Dear Parents and Carers,

Can you believe this is the last Term of Kinder? We swear the children have come back this term at least a foot taller. We have had stern words to them about growing, and have reminded them we would like them to stay little forever but they refuse to comply….!

We welcome Mr Blair to our Kinder family! Hayden is studying to be a teacher at Southern Cross University and we are lucky to have him with us for the next 5 weeks.

Term 4 will be busy with:

Assembly - This Friday it is the Kinders turn to showcase what they are currently learning in class at the Whole School Assembly. It would be great if parents and grandparents could make it to see our assembly item.
Kinder Mass- It is the Kinders turn to host the family Mass on Saturday the 29th of October at St Francis Xavier Church at 6.00pm. The children are very excited about this, and we have a lot of Kinder children in the choir so it would be great to see as many families in attendance as possible. We will be organising a dinner afterwards at Westower Tavern please indicate on the form attached if you will be attending so we can book a table by the end of this week.

Other significant days to look out for this term include-   
  ● Parish Schools Day
  ● Remembrance Day
  ● Intensive Swimming Program - Kindergarten will be involved an intensive swimming program in Weeks 8 & 9.
  ● Infants athletics carnival
  ● Christmas Carols

RELIGION
Daily prayer and Christian Meditation is now firmly in place every day after lunch.
Unit 7 - God’s Creation. This unit explores the wonder and beauty of God’s creation. It presents creation as God’s gift to God’s people and a reflection of God’s goodness. Prayers of praise for creation and commitment to care for it are introduced as ways of responding to this gift. The story of Noah and the Ark is presented. It tells of the renewal of creation and God’s promise of continued blessing on the whole of creation throughout time.
Unit 8 - : Advent and Christmas. This unit focuses on the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The concepts of waiting and joyful anticipation are explored through use of the Advent Wreath and the story of John the Baptist. Advent is introduced as a time of preparation that points us towards Jesus. The Christmas story is told through the stories of the Annunciation, the birth of Jesus, and the visit of the shepherds. In engaging with aspects of the story, students are presented with the Good News that Jesus is the promised Saviour, the gift of God.

ENGLISH
Our English unit this term is based around the concept of storytelling. In this Unit students will develop an understanding and appreciation of the importance of storytelling in Indigenous culture. They will explore the creative language features used when composing a dreamtime story. They will experience the different ways dreaming stories are told. Modelled, guided, shared and independent reading and writing will continue to happen daily within the Literacy block.

Speaking and Listening: Speaking and Listening this term will be focused around learning the skills of storytelling, so students will no longer be required to bring in an item from home each week. We will give you further information around this in the coming weeks.

Our Story bags will continue to go home each week. Please ensure you return your box and bag to school each week on a Monday so that another child can have a turn.
HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY
This term we continue our new Geography unit exploring the places where we live and belong. We will look explore an Indigenous perspective of our local area and learn about ways in which we can care for our environment.

SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY
The children will continue to learn about Science with Mr Ryan every Monday. This term they are learning about how all animals, including humans, use their sensory organs to gather information about their environment. The sharp eye, the cocked ear, or the careful sniffing of air can warn animals of dangers that might threaten their survival. Humans use senses to gather information not only critical for our immediate safety, but also for planning to meet our basic needs for things such as food, water and shelter.

MATHEMATICS

In Term 4 we will continue to develop our Mathematical understanding.

Number – Students learn the number strand using numeral identification, subitising, money, place value, forward/backward number sequences, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, patterns, algebra and fractions.

Data - The children will use tally marks, collect information, make graphs and discuss their findings.

Fractions - The children will revise the concept half a collection or two equal parts.

Position - The children will describe position and movement, follow and give directions and use a programmable floor robot to follow a path.

Measurement - The children will be revising length, area, volume and capacity and time.

PDHPE
Personal Development & Health unit - ‘Keeping Myself Safe’
Students explore the concept of caring healthy relationships and why trust is important. They describe safe and unsafe situations and how to ask for help when they feel unsafe. Students discuss road and bike safety and how to use the internet and phones safely. Throughout the unit they interact and communicate with peers in a variety of play and group situations, listening, sharing and showing concern when working with others.

Physical Education
This term’s unit is concerned with developing each student’s competence and confidence in a broad range of games and the skills required to participate in them. Students will master increasingly complex skills and experience success and enjoyment in doing so. These skills will be applied to a range of individual and team game situations. Swimming will take place daily in Weeks 8 and 9. Francis Quinn will be running this program with his team of experienced swimming instructors at the Ballina Memorial Pool.

CREATIVE ARTS
Drama with Mrs Bree Zakaras
This term in Visual Arts students will create simple, colourful pictures, paintings and other kinds of artworks inspired by creatures that live in our environment. They will experiment with a range of media in selected forms. Students will begin to learn about how artists make artworks and they will have the opportunity to communicate their ideas about these artworks. They will also spend time creating artworks and craft about Christmas.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of your child’s schooling this term. We would also love to hear from you if you feel you have any knowledge or expertise in any of these subject areas that you feel you would like to share.

We always welcome helpers in our classroom, so if you are able to help in any way please let us know.

Warm Regards

Courtney Hunnibell, Laurel Newton & Jemiel Jett