



St. Ita's Primary School

Foundation 2023

Term 1 Newsletter

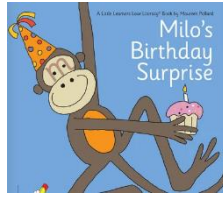
Tuesday 31st January 2023 –

Thursday 6th April 2023

Key Dates

Date	Event	Details
Wednesdays 1/2/2023 8/2/2023 15/2/2023 22/2/2023 1/3/2023 8/3/2023	Foundation Rest Days Literacy Testing Interviews (Your child only needs to attend one 30min session)	Foundation Students not required at school. Half hour testing session for Literacy testing (Letter Identification and Phonological Awareness) Book via PAM
Week 4 Monday 20 Feb	Parent/Teacher Interviews Monday 12:00 - 4:45pm	A get to know your child interview where you tell us a few things about your child and how they may learn best.
Wednesday 22nd February	Ash Wednesday	The beginning of Lent
Monday 13th March	Labour Day Public Holiday	School Closure
Wednesday 15th March	Foundation's First Wednesday at School.	
Thursday 6th April	Last day of Term One	Time will be announced in the school newsletter closer to terms end.
7th, 8th, 9th, 10th	Easter Long Weekend	First weekend of School Holidays
Monday 24th April	Term Two	First day of Term Two
Term 2 Tuesday 25th April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday	School Closed.

English



Word Work

At St Ita's we have implemented a Phonics-based approach to our word work, utilising the "Little Learners Love Literacy Program". This will ensure that all our students have a solid understanding of all elements of our alphabet. In Foundation, we will be enjoying the Milo's Birthday Surprise storybook and meeting new characters and sounds regularly. We will explore the relationship between the letter (grapheme) and the sound (phoneme). Students will examine how their mouths form each sound and learn to blend sounds together to say and read words. They will also be taught cued articulation hand movements to accompany the sounds taught.

Writing

For our writing this term, we will be focussing on the correct formation of each capital and lowercase letter, particularly those letters in your child's name.

We will be creating lots of writing pieces together, where the students contribute verbally and teachers do the writing. This is called "Shared Writing" and allows your child to observe good writing practises while also contributing to the content.

We will utilise overwrite font to support your child in their own writing development. Students will then "join the dots". For example:

I am in Foundation.

Reading

We will be exploring “how to read” through immersion in picture storybooks and other forms of literature. As teachers, we will be modelling good reading behaviours for the students.

Good reading behaviours include:

- Reading from left to right.
- Pointing at each word as it is read.
- Pausing at the full stops.
- Recognising letters and sounds we know in words.

We would encourage you to read a Picture Storybook with your child each night and model these behaviours.

“Homework”

We recognise the importance of the family in your child’s learning journey and like to provide you with some activities to do at home as a family if you would like to.

Your child will receive a zip up book bag (“reader bag”), mini exercise book and diary. Your child will bring their work home in this and **it is to be returned to school each day**. The diary supplied is to record the days/nights that your child has read/has been read to.

For Term 1, your child will bring home a little paper book that includes the sound (phoneme) we have just focussed on in class. With your child, you can do an activity from the book, find things around the house that begin with that sound, find that letter in picture books, or listen for the sound when reading a story as a family.

At some stage during Term 2 we will start to send home some reading material (either word cards/tasks OR reader books aimed at your child's reading ability). Your child can read to you or you can read with your child if needed.

Maths

Days of the Week

This term we will spend some time each day naming and ordering the Days of the Week together and looking at what activities we do on each day through our Visual Timetable.

Number

Our focus is very much on numbers 1-10 and creating a solid “foundation” (😊) around these numbers. We will be exploring each number (1-10):

- How to read it
- How to write the numeral
- Count a collection of that number
- Match the numeral to the collection
- The number that comes before and after that number.
- How to make that number ($5=2+3$, $4+1$, $5+0$, $6-1$ etc)

Our Maths activities remain very hands on. At this age, students need to be able to feel and hold Maths in their hands to really understand the concepts they are discovering.

We also love to play games during Maths to learn some fundamental motor skills alongside our number knowledge.

Religion

The start of Foundation sees us learning about how to pray using the Sign of the Cross and simple Prayers. We will also begin discovering who Jesus was by exploring the Scripture from the Bible.

Towards the end of term, we will explore our Easter story with the students and begin to learn about the importance of this time in the Catholic calendar.

We will keep you updated on the Scripture stories we will explore via Class Dojo.

