Welcome to Term 2 in the Junior Learning Community!

We've got such a busy and exciting term ahead of us. We are very excited to be starting our Footsteps dancing lessons, which will go for all of Term 2.

We are also going to be working across the buildings for Literacy and Numeracy, which everyone is very excited about! Students who are in Mrs Doolan or Mrs Chen's home group might be working with Mrs Hughes and Miss Radford, or vice versa. Everyone is looking forward to starting some new topics and areas of learning in Literacy and Numeracy this term.

In the BER Junior Learning Community, we have the lovely Tayla working with the students every Tuesday for the rest of the year. Make sure you say hello when you see her!

Read on to find out what will be happening in your child's learning area this term!

Kind regards,

The Junior Teaching Team
**LITERACY**

This term in Literacy sessions, students will be moving between different teachers, including Mrs Biram, to work at their point of need. Prep students will still be working on letter recognition and correct letter formation. As students progress they will cover learning areas such as blends and ends (ch, sh, th, -ing, -ed), spelling strategies and writing topics such as personal letter writing and persuasive texts. All students will continue to concentrate on reading and comprehension strategies appropriate to their level.

**NUMERACY**

This term in Numeracy, students will be covering a wide range of topics. Prep students will continue to focus on number recognition and counting as an underlying skill in all areas of Numeracy. Additionally, students will continue to develop their knowledge in areas such as the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division), money, fractions, patterns and tessellation. This term, students will begin working in groups across all four home group teachers in the Junior Learning Community. This is to cater for the different abilities students demonstrate in Numeracy sessions.

**INVESTIGATIONS**

In Term 2 we hope to continue the great success students have experienced participating in the Kathy Walker Developmental Learning Model. Students enjoy and respond well to following their interests and moulding their learning around real events and experiences. This term some of our areas will be changing around. We say goodbye to the Medical Centre and Home Area, and hello to our Café and School. Our sensory area will now include ‘Feely Boxes’ where students feel mystery items and describe them. The Nature Area will include growing different seeds and monitoring their progress! We are all very excited about these changes.

If you feel that you have anything at home that would be suitable to donate, or loan, for any of our areas we would be very grateful! Please see your child’s home group teacher.
VISUAL & PERFORMANCE ART

This term we are focusing on Visual Arts and Drama. In Art students will be making masks using a range of materials. They will be learning about colour, shape and texture. These masks will then be used in the Drama sessions throughout the term. Students will also be designing and drawing their own artwork that will be copied onto a white tile and decorated with ceramic paint. This will further develop knowledge of spatial organisation, texture and colour.

In Drama, as well as using masks, students will be participating in Theatre Sport activities, Role Play situations and Improvisation. These topics will provide opportunities for all students to use their imagination and learn different ways to communicate with others. They will also develop skills that allow them to convey their ideas and feelings through movement and voice.

- Mrs Biram  Visual & Performance Art Teacher

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Physical Education at this level the focus is on having fun, feeling good about oneself and being well. The children will be given the opportunity to develop locomotion skills including running, walking, hopping, skipping etc. The other main focus will be on ball control skills including bouncing, dribbling, and throwing and catching. These skills will be introduced using a variety of teaching methods including – Tabloid Sports, Student Directed Activities, Individual and Team Skill Development Activities and Games. The aim is to reinforce previous learning and build students’ skills and confidence.

- Mr Peel  Health & Physical Education Teacher

SCIENCE

In Science this semester the children in P-2 will focus on learning about things around us. Topics will include Myself, Animals and Plants around Us and learning about Our Senses. We have five senses to help us learn about our surroundings and about our bodies. These are hearing, sight, taste, smell and touch. Children will engage in activities that help them understand how our senses send information to the brain which then interprets what is going on and what it should do. The core science skills being used will include gathering and organising information plus labelling and sorting information. We hope to capture the children’s interest and develop their curiosity about the world of science.

- Mr Peel  Science Teacher
FOOTSTEPS DANCING

This is a very exciting opportunity that Cranbourne Primary School have the chance to participate in. At the end of the term, students will be performing the dances they have learnt in a small concert for parents. These lessons will take place on Mondays from 9:40am - 10:20am.

It is expected that all students will participate in this fantastic whole school event. The cost of this incursion is $12.00 and can be paid at the Office. Please see your child’s home group teacher for a permission form, or alternatively download and print your own from the school website - http://www.cranbourne-ps.vic.edu.au/

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

All students in the Junior Learning Community are encouraged to participate in the 2014 Premier’s Reading Challenge. Each home group is keeping a running list of books they have read for the Challenge, but each student can read their own books at home as well. If you have not returned the permission form for the PRC, please see your child’s home group teacher or go to the school website to download and print your own form. The challenge ends in September, and students who have successfully completed the challenge will have their name published in The Age newspaper!

LIBRARY TIMES

Don’t forget that all Junior students will now be going to Library on Tuesdays. Students who wish to borrow books for the week will need to bring their library bag or pouch. Students who have overdue library books will not be able to borrow new books.

HATS

Terms 2 and 3 are hat free terms! This would be a great opportunity to take your child’s hat home and give it a nice wash before Term 4 begins. Your child is welcome to still wear their hat outside, but it is not compulsory.

LUNCHES

With the changing of weather from warmer to cooler, students are showing an increase in appetite! All students across the Junior Learning Community have Fruit Break at 10am. We encourage parents to pack whole pieces of fruit or vegetables, rather than fruit in jelly, for this time. Filling foods such as sandwiches, salad rolls or pasta are great lunches to send in the winter months. However, please keep in mind that teachers are not able to microwave food for students.