Welcome to Term 1
Welcome to the new year. The children have settled in and are beginning to form new friendships and participate in different learning activities including book making and making patterns.

In this newsletter we have included some important dates for your information. We have also included a general overview of the topics being covered this term.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards from,
Romina, Diana and Jules.
Religion

This term the children will be learning about how God loves them. They will learn that they are a special gift and are loved by God and their family. As part of our preparation for Easter, children will also be exploring the topics of Lent and Easter. They will begin to recognise that Lent is a time to think about how we treat others and explore the values that Jesus teaches us through Gospel stories. Each morning we will also participate in different forms of prayer to bring an awareness of God’s presence in their lives. This will include singing, dancing, reciting and writing their own prayers.

English

This term we will be focussing on sound/letter/word relationships. We are encouraging children to write independently and will be explicitly teaching the children strategies such as, writing the initial and final sound and correct letter formation.

In reading we will be teaching strategies including:

- Picture Walks
- Pointing to the words
- Looking at the pictures for cues
- Looking at the initial and final letter
- Re-reading
- Reading on
- Looking for patterns in text
- Answering questions about the text

We would appreciate your support in reinforcing these strategies when your child is reading at home. If you have any questions regarding these strategies please see your classroom teacher.

Mathematics

This term there will be a focus on number and patterning. Children will begin to make connections between number names, numerals and quantities up to 10. They will begin to group and describe objects according to common characteristics and make and continue simple patterns.

Health/History

This term we will be focusing on ourselves, our feelings and our families. Children will learn that we all feel differently in different situations and will begin to orally communicate different ways to manage these feelings. They will explore different family structures.
Science

The children will be looking at objects around them and identifying the materials they are made from. Through investigations, students will develop their skills of observing, describing, comparing and communicating. The students will be given opportunities to explore through hands-on activities what things are made of in the school environment.

Physical Education

The Reception students will spend Term 1 learning and practising athletics. In the lead up to Sports Day students will have an opportunity to practice both novelty events as well as track events. They will also learn and practice field events in order to develop their skills. I am looking forward to seeing the athletic abilities of all students in Reception.

Steven Grelli

The Arts

This term in the Arts the reception students are learning to make and respond to music independently. Students will sing, play and listen to a range of music and learn about beat, pitch and tempo. Students will learn about and recognise the elements of music as they sing, play and compose. I look forward to a fun term with the receptions!

Bernie Phillips

Italian

Welcome to the school year, I, am looking forward to working alongside the reception students this year.

The Reception students will be learning about Carnevale and Pasqua during their Italian lessons this term. Students will be learning about the cultural aspects and meaning of Lent, the history and significance of Carnevale and how it is celebrated.

They will be introduced to some of the most popular Carnevale characters (maschere).

Students will be engaged in oral interactions using hand puppets when introducing the Carnevale characters.

Students will also be introduced to Holy Week and the significance of each of the holy days through language specific vocabulary, the use of flashcards and questioning and demonstrating comprehension by responding verbally and non verbally.

The introduction of classroom objects and common classroom language will also be a focus through action related activities and songs.

Grazie mille

Jenny De Vizio.
Reminders

Just a reminder that every Tuesday (starting Week 7) is Independence Day. This is one morning each week where children walk into the classroom on their own and organise themselves for the day. It is a way of promoting independence and personal responsibility. We ask that you drop your child off at their classroom door so that they can unpack their bag on their own.

Please bring in a tissue box for the class to share if you have not done so already.

If you would like to listen to children read in the mornings please see your child’s teacher. This will begin in Week 7.