WSAPB (***“Wasabi”:Whole School Approach to Positive Behaviours***)

This term we will begin to explore our whole school expectations:




- Respect
- Resilience
- Compassion
- Teamwork
- Inclusion

We will do this by focusing on being a “Bucket Filler” (filling other people’s buckets). As the year progresses we will explore each expectation in more depth.

Other bits and pieces

Specialist Timetable

Our Specialist Timetable this year is as follows:

	Teacher	Foundation F 	Foundation L 	Foundation M 
Library 45 min	<i>Mrs McKenna</i>	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
PE 55 min	<i>Miss Roberts</i>	Wednesday	Monday	Tuesday
Art 55 min	<i>Mrs L</i>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Japanese 55 min	<i>Mr Gregory</i>	Tuesday	Wednesday	Monday

- Sport Uniform - This year each group wears their Sports uniform for Sport on a different day of the week: Monday (FL), Tuesday (FM) and Wednesday (FF). On each Friday it will optional whether your child would like to wear their Sports uniform as we have Movement. On every other day of the school week please dress your child in their Summer uniform (Terms 1 and 4) or their Winter uniform (Terms 2 and 3).
- Library books (within supplied library bag) are to be returned each **Monday** please.

Specialist Class Information

Physical Education

Miss Roberts



This Term in Physical Education students will be learning how to follow rules when participating in physical activity. They will participate in games and sports with and without equipment. Students will be learning fundamental movement skills such as kicking, bouncing, throwing and catching. They will also be practising locomotor skills such as

running, hopping, jumping, leaping and skipping. Students will be learning to cooperate with others and be part of a team.

Art

Mrs Leary (Mrs L)



This term your little people will be learning the art room rules as well as focusing on their fine motor skills, like learning how to correctly use scissors and paint brushes, glue sticks and a vast range of other items. Students will also learn what the Primary and secondary colours are and how to make secondary colours using two primary colours mixed together. They will also learn the elements of art using movement and will experiment with paint. Students will be introduced to the Artist Mondrian and create art work inspired by him.

Library

Mrs McKenna



Foundation students attend a 45-minute library lesson every week.

In Term 1 students will be introduced to library routines and procedures – borrowing and returning books, care of books and location of suitable books for Foundation readers. They will also be introduced to many new fiction texts in story time. They will learn about the author, illustrator, blurb and call number, and where the fiction picture books are located in our library. Activities will sometimes complement the texts. Students will borrow a book each week when they bring their library bag.

Japanese

Mr Gregory



This semester in Japanese Foundation students will be introduced to Japanese through movement, songs, and games. They will start learning high-frequency words supported with gestures to help them begin communicating in Japanese from day one. Students will be encouraged to think about how Japanese compares with English and any other languages they might know. They will also learn a little about what it is like for children going to school in Japan.

Food Allergies

Please be aware that we have a number of students at St Ita's who have food allergies. We ask that you avoid sending nut products to school.

If your child has an allergy, please discuss their allergy with us and we will put a plan in place to ensure they are safe at school.

Lunch Orders

Lunch Orders are available via Alimentos Catering on:



- Monday
- Wednesday
- Friday

Via the Flexischools website or Mobile app (flexischools.com.au). All orders and payment are completed through this platform. Please ensure you receive a confirmation email. If you don't your order is not completed.

For Term One, we will have our Lunch Order baskets brought to us by "The big kids" and teachers will distribute lunch orders in the classroom safely.

iPads

We are so lucky to have access to a bank of laptops in the Foundation unit.

These devices are LEARNING TOOLS. We will be utilising them to assist with a variety of learning goals. They will be used in small group settings and students will be taught safe ways to use this technology.

Some ways in which they are used in the classroom:

- Taking photos to support learning
- To use the timer function
- Topic specific websites (accessed via QR codes)
- Educational Apps installed by the teachers to support learning.
- Listening to Audio Books.
- Learning good technology practises.

Hats and Uniform

Please ensure that ***everything is labelled*** with your child's name. This is particularly important if you have purchased second hand uniforms. If uniforms are well labelled they will generally "boomerang" back to you.

Hats are required to be worn in Term 1 and 4 and we ask that you place your child's name clearly on their hat. If your child forgets their hat, they will need to play under the Shelter Shed to ensure they are in the shade.

Class Dojo

We hope you are enjoying seeing daily updates from our classrooms. Please do not hesitate to send us a message if you have any questions, need to inform us of an absence, or if you are worried about your child in any way, shape or form. We aim to reply to all messages within a 24 hour turn around (during the week), trying our best to give you the answers or to point you in the right direction at the very least.