

ES1- TERM 1 OVERVIEW

WELCOME

Dear families,

Welcome to your first 'stage' newsletter. Hopefully this may answer some of your questions about the learning in class, or schedule for the week. Every Wednesday, students will study art with Ms Stein, music with Ms Cecire and library with Ms Perry. Students will not be permitted to borrow without a library bag. The EPS home reader bags can be used as a 'communication' bag to transport notes from class, home readers and borrowed books from the library. Please make sure your child brings this bag to school everyday. These durable bags can be purchased from Pickles. Home readers will be handed out in term 2.

TOYS AND OTHER ITEMS We ask that your child does not pack the following items for school -

- Toys
 - Skipping ropes
 - Trading cards
 - Soccer balls
 - Pencil case - We provide all the supplies required to undertake learning
- These items can often be lost, damaged and cause disruption during learning and play times. Students are able to bring handballs.*

BEFORE AND AFTER HOURS ACCESS TO CLASSROOMS. We understand you're excited to see our learning spaces, but it is also our private workspace to plan lessons and to hold meetings. You will be able to see your child's classroom during Parent/Teacher Interviews and Open Classrooms. Thank you for your understanding.

Kind regards,
The Kindy Team

TIMETABLING

Art, library and music
Wednesday

Sport

Tuesday and Thursday

Please send your child to school wearing sport shoes on these days.

EVENTS

Welcome BBQ | Week 6 Friday 8 March

Harmony Day | Week 9

School Photos | **Monday 8 April**

ES1 - TERM 1 OVERVIEW

ENGLISH

Literacy activities have commenced in classrooms. This year Kindergarten students will be taught literacy through the InitialLit program. More details about the program are on the following page. In class students have been learning about books, participating in shared reading experiences and have started pre-writing activities. Students will be learning to identify the sounds they hear in words, rhyme, clap syllables in words, form letters correctly and use the correct pencil grip. Students will practise talking about books and answering questions about stories and characters.

MATHS

This term, students will focus on 'whole number'. This includes counting forwards and backwards, numeral ID, ordering, reading and representing a variety of numbers. The other topics will be 'measurement and space' and 'statistics and probability'.

SCIENCE

Students will investigate the 'material world'. They will explore the observable properties of materials in our school and how these properties influence the way a material is used.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH (PDH)

Kindergarten PDH lessons will focus on school rules, classroom rules and the attributes of positive relationships. We will be following the 'You Can Do It' program that builds skills in resilience, persistence, organisation, confidence and getting along.



Confidence	Organisation	Getting Along	Resilience	Persistence
				
Connie Confidence	Oscar Organisation	Gabby Get Along	Ricky Resilience	Pete Persistence

Initialit–Foundation

Parent/Carer information



whole-class instruction in literacy

What is Initialit–Foundation?

Initialit-Foundation, or Initialit–F, is a literacy program for all children in their first year of school to ensure that all children get off to the best possible start. It has been developed by MultiLit, a research-based initiative of Macquarie University.

What does Initialit–F do?

Initialit–F teaches children how to read and spell through daily lessons, using research-based teaching methods. It also uses a range of good quality storybooks to develop children’s vocabulary and oral language.

How does Initialit–F teach reading and writing?

Initialit–F teaches children that words are made up of sounds and sounds are represented by letters. Unlike learning to talk which children pick up naturally, children do need to be directly taught the relationship between sounds and letters.

An Initialit lesson should take place at least four times a week. The first 20 minutes are spent on the mat where the children are introduced to new letters and sounds in a set order. They will do a number of targeted activities to practise reading and spelling words with the new sound during this whole-class session. After the lesson on the mat, the teacher will work with different groups of children to help them read words, sentences and stories using all the

sounds and letters they have been taught. While the teachers is working with a group, the rest of the class will be doing an activity to consolidate what they have been learning. This may be a spelling worksheet, a game to practise their tricky words, or more practice using an Initialit reader.

All children will greatly benefit from the structured nature of the program, regardless of how many or few skills they bring to the task.

How does Initialit–F develop oral language and vocabulary?

Children will enjoy a quality storybook over four teaching sessions. They will learn three new vocabulary words per book and do fun activities to help them understand when and how to use those words. They will also discuss the themes surrounding the book and learn how stories relate to their own world. These sessions will provide opportunities for children to use new words, develop good listening comprehension and a love of literature. Specifically teaching children new words has a very positive impact on later reading comprehension.

How can I help with my child’s reading at home?

Read a storybook each day to your child and discuss the story, pointing out any new words to enrich their vocabulary. Spend time teaching your child nursery rhymes, songs and poems. Play language games. Talk about letters and sounds in the environment. When readers are sent home, make sure that you spend time listening to your child read, providing support to help them apply their knowledge about sounds and letters to the text.

Find out more
1300 559 919

multilit@multilit.com

www.multilit.com/programs/initialit

