



DARNUM PRIMARY SCHOOL



Prep Curriculum Overview

2020

This overview contains information about the Prep curriculum for 2020.

Reading

Students will participate in a variety of reading activities each day which may be independent, shared or in a small guided reading group. Students will experience a range of fiction and non-fiction texts in both print and electronic media. Student progress in reading is monitored and assessed on an ongoing basis.

Your child will bring home a range of books this year. Their levelled reader or 'good fit' book should be at a level that they can read comfortably and this should be the focus of their home reading. Children are also encouraged to choose extra books from home or other libraries and these texts can also form part of their home and school reading. These additional texts may be too easy or too difficult and may need to be read with or by a parent. This enables children to explore a broad range of texts and develop a love for reading.

Writing and Spelling

Darnum Primary School implements the Sound Waves spelling program from P-6 and have daily spelling sessions with a weekly phonics (sound) focus. In Prep during Term 1, we focus primarily on the phonemes (or sounds) and how we make them with our mouths and voices. To do this, we use a visual hand cue called "cued articulation" to describe and show the students how the sounds are formed. Each phoneme is represented by an icon.

"If the children can't say it, they can't write it." We need to encourage the development of language and listening skills, in order to develop children's writing ability. Therefore in Term 1 we focus on drawing a picture and being able to clearly describe what is in the picture. Students are encouraged to have a go at "writing" about their picture, and any attempt is highly praised.

In Term 2 we begin to focus on the graphemes (letters) that represent the sounds. This is when we will begin to do more formal writing. My goal is for each child to enjoy writing and to begin little by little to understand how to become a better writer. Remember, your child learned to speak gradually, and you celebrated each attempt. Together, let's celebrate your child's attempts and gradual growth as a beginning writer! If you have any questions about how you might help at home, please see me.

Mathematics

Maths Plus is used as the guide to ensure all areas of the Maths curriculum are covered. Maths lessons take place five times per week. Children participate in whole class tuning-in and lesson focus, small guided groups and individual tasks. Each session concludes with a whole class reflection on what we have learnt.

Student of the Week

One S.O.T.W. is selected from each grade each week. Students can be chosen for academic reasons or for positive behaviour that upholds our school values. They are awarded a certificate at whole school assembly on Friday and one S.O.T.W. badge which may be worn for the following week each time they receive this award. Their photo will also appear in the newsletter the following week.

School Values

FROGS is the school values program and is an acronym for:

- Friendship
- Respect
- Organisation
- Growth
- Safety

These values form the basis of the behaviour standards expected in the classroom and school grounds to promote a safe and happy learning environment.

I hope this information is helpful. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about any aspects of your child's education at any point throughout the year,

Bron Mynard

Classroom teacher