Welcome back to school! We’re hoping you all had a restful and relaxing break. We would like to share with you the classroom focus for the following curriculum areas for Term 4.

**LITERACY**
This term our focus will be on learning long vowels (eg. oo) and inflected endings (e.g. ing/ed). Each week the focus sound that we are learning in class will be sent home as part of their homework. It would be beneficial if you could discuss these sounds at home to help improve their understanding.

We will continue to work on our individual goals and reading strategies during Guided Reading each day. When your child brings books home, encourage them to use their reading strategies. It would also be beneficial for your child to retell the books using key words such as characters, setting, take-off and landing.

Another major focus for Term 4 is to learn all our GREEN words. Together with the gold, red and blue words, these are the 58 most frequently used words in books that we will be reading. In order to achieve the expected level for the end of Prep, students will need to be reading a level 6. Learning sight words will greatly enhance your child’s ability to read.

**NUMERACY**
This term we will continue to focus on number concepts as well as introducing a variety of other math concepts. We will be using a variety of hands on materials to engage students in their learning.

Term 4 concepts:
- Counting forwards to 50, backwards from 20 and the number before and after
- Matching number quantity and number name
- Addition and subtraction
- Ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
- Measurement (length and weight)
- Time to the hour (o’clock)
- Location (give and follow directions)

At home you can help by asking your child to count forwards and backwards out loud, add and subtract small groups of items together, placing objects in order (using the language 1st, 2nd, 3rd), discussing time and clocks (digital and analogue/o’clock), using the language of left and right for directions, measuring objects using language such as taller/shorter/heavier/lighter.

**EXCURSION**
As part of our Science unit on Living Things, we will be heading to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary on 11th November. More information will be coming closer to the date. If you think you will be available to come along as a volunteer, please save this date.

**ITY BITY STARS SHOW**
Thank you to all the parents who voted and shared our entry to the Itty Bitty Stars show on Facebook. We have won a free show to be held at our school on 16th November. The children are extremely excited!

**How Parents can help us!**

**Attendance** - Ensuring your children arrives on time and prepared for EACH school day is of enormous value to their schooling. Attendance is important as every day counts! The school attendance goal is 95%. This means out of the 50 days left of Term 4, students must not miss more than two days of school to achieve this goal!

**Independence:** As our prep students are approaching Year 1, it would be beneficial to encourage them to organise their daily belongings by themselves (e.g. pack their own bag, unpack their drink bottle and homework). Practising tying their shoeaces independently is also beneficial.

**Homework** - Homework has already begun, it goes home on Monday and is to be returned Friday. Homework includes practising the weeks focus sound, their magic words and reading a book. This term we are including a writing activity. Students will write one creative sentence per week. Please encourage your child to stretch out the sounds and use their Magic 100 words rather than just telling them how to spell words. Reading each night with your child is crucial.

Mrs Hansen, Miss Henry & Mrs Burstow
Prep Teachers

Steve Kanowski
Principal

**Key Days for Music & PE**

| PMB & PTH | PE & Music: Tuesday 11.10am |
| PSH | PE & Music: Thursday 11:10pm |
| Parade | Monday Even weeks 2pm in the Hall |

**Celebrations!**
It was great to see so many children bring healthy food to our end of term party! Thank you to everyone who contributed, the children had a fabulous day!