Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school for Term 4.

At the end of last term we said an unexpected and sad farewell to Alexander who has moved to a new school. We send him our best wishes and good luck on this next phase of his life.

We also said goodbye to our Pre-service teacher, Ms Cathy, who worked hard in our class on many areas of our learning. It will be different without her friendly face and caring nature.

In this last term of Reception, we continue to practice and consolidate basic skills in Literacy and Maths, and strive for competency, automaticity, fluency and confidence in our basic understanding of concepts. We will try to transfer these to solving problems and completing tasks.

In the first two weeks we will have a big focus on being a good sport, cooperation, having a try, and team work with Sports Day in Week 1 and swimming lessons in Week 2, and incorporating a lot of our Road Safety, Program Achieve, and Kimochi work in the lead up to and on the day. Our Reading focus will continue to be in retelling a text we have read and recalling the main points, and fluency. We will also keep working on our ‘Words Their Way’ Spelling program for most children, concentrating on blending and effective work habits and routines with the support of Carol, our Literacy Coordinator, although some children will still focus on Jolly Phonics and blending activities. Our formal Handwriting lessons will continue. Children will also keep working on and practising the Magic 100 sight words or work on the spelling lists and activities at home. I encourage all children and parents to go through all the sight words in their plastic packets as it is surprising how quickly some of them are forgotten.

This term will pass quickly and there are many big events as you can see from the School Calendar, and of course, Christmas is around the corner and on little people’s minds, so we will continue to concentrate and focus at school on making sure we have all the skills and attitudes we need to be successful in Year One. All the children have made fantastic progress this year and are a nice group of children to be with. There is always more we can learn but I believe that slowly and surely gets the job done, and daily practise and support from you and me makes the difference. Thank you for all the work you do with your children and I look forward to seeing you during the term.

Thank You

Ms Alanna

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**Term 4 Overview**

**English**  –continue to
- Practice recognising and recording of all the names and sounds of all letters- upper and lower case,
  Alphabet Warm-up Booklet
- alphabetical order, syllables, rhyming words, blending
- identifying vowel sounds-long and short
- word families
- Spelling groups
- guided reading groups
- Writing focus will be constructing simple sentences and grammar activities with Carol, consolidating
  ‘5 Star Writing’ skills and Recount, Procedure and Information Report writing

**Maths**  –continue to
- practice and consolidate basic Number concepts and ‘Trusting the Count’
- consolidate early ‘Secret Code’ problem-solving strategies –count on, count back, turn-arounds, doubles,
- subitising, grouping
- early addition concepts- more/less, count on, count back
- introduce Rainbow Facts
- ordinal numbers
• more sorting and graphing activities
• continue to send Maths monster home so all families have an opportunity to work with him on Reception Level tasks
• begin working on ‘Number activity bags’ to be sent home weekly to support basic number concept revising all number, measurement and spatial concepts and developing early problem-solving skills

Technology –
iPad lessons with Ms Diana- students will be collecting and presenting data in different ways to create meaning.

Health and PE
PE lessons with Mr. Nguyen - revisit and further develop key skills related to the games of cricket, tennis, and Bocce.

Sports Day
Swimming Week at Thebarton Pool
JP Fitness Stations

Personal and Social Development- continue to practice and encourage
• strategies for dealing with others
• using Kimochi puppets and their language and rules for further social and emotional development
• using all the keys for learning success with Program Achieve

Health
• Road Safety in relation to Sports Day and Swimming Week- bus passenger safety, pedestrian safety
• Water Safety at the Thebarton Swimming Pool

Science
Properties of Materials
• Describe the properties of familiar objects
• Identify some of the materials that everyday objects are made from
• Link the properties of a material to the uses of the object

The Arts
Performing Arts with Ms Poppy - children will aim to improve their performance through rehearsals, feedback from peers and self-assessment tasks. They will learn about the layout of the stage and how the performer's choices can impact the presentation of the show.
Visual Arts with Ms Glasper - children will do simple printing techniques and craft activities to create art.