
Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Welcome to Term 2 in Kindergarten at Southern Cross Early Childhood School! The Kindergarten teachers are Sophie Jarvis (Rogers), Fiona Manton (Freeman) and Karen Novak (Oodgeroo). They are supported by Nicky Smith, our Kindergarten team leader. On Wednesday and Thursdays, Maria will continue to teach the children for Visual Arts and Drama while the classroom teachers develop programs and reflect on children's learning.

The teaching day starts at 9am. If you are later than 9.15, you need to go past Nicole at the front office to be signed in. Staff will assemble outside at 8.55 each morning for morning muster. This is a great time to have a quick chat with your child's teacher before school starts. If you require a longer chat, please make an appointment by email or phone reception. Please wait outside the classrooms under the trees for both morning drop off and afternoon pick up. If you are arriving or leaving outside of these times, please ensure you visit the front office to sign in or out. Thank you for your cooperation with this so far.

We encourage healthy meals and snacks for our three breaks, which are munch and crunch, lunch and recess. Please ensure you provide a piece of fruit, dairy snack, vegetables or other protein for munch and crunch each day. 'Hats Off' weather begins the first week of June. Until then, all children still required to bring a sun safe, broad brimmed hat each day. Without hats, children will only be able to play under the shaded verandah. We encourage you to apply sunscreen to your child at home before school. If they need to reapply, sunscreen is available in the classroom. Please also ensure that your child has a labelled drink bottle filled with water each day.

We do our best to help the children take care of their own belongings. Please help us to do this by **labelling all items** that come to school.

Please **ensure all home toys stay at home.** When toys come to school they are at risk of being lost or broken, and often lead to conflict and distraction from learning. Talk to your teacher to retrieve any home toys that may have come to school. Similarly, **school toys stay at school.** If any unfamiliar toys or items are making their way home to you please return them to your child's teacher.

Library days are Wednesday for Rogers and Thursday for Freeman and Oodgeroo. Please be aware that library day for Oodgeroo has changed from Wednesday and will now be on Thursday. Children are encouraged to borrow books of their choosing to share with you at home. Children are encouraged to remember to pack their library bag each week.

It is wonderful to see so many families already accessing our 'Reading at Home' program. If you are interested in taking part, please see the front office for a book bag and booklet. Also, remember to keep reading for the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge. If you require a new record sheet please see Nicole at reception.

If you have not returned the permission note for See Saw, please do this as soon as possible. We have begun posting so it would be great for you to enjoy seeing the learning occurring inside classroom.

Term Two Overview

English	<p>Reading</p> <p>Children will continue to be immersed in reading in the classrooms through group stories, listening to retells from peers, exploring books independently, listening to recorded stories and participating in weekly library time. They will also be provided with an opportunity to participate in home reading. Speak to your class teacher for more information. There will be a strong focus on consolidating our learning of the common sounds of the English language using relevant and interesting children’s stories and activities. Children will be working on hearing and producing rhyming words while exploring common nursery rhymes, retelling familiar stories and learning about basic sentence structure through modelled and shared reading. In weekly literacy groups children will continue to explore and practise comprehension strategies.</p> <p>Writing</p> <p>Fine motor activities will be incorporated into Investigation Time and literacy times to help build the necessary control for writing. Children will be encouraged to independently use modelled and environmental print to assist with writing in all areas of the curriculum. They will learn about basic sentence structure through modelled and shared writing and be supported to have a go at independent writing experiences, building confidence in their learning and abilities. They will use their sound knowledge to create simple words and sentences.</p> <p>Children will engage in real reading and real writing every day.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Number</p> <p>The number focus for the term is recognising, modelling and working with numbers to 20.</p> <p>Statistics and Probability</p> <p>The children will be collecting information from their classmates by asking yes/no questions and recording their answers.</p> <p>Children will have the opportunity to engage in authentic mathematical experiences everyday.</p>
Science	<p>Earth and space sciences</p> <p>Children will understand how the weather in our environment affects our everyday life. They will recognise and use weather words and symbols when observing and recording the weather.</p>
Humanities and Social Science	<p>Personal and Family History</p> <p>Children will continue to focus on their own family history, different family structures, how families celebrate together and how stories are communicated through generations and around the world.</p>
Health & Physical Education	<p>Switching On Time</p> <p>We are programming for the fundamental movement skills with a strong focus on fine motor skills, upper body strength and balance. Included in this program will be the Learn to Ride Centre and the Balance Challenge.</p> <p>Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)</p> <p><i>Mindfulness</i> – This year all children across the school will be undertaking mindfulness exercises each day. Mindfulness can help children develop concentration and self-awareness. It can also help children to calm themselves.</p> <p><i>Protective behaviours</i> - As part of a whole school focus we will be looking at feelings, how we can keep ourselves safe, how to seek out help when we feel unsafe and how to be assertive when we feel unsafe. The fortnight focuses for this will be in the newsletter, please come and speak to your child’s teacher if you have any questions.</p>

<p>The Arts</p>	<p>Visual Arts Children will create artworks in specialist art sessions and during Investigation Time, using a range of media and techniques, including drawing, painting and printing.</p> <p>Drama Children will identify how voice, movement and space are used in drama. They will present drama that communicates ideas, including stories from their community, to an audience of peers.</p> <p>Music Children will be singing and experimenting with percussion instruments and practising a variety of chants, songs and rhymes.</p>
<p>Technology</p>	<p>Design, Make, Appraise Kindergarten children will respond to simple design challenges. They will engage in the cyclical process of designing, making and appraising in a range of materials and contexts.</p>