Hi everyone,

Wow, we have a lot on at the moment! Our inquiry this term is all about toys. The unit will culminate in the children designing and making a toy of their own. Please think about any recycled materials your child may be able to use for this project and start collecting them now – boxes, cardboard, bottle caps etc. We will send a note home soon with some ideas for things you may collect.

If your child brings a lunch order to school please remember to pack brain food (a healthy snack) and a snack for recess. It is a long time without food if they have to wait until lunchtime because they have no snack.

Kind regards, Foundation Teachers
Bree Rowe, Kira Green, Fiona Jacobs and Tania Hente 😊😊😊

Arrival at school

The start of the school day is a really important time for your child. They settle and learn better when they have ample time to do all they need to without feeling rushed or hassled from the start of the day. This allows your child to feel prepared, organised and ready to learn.

Your child should have time to get into the classroom and complete all their morning jobs **before the music starts each morning** as the music is a cue for them to go to the toilet and line up. Additionally, the teacher needs to be outside with the class when the music goes, not still waiting in the classroom for children to finish their jobs.

In order that your children are ready to learn and we are able to start our morning program with a minimum disruption we ask again for the following things:

- Please ensure your child is at school by 8.45 am **at the latest**, so they can complete their morning jobs and then have time to go to the toilet before class starts.
- When the music goes it is time to leave the classroom and line up. The teacher needs to be outside with the rest of the students at this time.
- Please allow your child to come into the classroom and complete their jobs independently. It is more distracting for them if there are lots of people around.
- The morning is a busy time for the teachers and the time is spent ensuring we are fully prepared for the day ahead. Unless you need to see the teacher urgently about something that will only take a few minutes please catch them after school or make an appointment to see them.

Winter clothes!!!!

Please make sure you send your child in appropriate clothes and footwear for the cold, wet weather.

High frequency words (Sight words)

Please remember to practise sight words with your child each night. It is important to keep going over all the words – even if your child’s teacher has ticked them off.

You should also be going back over previous lists regularly with your child to ensure they retain all the words easily.

It is also a good idea to practise spelling sight words on previous lists as this will consolidate your child’s recognition of the words and assist them in their writing.
Spotlight on Indonesian!

‘Putu’, our friendly crocodile, has loved helping out in our Indonesian classes. He has helped us learn new words such as ‘Selamat Pagi’ (Good Morning), ‘Diamlah’ (Please be quiet) & ‘Bagus’ (Excellent). He also loves a cuddle!

Blends chant

You will have seen a new sheet in your child’s home learning folder this week.

Our children are getting so good with the alphabet and letter sounds that we have started teaching them the blends. The page in their books is the chant we practise with them and is aligned with the blends bingo we have started to implement as part of our phonics sessions.

Just like with ‘Ants on the Apple’ it will greatly help your child if you practise this at home with them each night by pointing to the blend and chanting the words on the sheet followed by the blend sound.

Home Reading

There has been some confusion about the process for home reading and how and what should be signed each night.

There are two columns on the home reading record sheet.

The left hand column is for how many nights your child has read, not how many books they have read. Therefore, each night your child reads to you, sign the left hand column once.

The right hand column is where you record which books your child has read. Write the title of each new book they read in the right hand column. If your child reads a book a second or third time you simply sign the box next to where you have already written the book title.

The process is written on the cover sheet which was put in your child’s reader cover at the start of the year. If this sheet has fallen out your child’s teacher will be able to provide you with another one.

Hopefully this clarifies some of the questions you have had.

Important Dates:

**Monday 2nd May, 2016**
School photographs.

**Wednesday 4th May and Friday 6th May**
Mother’s Day Stall.

**Monday 9th April**
Final day for permission slips and payments to be made for our Toys R Us incursion

**Thursday 12th May**
Foundation incursion.