Dear Foundation Families,

It is wonderful to return to school after Term 2 holidays and find our students full of enthusiasm. Students have eagerly shared their holiday adventures with their class. They have been busy going to the snow, trips to Hong Kong, Phillip Island, shopping sprees, visiting friends and of course watching movies. We appreciate the effort parents make to continue the home reading program over the holidays as consistent reading is very important. It will be another exciting and eventful term ahead and we have lots of interesting activities planned for the Foundation Level. It is pleasing to see the students happily settling back into the school routines and the classroom structures.

Busy, busy.

There are a variety of events planned for Term 3 including activities to celebrate 100 days of school, Chesterfield Farm excursion, Tony Bones and Living Eggs. We look forward to the farm excursion where the children can see and touch farm animals and experience activities such as milking and feeding animals.

With the Living Eggs program we can watch chickens hatch and then record their progress and growth over 2 weeks. It is very interesting and the students always enjoy holding and caring for these little birds.

BUDDIES

There will be various opportunities for the Foundation students to continue to develop their relationships with their Buddies during Term 3.

LITERACY

This term we will be developing further Reading and Writing skills in Literacy Groups. Foundation students will participate in guided reading and activities based on the students individual needs. These may include concepts of print, targeted reading strategies, fine motor skills and letter/sounds patterns. In Writing, we will extend the range of writing experiences to include lists, cards, letters, recounts, diaries and invitations. We will also continue to focus on developing their vocabulary to include high frequency words in their writing and correct sentence structure. We continue to develop correct size and formation of letters in formal handwriting and correct use of punctuation.
NUMERACY
In Numeracy this term we will be teaching the topics of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability. These include addition and subtraction, number stories, working knowledge of numbers to 20, calculators, shapes, representing and analysing data, mass, capacity, days of the week, day and night, time, seasons and money. Please encourage your child to see the mathematical elements in daily activities. For example, count the stairs as you climb them, point out shapes when you see them, show your child you value mathematics by playing number games together. It is also very important that your child is able to recite the numbers that make 10 e.g. 7+3, 5+5, 8+2, 6+4

DEVELOPMENTAL CURRICULUM
The children are continuing to participate in 'Investigations' this term centreing on fostering creativity, imagination, and active engagement through student's interests. We are also learning about Farm Animals and Produce and hatching eggs. We value the children's opportunities to investigate because they can develop skills such as leadership, resilience, sharing, creativity, independence and responsibility during these sessions. If you or your child has any books, toys etc. relating to our unit, please send them in. We are looking forward to a very exciting term with lots of making, discovering and creating!

LATENESS AND ABSENCES
The children continue to develop their independence and bringing their own bag into school and putting it away is part of this. Children can enter the building from 8.50am to put their bag away, take home book and notice folder in the tubs and then they may head back outside to play or stay inside. When the bell rings they must be inside ready to start their learning. Classroom teachers need to start their classroom programs as soon as possible in order to maximise student learning in the morning. Therefore we are asking parents to bring students to class on time.
*Parents and siblings are requested to please leave the classroom when the music starts so that the daily program can begin promptly at 9.00am
*If you arrive after the 9.00am bell please collect a late pass at the office.
If your child is absent for any reason the office does require an absent note stating the dates absent. This is to be handed to the class teacher and is a legal requirement from the Department of Education.

CLASSROOM MATERIALS -
- appropriate information fliers, magazines, menus, brochures, catalogues etc.
- clean ice-cream containers, large yoghurt containers, egg cartons
- boxes - tissues, soap, cereals, biscuits etc.
- washing powder scoops
- milk bottle lids
If you have any of these unwanted materials at home send them with your child to school. Remember too, that the art room can always use these and many other items.

VICTORIAN PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE
All Foundation students have participated in the shared reading of the required number of picture books to complete the challenge in class and library sessions. Students who have now returned the permission form will receive a certificate and their name in the newspaper later in the year.

We look forward to a wonderful Term 3 in Foundation!
Thank you for your support and assistance,

Foundation teachers
Kathy Skantzos  Pia Chadwick

Principal
Gayle Cape