

# Kindergarten Newsletter: January 2012

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a fantastic and relaxing holiday. I would like to say a big “thank you” for all the thoughtful Christmas cards and gifts. What an amazing Kindergarten community we have!

Thank you, also, so much for your ongoing support this year. We had a brilliant first term learning about Travel & Transportation and Toys. The children have come along really well in their learning.

It was wonderful that most parents were able to attend our first two Open Houses in Term 1. The children really loved showing you around their classroom and I enjoyed seeing how the children communicated their learning and excitement with you. I look forward to our next Open House!



I would also like to congratulate all the children for being fantastic kittens in The Landlord's Cat.

## Literacy and Numeracy Curriculum Highlights: Term 2

In Literacy, we will continue to be working with letter formation, blending sounds together, printing words & sentences, journaling, reading and learning our sight words.

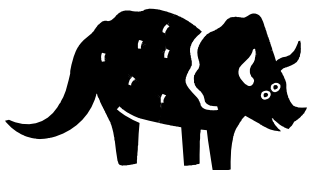
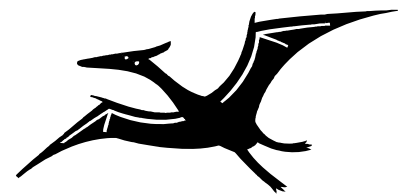
In Numeracy, we will be learning about ordering, estimation, comparing quantities, shapes (2D and 3D), ordinal numbers, counting and finding one more or less than a given number.

## New Half Term Topic:

I am so excited to get back into the classroom because we have an exciting new topic to explore this half term:

**Dinosaurs!** Some of the interesting weekly topics and activities we will be delving into are:

- different kinds of dinosaurs (land, sea, air)
- dinosaur eggs and growing
- dinosaur toys for sorting, patterning and simple addition/subtraction activities
- creating dinosaur fossils and digging for dinosaur bones in our sand table
- creating a dinosaur museum in our role play area (with links to Literacy and Numeracy)
- watching bits of Walking with Dinosaurs (BBC) and some dinosaur TV programs



- If you have any dinosaur books, movies, toys, posters or anything else dinosaur related, I would love to borrow them for this topic. Please make sure that all items brought in to the classroom are labelled with your child's name. All items will be returned at the end of the topic. Thank you in advance!

## Optional: At-Home Dinosaur Activity

Create a lost land from your imagination: Make a Pot Plant Dinosaur Jungle

- ❖ In a large tray, spread gravel and potting compost. Then, plant some plants and add rocks to create some landscape. After, add dinosaur tracks and dinosaur figurines to complete your dinosaur jungle.
- ❖ Please bring in your dinosaur jungle whenever you are finished. Our dinosaur unit will last six weeks.

### Just a few bits and bobs:

- ✓ Please check the board outside the classroom for important notices about the classroom.
- ✓ Please make sure your child comes to school with a hat, water bottle, and sensible shoes. No jewellery (earrings, necklaces, bracelets) please.



- ✓ To help prevent the possible spread of head lice, long hair should be tied back. Please remember to “once a week, take a peek!”

- ✓ Please help your child to learn how to tie their shoes with laces at home. I would appreciate your help, as I have found that lacing shoes (and trying to teach how to lace up shoes) continuously throughout the day takes time



away from our lessons.

- ✓ If your child is going to be picked up by someone else other than you, please make sure that you tell myself and the office.

Show and Tell: Show and Tell starts on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Make sure to check the board outside the classroom to see what new group your child is in. Some children have moved groups and show and tell days.

Reminder: Please bring in **one** object only!

P.E.: P.E. will now be on Monday afternoons and Thursdays mornings. P.E. will start on Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing sensible shoes (no flip flops, crocs) and dressed in their P.E. uniform. Long hair should be tied back, no jewellery should be worn. Please also make sure to pack extra water bottles on P.E. days.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

#### **JANUARY**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup>:** School lunch starts and clubs begin

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>:** School Photos and PTA meeting at 6pm

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup>:** Dress Down Day

#### **FEBRUARY**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup>:** Mid-term Break

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup>:** Dress Down Day

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March:** Teacher / Parent Meetings

#### **MARCH**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>:** Theme Week

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup>:** Commonwealth Day – Public Holiday

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Keep Healthy Week

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Preschool – Yr 2 Sports Day - 9 am at the Sports Centre

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>:** Yr 3 – 6 Gymnastics Showcase / Basketball Tournament – 9 am at the Sports Centre

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup>:** Term Ends at 12:30 pm.

As always, if you have any questions, please come and speak to myself after school. Miss Tracy