Hello from the Reception team! We hope everyone is settling in well to school life. We have been busy learning our classroom routines and getting to know each other. Term 1 is going to be an exciting and busy term!

**English**

In English the focus will be on developing the phonological awareness skills of rhyme, syllables and letter sound knowledge. Students will be working towards recognising the letters of the alphabet and the sounds they make.

In writing we will be learning to write lower case letters and our names. Through shared reading and writing experiences we will recognise the features of a sentence and begin to sequence descriptive sentences. Our text type focus is Narratives, which we will explore through oral retellings.

Reading experiences form a large component of our day. Through shared reading we will begin to develop students reading skills e.g. concepts of print, understanding of how books work, following a text and using illustrations to make meaning. We will be gradually introducing and working with the first 25 sight words from the Oxford Wordlist.

Further information about take home reading books and sight words will be sent home in the coming weeks.

**Maths**

In Maths our focus will be on Number Sense. Students will be engaging in a range of experiences to establish an understanding of the language and processes of counting.

We will begin building students’ foundation for mental computation strategies through focusing on subitising. This is the ability to instantly recognise the amount of objects in a small collection without counting, for example the number of dots on a dice.

Students will be working towards subitising to 10, counting in sequence and making connections between numerals, number names and quantities to 10.

**Science**

In Science we will be learning about the weather and how daily and seasonal changes in our environment affect everyday life.

**History and Geography**

Our theme for History and Geography is ‘All About Me’. In History we will be sharing about ourselves as we get to know each other. In Geography we will be exploring the places we belong to, beginning with our school.

**Child Protective Curriculum**

The topic for this term is ‘The Right To Be Safe’. We will be learning about identifying our feelings, safe and unsafe situations, warning signs and risk taking.

**Technologies**

Digital and Design technologies are integrated throughout learning experiences across all areas. Students will have frequent opportunities to engage with the smartboard, use scissors and staplers in making experiences.

Please see you child’s teacher if you have any questions or queries.

Kind Regards, The Reception Team
Year 1 Overview

We have had a successful start to 2017. Everyone is becoming familiar with their new class routines and expectations. The following information is an overview of your child’s learning and skill development for Term 1.

Please remember that Mawson Lakes School is NUT AWARE. This means that nuts and nut products cannot be brought to school.

English –
This term we will be focusing on narratives. Important features of narrative are — characters, setting, problem and solution. We will also be looking at Description by focusing on the description of characters and setting. In class our reading experiences will focus on explicit teaching of concepts of print (this is the understanding of how books and print are used). From Week 3 the Year 1 children will begin to bring take home reading books for a shared reading experience. These books are aimed at increasing fluency, understanding and practicing reading strategies. Another big focus will include phonological awareness (syllables and rhyme), sound recognition and oral language. Children will be encouraged to use complete sentences, appropriate greetings, and correct responses to questions.

Mathematics – Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry
In Mathematics students will be focusing on number sense. Children will explore number concepts including knowledge of number names, numeral shapes and quantities. Children will be beginning to use a variety of number strategies e.g. subitising, rainbow facts, doubles, skip counting, and counting on/back.

Health –
In the classroom we will be learning about “The right to be safe”. Including feelings, being safe, warning signs and risk taking and emergencies. All other areas of the health curriculum will be covered with Des and Michael during Health and PE lesson. Please see their overview for more information.

Humanities and Social Science -
In History, children will discuss the similarities and differences in people and families. In Geography, we will discuss the location of features in the school environment.

Design and Technology –
The children will learn to use equipment in the classroom safely. We will also re-designing the classroom layout using a design, make and appraise approach.

Science – Earth and Space –
Children will be exploring environmental change. They will investigate daily, weekly and seasonal changes in our school and local environment.

Arts, PE & Health and Japanese – Please see the respective newsletters online for their term overview.

Diary Dates
- 7/2 Tuesday AGM 7pm Mobra Room
- 14/2 Tuesday Acquaintance Night 5.45 -6.30pm
- 17/2 Friday Gathering 9am
- 10/3 Friday Gathering 9am
- 13/3 Monday Adelaide Cup
- 15/3 Wednesday School Photos
- 31/3 Friday Gathering 9am
- 3/4 – 7/4 Three way interviews
- 13/4 Thursday 2pm dismissal

Science – Earth and Space –
Children will be exploring environmental change. They will investigate daily, weekly and seasonal changes in our school and local environment.