Welcome

Welcome to Term 1! The children have settled into the school routine very well. Thank you for helping with the morning routine by encouraging your child to come into the classroom independently. Our school program begins at 9.00am and the children will begin work at this time, so please make sure that your child arrives at school on time. Please note, classroom doors open at 8:50am.

The Prep/1 Team

The staff in our Prep/1 Team this year are:
Room 1: Miss Danielle Buttigieg
Room 2: Mrs Julie Hancock
Support Staff: Ms Athena Efstatiou, Mrs Sharon Bower, Mrs Cathy Hebing
Please feel free to speak with us about any issues or concerns you may have.

Homework

Teachers appreciate parents’ help in ensuring that children complete homework tasks. Your child is expected to read his/her ‘take home’ book each night (please see inside for further details about Home Reading). Children have also been given a list of M100W words (eg. Golden, Red or Blue Words) to practice at home, so that these words will be recognised automatically, on sight. Once children are able to recognise these words, they will receive a new list of words to practise.

School Uniform

It is compulsory for children at Movelle P.S. to wear **full school uniform every day**. In Terms 1 and 4 it is also compulsory for children to wear a hat whilst playing outside. Our school is a Sun Smart school and has a ’**NO HAT, NO PLAY**’ policy in Terms 1 & 4. If for any reason your child is not in school uniform, a note explaining why is required.

Playground equipment

Children are not permitted to be on playground equipment before or after school. We ask that parents help teachers to enforce this safety rule.
Home Reading

Regular Reading Is Required!

♦ Your child is expected to read his/her ‘take home’ book every night.

♦ Please remember to sign your child’s yellow reading diary and return both to school every day.

♦ It is important to encourage your child to use early reading strategies. Early reading strategies include looking at and talking about the pictures, pointing to the words in the reading direction (ie. left to right), and finding known M100W words in books (eg. on, the, I, a, and, to, etc).

Our Inquiry Investigations in Term 1

This term the students in Rooms 1 & 2 will participate in the following inquiry investigations:

♦ What are our school routines?
♦ How can we be Sun Smart?
♦ Who am I? Who are we?
♦ What is in our school?
♦ Who is in our school?
♦ Who is in our class?
♦ Where do we live?
♦ How do we celebrate Easter?

The children will participate in a range of activities as they become familiar with the school and classroom settings and school staff, along with our daily routines. We will focus sharing their prior knowledge and experiences and developing their vocabulary relating to these topics. Please ask your child to tell you about the fun and exciting things that they are doing at school, this term.
Our YCDI topic this Term is “Getting Along”
The “Getting Along” unit will focus on:
- Working and playing together nicely
- Sharing and taking turns
- Behaving well towards others (fair, caring)
- Following classroom rules
- Doing things to make our classroom safe

Students will participate in a range of activities to reinforce and develop these behaviours. Please ask them about what they have been learning from Gabby Get-Along at school and encourage them to practise these behaviours and attitudes at home as well.

School Assemblies
School Assembly will be held every second Monday afternoon at 2:45pm, in our School Gym. Please come along and join us if you are free! Our next assembly is on Monday 23rd March!

LOST PROPERTY
Parents, please make sure that all uniform items, drink bottles, lunch boxes, etc have been clearly labelled with your child’s name and grade. This makes the task of returning lost property much easier. We already have several items of lost property in our collection ... so please come in to check, if your child is missing any items.

We need Parent Helpers
Please consider helping out in your child’s classroom for an hour or two each week. There are a range of ways that you can help, such as hearing students read, assisting with our computer programs, helping with our school garden or with our special activities. The children benefit greatly from your contribution and love to see you at school. So if you can spare some time, please let us know and we will arrange a time to suit you.

Organizational Chart

Our SPECIAL DAYS
AT SCHOOL
Monday: School Assembly
(alternate wks)
Tuesday: PE
Visual Arts
Wednesday: LOTE
Performing Arts
(alternate wks)
Friday: School Banking Day

Tissue boxes please!
We ask that parents supply their child with a box of tissues to be shared in their classroom. Thankyou.
**Literacy Program**

This term students will participate in a range of Shared Reading activities to build upon their awareness of print and to develop their knowledge of reading strategies, which they will then practise in Independent Reading time. Alphabet letters and sounds will be introduced with support from the Cued Articulation and Letterland programs.

This term we will cover the following letters: **Cc**-Clever Cat/Caterpillars coughing c-c-c; **Aa**-Annie Apple/Ants on the apple a-a-a; **Dd**-Dippy Duck/Dolls are dancing d-d-d.

A focus of the Literacy program will be Language Experience. Students will participate in a range of direct experiences which they will then speak, write and read about.

We will utilise the LEAP* Room for this purpose and also incorporate your child’s home experiences, with children being encouraged to record details of their weekend activities in weekly Diary writing sessions.

Each week there will also be a focus on formal handwriting skills, looking at correct letter formation, size and spacing. Children will undertake activities to build up their fine-motor skills and will be encouraged to adopt an appropriate ‘pencil grip’ (we ask that this be reinforced at home as much as possible).

Students will be provided with many opportunities to develop their speaking and listening skills, both formally and informally. Emphasis will be given to extending the range of vocabulary that students use and understand.

*(Language Experience Activity Program)*

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**Maths Program**

**Number:**
- Reading, writing and recognition of numbers 0-10 and 11 to 20
- Counting by ones up to 20 and beyond, forwards and backwards
- Number words 0-10
- Number sequences to and from 100 by 1s, from any starting point
- Skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s, starting from zero

**Measurement:**
- Time: days of the week, yesterday, today, tomorrow, o’clock, seasons: Summer

**Data:**
- Making simple graphs, i.e. birthday graph, family members graph

**Space:**
- Location: Left, right, above, below, under, over, in, out.
- Location: Pathways/maps.

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Thank you from the Prep/1 Team:

**Julie Hancock & Danielle Buttigieg**