Annandale State School Curriculum Newsletter Term 4

Prep

English

Students will explore stories, focusing on characters, settings and events, and how stories have a beginning, middle and end. They will develop their reading, spelling and writing skills as they retell familiar stories and create their own short imaginative texts using words, pictures and simple sentences.

Learning Together at Home

- **Story time:** Read together and talk about the characters, setting and events.
- **Retell it:** Encourage your child to retell a favourite story using pictures, toys or actions.
- **Little authors**: Draw and write a new ending or adventure for a favourite character.

Ask questions such as:

- "What happened first, next and last?"
- "How did the character feel?"
- "What might happen if we changed the ending?"

Mathematics

Students will strengthen their understanding of numbers to 20, comparing collections and exploring different ways to make numbers to 10. They will use hands-on materials to solve simple addition, subtraction and sharing problems, while recognising and creating repeating patterns.

Learning Together at Home

- **Number detectives:** Count and compare collections of toys, pegs or blocks up to 20.
- **Make 10:** Use 10 objects to explore different combinations, such as 6 and 4 or 7 and 3.
- **Share fairly:** Divide snacks or toys equally and explore adding or taking some away.

Ask questions such as:

- "How many more?"
- "Can you make 10 another way?"
- "How can we share these fairly?"

Science

Students will investigate how everyday objects move, exploring actions such as pushing, pulling, rolling, sliding and bouncing. They will discover how an object's shape, size, materials and the surface it moves on can affect its movement, while practising making predictions and observations.

Learning Together at Home

- **Ramp racers**: Roll toy cars or balls down ramps and compare how they move.
- **Move it!:** Explore which household objects roll, slide, spin or bounce.
- **Surface challenge:** Test how a toy moves on carpet, tiles or grass.

Ask questions such as:

- "Which object will move faster?"
- "Why did that one roll further?"
- "What could we change to make it move differently?"

HASS

In Semester 2, students are exploring familiar and special places, such as their classroom, home and school. They are identifying and describing the features of these places, representing them through maps and models, and learning why some places are special to people. Students will also investigate ways they can care for places that are important to them.

- **Special Place Tour Guide**: Take your family on a tour of your favourite place and explain why it is special.
- **Map Maker:** Draw a simple map of a room, your backyard or a favourite place.
- **Feature Hunt:** Look for and name features in familiar places (e.g. playgrounds, gardens, classrooms, parks).
- **Build a Model:** Use blocks, LEGO or recycled materials to create a model of a special place.

Ask questions such as:

- What makes a place special to you?
- What features can you find in your classroom or home?
- How can we show a place on a map or model?
- Why is it important to care for special places?

Health & Physical Education

In Semester 2, students will learn strategies to keep themselves safe by recognising trusted adults, practising protective behaviours and interacting respectfully with others. They will also develop their fundamental movement skills through active play, games and teamwork while learning the importance of fair play and cooperation.

- Encourage active play by practising running, throwing, catching, balancing and jumping.
- Play simple family games that involve taking turns, following rules and working together.
- Talk about trusted adults and what your child can do if they ever feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Ask questions such as:

- Who are your trusted adults?
- What could you do if you felt unsafe?
- How do we show respect when playing games together?
- Why is it important to follow the rules when we play?