Dear Families,

Wow! Can you believe it is already term two? The students have settled in beautifully and are so excited and eager to learn. This term a focus is for Foundation students to further develop their independence and confidence. To assist with this we ask that you allow your child to be independent in the morning by remaining outside the classroom at drop off time. The students are now familiar with their class’ morning process and need the opportunity to carry this out by themselves. (Teachers will assist them if they get stuck).

Please find listed below an outline of the Foundation teaching and learning programs for term two.

As there is a wide range of student abilities in each classroom, the teaching and learning programs will be structured so that all children are extended.

In Term Two, all classes will revisit the school values of Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, Care, Doing Your Best and Friendship. The You Can Do It Program will also continue to be embedded across the curriculum. The YCDI Capabilities are: Organisation, Getting Along, Persistence and Confidence, with Resilience underpinning everything.

The curriculum focus is also on:

**Physical, Personal and Social Learning:**
- health knowledge
- building social relationships
- working in teams
- communicating with others

**ENGLISH**

**Reading and Viewing:** Students will continue to develop awareness that written language conveys meaning, as well as recognising the components of a sentence, such as letters, words, spaces, capital letters and simple punctuation. Activities will include guided reading, shared reading, comprehension, sequencing, cloze exercises, retells and picture book reading.

**Writing and Spelling:** Students will continue to learn single sounds and word attack strategies. They will be encouraged to make experimental attempts at writing words and sentences. They will continue to use letters and known letter patterns to present ideas. Students will begin to write on lines.

**Handwriting:** Handwriting will continue to focus on correct pencil grip, posture, letter formation, writing patterns and position of paper. We will continue to reinforce the directionality of writing: ie, from left to right and from top to bottom of the page.

**Speaking and Listening:** Emphasis will continue to be on some of the attributes of a good speaker and listener. These include taking turns to speak, putting up your hand and not interrupting. Students will be expected to follow instructions. Our focus will be on developing self-confidence when speaking to teachers, friends and the whole class. For confident speakers, the focus will be on asking questions to seek further information and presenting their ideas to the whole class.

**MATHEMATICS**

**Number and Algebra:** Following the Early Numeracy Program, students will continue to participate in open-ended activities including counting, reading and recognising numbers to 10 and beyond, number patterns and place value. Students will have the opportunity to explore numbers and counting using many different materials such as counters and blocks.

**Measurement and Geometry:** In Measurement and Geometry, students will continue to participate in activities relating to time, mass and length. They will be introduced to simple patterns using shape and number. Students will continue to use the language of chance, and they will participate in the creation and interpretation of simple graphs and maps. Students will sort, explore, name, draw, manipulate and describe basic shapes. They will also be using the language of position (under, behind, near, next to).

**Statistics and Probability:** Students will continue to sort familiar categorical data into sets and use these to answer yes/no questions and make simple true/false statements about the data.

**PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM (PMP)**

During term two the students will continue to participate in the PMP program for one hour a week. The aim of the program is to further develop coordination, motor and language skills.

**PARENT HELPERS**

Parent helpers are beginning to assist in the Foundation classrooms. They will be assisting in the process of listening to the students read their take home reader books. Parents who have volunteered to help will be sent home a visitor timetable.

**HOME LEARNING**

To help your child’s reading development we ask that students read each night for 10-15 minutes and identify the high frequency words in their lists and books. Please ensure that your child returns their blue reading satchel each day.

**INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)**

Children will be rostered to use classroom iPads on a regular basis using a wide variety of Apps to support their learning across the curriculum. Each Foundation classroom has a large interactive screen which is used for learning across all curriculum areas.

**HYDRATION**

We encourage students to bring a water bottle to school each day, to enable them to stay hydrated.

**BRAIN FOOD**

Every day your child will have a mid-morning break where they will eat their brain food. Brain food is healthy food such as fruit, vegetables and cheese.

**PAYMENTS**

Money can be sent to school on any day of the week. Please place money securely in a labelled envelope and place it inside your child’s Zippy Bag.
HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION Mr Fearn

Mr Fearn takes weekly Health and Physical Education lessons. During Movement and Physical Activity in term two, students will be given the opportunity to learn and demonstrate the Eleven Fundamental Motor Skills. I hope you have your breath back kids! Because Term 2 is going to be jammed pack with heart pumping activities! We will be starting with minor games and focusing on performing simple movement patterns and continuing to work on fundamental motor skills such as leaping, jumping, throwing and catching. Then…. On your marks, get set, GO! That’s right! Relays and races will be covered in preparation for our Mini Olympics in Term 3. Throughout the term, we will also learn what is happening to our bodies during and after physical education sessions. How do we feel before, during and after physical education sessions? Phew! I’m puffed just thinking about it!

PERFORMING ARTS DRAMA- Mrs Castle

During term two in Performing Arts, students will continue learning about Drama and Media Arts. Students will participate in a range of improvisation activities that are designed for students to learn how to express and identify different character traits. Students will also be given the opportunity to experiment with using a range of props to convey an idea to an audience. They will continue learning about performing for their class, this includes important skills such as using their voice correctly, facing an audience and using facial expressions. Students will be given the opportunity to learn about how soundtracks, sound effects and camera angles are used in movies to communicate an idea. They will be using technology, including iPads and computers, to learn how pictures can tell a story. Students may even get the opportunity to use a green screen and experiment with Chroma key technology to edit a video of their acting.

VISUAL ART – Miss Giacomini

Our Animals!

Subject matter: Other living things.

Forms: Drawing, painting and printmaking.

Students explore animals and their environments in a range of forms. They experiment with various drawing media to show qualities of line, surface texture and the shape of animals. Focusing on the skins and habitats of animals, students use media in a variety of ways to produce textures. They refer to artworks to discover how to express their ideas in different forms.

INDONESIAN Bu Kimber

This terms focus is on Binatang (Animals). To ease the foundation into learning a new language and culture, we will be looking at some of their favourite English books in Indonesian such as Di mana domba hijau (Where's the green sheep?). We will be learning about animals, colours and basic numbers through drawing, songs and traditional folktales. Putu, our special crocodile puppet was such a help in Term 1 that he will be making some more appearances during Term 2. He helped the foundation students to feel comfortable saying words that sound a bit funny! By the end of Term 2 students will be able to begin to count in Indonesian (1-5), know basic greetings, colours and learn the names for some animals in Indonesian.

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters can be accessed on Sentral and on our website every Wednesday (www.wandong.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au). It is very important that you read the newsletter to keep up to date with school events and happenings. If you do not have access to the internet you can request a paper copy to be sent home with your child.

CHANGE OF CLOTHES

Please pack a spare pair of underwear, pants and socks discretely in your child’s bag.

ABSENCES

If your child is unable to attend school please call the office on the day of the absence or email www.wandong.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Absences and lateness are noted on your child’s reports.

LATENESS

If your child is late they will need to go to the office and collect a late pass before making their way to the classroom.

IMPORTANT DATES

Anzac Day Ceremony 24th April
School Photos 4th May
Mother’s day stall 6th and 8th May
Queen’s birthday 8th June
Student led conferences 22nd and 24th of June

SUNSMART/UNIFORM

Wearing the correct school uniform is compulsory, including on excursions. A note from home is required if your child will be out of uniform. Hats are not compulsory in term 2 and 3 however they are still encouraged on sunny days.

The Foundation team are looking forward to a very enjoyable second term. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us. We are generally available Tuesday, Thursday and Friday after school. Monday and Wednesday are meeting days.