Dear Families!

**Term 3 2015 Class Newsletter IELC 4**
Hello and welcome to term 3. For the first 4 weeks our student teacher, Lainie Ritter will be joining us. We welcome her to our class and hope she has an enjoyable learning experience.

Later in the term we hope to go to the Royal Adelaide Show to see some animals and other interesting agricultural events. This will fit with our theme of animals. We will also have various animals in our room that we can observe and learn about them. Some animals we may have chickens, frogs, lizard, rabbit and hopping mice.

**Library borrowing** is on Fridays. Please ensure your children look after the library books and return them.

**Fruit break** - please continue to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable to have every day.

Thank you.

**Digital technology** - students will use apps on the i-pads to demonstrate their learning in other subject areas e.g in Science creating a life cycle of a frog on pic-collage or I-movie.

**Language**
Our **theme** this term is ‘Animals’. We will find out interesting facts about animals and write information reports. We will be learning – where the animals live (habitat), what they eat (diet) and describing what they look like (appearance)

**Oral language**, providing lots of opportunities for students to speak clearly in front of an audience and use our listening skills.

**Reading**, daily at school and in guided reading sessions twice a week.

**Guided reading** involves working in small groups on different texts, learning about locating and retrieving information (comprehension) as well as reading for meaning. We discuss how fiction and non-fiction books are organised, in particular animal reports.

**Grammar** is a large part of language and will be taught explicitly, this term focussing on correct grammar use in report writing e.g. noun groups

**Handwriting**, focussing on correct letter formation and neatness.

**Word Study**
This term we will continue developing our **spelling** skills using a program called ‘Words their Way’ and THRASS strategies. THRASS is an acronym for **Teaching Handwriting Reading And Spelling Skills**.

Students are tested and placed in groups according to their needs. Some strategies that are being learnt are syllables, phonemes (sounds), word meaning, complex sentences and many more.
Maths

We will continue to develop our **Mathematical Knowledge** in the following areas:

- **Money** - value of coins and notes, comparing amounts, value for money, giving change, ordering, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and shopping.
  We will be creating simple financial plans e.g. budgets.
- **Shape** - plane and solid shapes. Making models and describing key features of 2D and 3D shapes e.g. faces, vertices and edges. Connecting 3D objects with their nets. Identifying symmetry in the environment and creating simple symmetrical shapes.
- **Angles** - identifying, estimating, measuring and comparing angles using degrees as well as constructing angles using a protractor.
- **Order of operations** in +, -, x when used in algebra. (from Year 6)

Science

In **Science** we will be making and recording observations of living things as they develop through their life cycles e.g. chickens.
Later in the term we will cover a theme called ‘Light Fantastic’. We will be exploring where light comes from, how it is used, how light travels and how it enables us to see.
New vocabulary is being developed as we learn scientific words.

Homework

Homework is set 4 nights a week.
**Reading** - Students need to practise reading every night and retelling what they have read. Please support your child by listening to them read.
**Spelling** - Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check - a list of words will be given to your child every week. Your child needs to practise saying them and writing them.
**Maths** - Activity sheet, to be done every night.
Sometimes extra homework may be given to your child, please check their diaries for any notes or homework.

**Other teachers your child works with:**
- **Ms Glasper** – Art (making lanterns to be displayed in the library for book week as well as exploring different ideas to create animal masks)
- **Ms Poppy** – Dance & Drama (develop movements to music in preparation for end of year concert)
- **Mr Nguyen** - Physical Education (continue developing their communication skills, group cooperation, teamwork and sportsmanship through the sports of volleyball and badminton)

If you need to contact us, please write in the ‘Diary’ or ring the school to make an appointment on 8293 1863. **Thank you, Luda Reeves**