Dear Families,

It is coming to the end of such a wonderful year and it is time to celebrate the huge achievements of children in our class. Children have worked so hard at getting smarter in their learning, building social and communication skills and reflecting upon their own learning goals. This was especially celebrated through Learning Journeys last term. A big thank you to all parents and family members who came along. Children were buzzing with excitement afterwards and were especially proud of the feedback they received from you about their learning achievements.

We would like to welcome two new students to our class. Welcome Niraj and Shriya! This term we will have a primary focus on building upon our existing relationships as well as making new friendships by socialising with children in different classes. We will be joining other 1/2 classes during eating time and enjoy having lunch under the trees while sitting with a variety of different children. We will also have other opportunities to join together for various learning activities and transition sessions, in preparation for class formations for next year. We are also eager to participate in the upcoming Year 2 Aqua Safe swimming program. Not only will this be a great social activity for the Year 2’s to join together, it will also be paramount in ensuring that children are confident in their water survival skills. We have also begun practicing for the end of year concert and are excited to showcase our amazing musical skills later in the term.

**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 as well as processing and analysing data and information. For further details, please see the link below:


If any parents have expertise in this area of Science and would be willing to share it with us, we welcome any guest speakers to come in and share your knowledge with us!
Literacy

Reading
This term children will have opportunities to apply their knowledge of various reading strategies through class 'book clubs'. This will involve groups of children reading the same book and taking on specific reader roles or collecting specific information about the book based on their individual reading goals. Children will have opportunities to share their understanding of the books they read and engage in discussions together with their book club to further build their comprehension of the text.

I encourage you to regularly read with your child as well as share interesting stories with them. This helps children to widen their knowledge about the world and to develop curiosity about books and their surroundings. 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. Please send your child's Reading Folder into school on a weekly basis with some short comments about what they are reading and how they are going at home.

Writing
To begin our term, we will have a focus on procedural writing to link in with our Science inquiry. Children will investigate how procedures are sequenced and used in our everyday lives. Following this, we will move into exposition writing and engage with persuasive texts. Students will learn the structure and language features associated with these texts and engage in persuasive arguments to support a particular position. We will continue to learn about grammatical features and bumping up our writing while engaging in the writing process.

Word Study
This term we will have a continued focus on strategies to implement when spelling words. Children will work in small groups to examine words and sort them into groups. These groups may have words that are connected by sound patterns, visual patterns or meaning of words. Children will explore how spelling rules can be applied to describe these groups of words, for example, bed, read, said have the /e/ sound in common. This study of words supports children in making the connection between their reading, writing and oral language.

Mathematics

Multiplication and Division
This term we will focus on building a solid understanding of multiplication and division as sharing items between groups. Children will engage with a variety of mental computation strategies including, repeated addition and subtraction, making equal groups, arrays with rows and columns and skip counting. They will have opportunities to apply this knowledge in their everyday environment to build a deeper understanding of groupings, before moving onto representing these as times tables.

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 volume and capacity, children will also be engaged in measuring and comparing the mass of objects using balancing scales.

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

You can support our maths work for this term by engaging children in problem solving around your home. You can assist children to put their learning into real-life contexts by weighing items in the kitchen, measuring ingredients while cooking, marking off days on the calendar or sharing items equally between groups.
Physical Education

This term 1/2 children will continue to practise a variety of fundamental movement skills. We will also participate in 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. When necessary, we do adjust our PE lessons to suit the hotter weather in term 4.

Library with Norma

Our class library day will remain on Tuesday throughout the term. Please remind children to bring a library bag on this day and be responsible for returning books regularly. 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.

Art with Sally

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

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 Giselle

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.

Important dates for 2KP Hungry Bears Term 4, 2015

Wk 3 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 Year 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 5.30pm picnic and 6.30pm concert commences

For more information, please refer to the whole school term 4 calendar that went home with the week 1 newsletter. Please also 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.

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 about this term or about your child’s learning and I look forward to seeing you throughout the term.

Thanks and best wishes,

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