

Group 2, Term 1 Parent Overview

Hello all and welcome back to a new year! We hope you had a fun but also restful time over the holidays.

Our new group this term will be going...

Into the wild!

And what better way to welcome new faces and kick off a theme than by going on an excursion?!

Late last term, our beloved creek suffered the unfortunate event of having its aquatic life killed off by a nasty chemical spill. This coupled with the children's discovery of a secret place that they named 'RC' (River Cave) led us to believe that an outdoor, bush based, creek rehabilitation theme might be in order!

We chose to have an excursion to Warriewood Wetlands as it provided expert advice on how to test water for biotic and abiotic life and to check for cleanliness. Our hope was to be able to bring these skills back to our own creek to help it out.

We are not planning too far ahead and will follow the children's lead in the direction that this theme takes but it is sure to incorporate many areas of the curriculum. It *may* include:

Literacy Skills:

- Researching local flora and fauna
- Bush stories and poetry
- pamphlets/information reports on our findings
- A talk 4 Writing narrative process based on a dreamtime story (looking at vocabulary, sentence types and whole text structure)

Numeracy Skills:

- Volume and capacity (how much water runs through the creek?)
- Measurement and position (maps)
- Surveys of trees/animals found in our bush

- Number
- Reading different scales

Science skills:

- Conservation issues linked to water
- Life cycles of trees
- The water cycle
- Investigations into water cleanliness
- Encouraging life back into the creek (habitats and fauna)
- Considering human impact on natural environments

As always we love to have the input of your ideas in our planning and your presence in our activities. If you would like to spend the day with us in the bush or have an interesting bush related skill to share with the children, please let us to know.

Other bits and bobs

Swimming will recommence on 15th Feb for Group 2 and finish on the 22nd of March. These swimming sessions, for Group 2 only, will occur between Morning Tea and Snack attack on Wednesdays. Please send a separate small swimming bag (not string straps please as they tend to rub shoulders) with swimmers, a swimming cap and goggles. Hats, shoes and a top that covers your child's shoulders will be required as we will be walking to and from the pool.

French will continue on Friday mornings.

Grace will have a rest day Wednesdays, Tristan Thursdays.

Towards the end of this term, we will have our annual Yurt Farm camp. This will be on the 15th, 16th and 17th of March.

Our poetry festival will be on the last day of Term 4, the 7th of April

Tinkering will be on Friday the 3rd and Monday the 27th of March. Please let Group 2 teachers or the school know if you have any great ideas for pods.

Parent teacher interviews will happen on Monday 27th of Feb and Tuesday 7th of March.
We have times slots posted on the Group 2 notice board for you to put your name down for.

Can we sign off by asking that the children arrive to school by 9am please. We find that late arrivals mean a less settled start to the day for the children.