see me if you have any questions or concerns.

Art with Sally Visser-Marchant
In Art class this term children will study the work of Edvard Munch, Kandinsky and Vincent van Gogh within a program that links with the year 1 and year 2 inquiry units. They will be experimenting with a range of mediums throughout the term such as fabric collage, painting papier mache.

Indonesian with Sue Boyce
This term the children will be introduced to the Indonesian vocabulary to describe parts of the body. They will have the opportunity to develop their knowledge through conversations, games and songs.

Music with Kirsty Robison
In music sessions the children are working on a great arrangement of a terrific piece by an internationally renowned Australian composer for the end of year concert. It’s quite challenging but the children love it. In other work they are making decisions about tempo, rhythm and voice style to create different musical effects.

1-2 term 4 blurbs
Please have a look at the Turner School website and read Jen Faul’s team update for term 4. It touches on an important point that parents and carers may like to consider at home.

General Reminders
Don’t forget Turner is a nut aware school. There are children with serious nut allergies in the 1/2 cohort so please keep this in mind when packing your child’s lunch and recess.

Please help to encourage your child in building independence of organising their own belongings by providing them with positive feedback about their ability to pack their own items into their school bag and bring things home too.

A huge THANK YOU to all of the parents who have volunteered in our classroom this year! We really appreciate your time and efforts in assisting our classroom to be a place of sharing and celebrating learning experiences together.

As always please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing you throughout the term.

Thanks and best wishes,

Charlotte Kewley
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Important dates for 1 / 2 CK Term 4, 2015
Please refer to the whole school Tm 4 calendar that went home with the week 1 newsletter.
Wk3 Wednesday 28th October – Children’s Week Whole School Assembly including Read Aloud 2.10pm Snr Hall
Wk 4 Year 2 Aqua Safe at CISAC
Wk 5 Year 1 Swim School at AIS and Yr 2 Aqua Safe at CISAC
Wk 6 Year 1 Swim School at AIS
Wk 7 Wednesday 25th November Jnr Assembly 2.10pm Snr Hall
Wk 8 Wednesday 2nd December End of Year Concert 5.30 picnic and 6.30 concert commences
The newsletter and website will keep you updated with all events.