Important Dates
- Mini Olympics – Week 4 (12th August 2016)
- Faction Carnival – Week 7 (31st August 2016)
- Father’s Day – Week 7 (2nd September 2016)
- Pre-Primary’s First Assembly – Week 9 (15th September 2016)

LITERACY - Speaking & Listening:
This term, through the Phonological Awareness programme (how sounds are made) students will learn digraphs, that is, two letters that make one sound. These include: ai; oa; ie; ee; or; ng; oo; ch; sh; th; ou; oi; ue; er and ar. Students have already shown great success when reading and writing as they recall the digraphs using the actions they learn through the Jolly Phonics programme. *Letters and Sounds, Jolly Phonics, Reading Eggs* and THRASS are the programmes used to teach Literacy and Phonics. Revision and further development of the following skills will continue: Word Awareness (breaking sentences into words); Syllables; Rhyming; Alliteration (words beginning with the same sound); Isolating Sounds within words and Blending Sounds to make a word. Oral language activities, such as news telling and class discussions, continue to allow students to express their opinions and share their experiences with others.

Writing:
Each student now has their own Daily Writing book that they write in every day. Simple sentence structure using capital letters, full stops, spaces between words, CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words and high frequency words is modelled for students to copy. Students are encouraged to finish the sentence their own way, attempting to sound out the words using their phonics knowledge. Other formal and informal writing activities will continue to take place where students can hone their letter writing skills regularly. Correct letter formation is revised regularly to remind students how to write each letter using the Victorian Modern Cursive font.

Reading:
Home Readers have been sent home for the first time this year. Please be guided by the suggestions on the Home Reader card as to how to help your child read their book. Whilst every effort is made to ensure your child has the correct level of reader, should you have any concerns about whether the books are too easy or too hard, please let us know. Guided Reading is practised most days at Pre-Primary, especially when a new digraph is introduced, so many students will be able to recognise some of the digraphs in their readers. Shared Reading occurs each day with the focus on comprehension and listening skills. A number of traditional and modern texts will be used this term to illustrate the conventions of print. Reading your child’s library book each week will help to consolidate many language and literacy skills also.

MATHEMATICS -
Number & Algebra:
Practising reading, writing and saying numbers to 30 will occur regularly throughout this term. Writing numerals correctly will be useful when writing simple addition and subtraction equations. Coin denominations will be introduced. Many ‘hands-on’ experiences will be provided to consolidate counting, addition and subtraction, including addition to 10 using concrete objects and coins. Problem solving tasks to make groups of objects and creating equal or fair share groups of 2 and 3 will occur.

Measurement & Geometry:
Investigating 2D shapes by drawing shape patterns using 2D Shapes, describing their attributes and sorting them. The attributes of coins (shape, colour, design) will be included in patterning activities. Capacity will be introduced with hands on tasks investigating full, empty & half full containers, comparing capacities, and directly measuring and comparing a variety of different sizes and shapes of containers. Students will become familiar with comparing sizes of objects according to their area. Naming and ordering the seasons and months of the year will further develop the concept of time.
Statistics & Probability:
Data will be investigated by reading and making various graphs.

SCIENCE –
Students will explore and make observations using senses and different properties of materials. They will understand the different uses of materials that may be used to construct buildings, for example, what is waterproof and why. The weather and the seasons will also be covered when Mrs Pearse is in the room. We will explore all types of weather conditions through activities and experiments, how they relate to the seasons and compare ours to those of the Aboriginal people.

GEOGRAPHY –
The theme is around ‘Places, their Features and Importance’. We will again incorporate into Aborigine Studies and make our own Rainbow Serpent! The location of the Olympic Games – Rio – and some of the features of Brazil. We will learn some simple mapping skills to showcase our understanding of simple geographical features in our environment.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION -
Fundamental Movement Skills and team games will continue to be practised as students prepare for the Pre-Primary Mini Olympics in Week 4 and the Faction Athletics Carnival in Week 7.

HEALTH –
The Protective Behaviours Programme is a 10 week programme based on two themes:

* We all have a right to feel safe at all times.
* We can talk with someone about anything, no matter what it is.

This programme links to the story “Wombat Stew” as the wombat certainly felt unsafe when the dingo wanted to put him in the stew. Happily, his circle of friends came to his assistance!

THE ARTS- 
**Music, Drama, Dance & Visual Arts**
A variety of opportunities, including use of literary texts, will be provided, along with specific teaching of skills to allow students to explore, observe, improvise, express themselves and organise ideas in all areas of the Arts.

HOMEWORK REQUIREMENTS-
Home Readers will be sent home daily for students to practise reading using their phonics knowledge. Please take five minutes to read with and listen to your child. It is your child’s responsibility to return their book and exchange it for a new one. The News Roster has seen students bring in interesting items to share and observe. ‘Telling News’ is always encouraged should your child forget to bring something to prompt them. It is often more difficult to talk about something that you don’t have in your hand to describe. Students are encouraged to ask *What, Who, When, Where and Why* questions of their peers. Please help your child to learn to be responsible for their library book. Books can be returned early the next week after a couple of readings so they are at school ready to be exchanged for a new one.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT-
Positive behaviour is always encouraged and rewarded when students demonstrate appropriate values according to our whole school Positive Behaviour CRTR programme. Students are encouraged to follow class and school rules, show **CARE** and **RESPECT** towards others and themselves, be **RESPONSIBLE** for belongings and always **TRY** to work to the best of their ability. Honour Awards are given to individual students at whole school Assemblies. Students who demonstrate exemplary work standards, achievements and/or behaviour will be honoured in this manner. The Primary School Reward System of Pinkies and Greenies applies to Pre-Primary students. When your child receives six ‘greenies’ they will then trade them for a ‘pinkie’. Six ‘pinkies’ awards them a merit certificate at special Merit Assemblies and the cycle continues until merit badges are rewarded over time.

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS-
Parent assistance in the classroom via Parent Rosters is always welcome. The new roster has been sent home and there are plenty of spare spaces should you wish to help out more often.

Should you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Teachers:**

**Pre-Primary 1:** Miss Rebekah Martin (M, W, Th and F) or Mrs Marnee Pearse (Tuesday) -- 9575 5330  
**Pre-Primary 2:** Miss Hannah Doherty (M, T, W and F) or Mrs Marnee Pearse (Thursday) -- 9575 5330  
**Primary Deputy:** Mrs Susan Mann - 9575 5306.