



Foundation PLC

16TH FEBRUARY, 2017

What is a PLC?

PLC stands for 'Professional Learning Community'. This means the Foundation teachers, the Foundation students, and the Foundation families are all integral parts of our learning community, within, throughout and beyond the school environment.

We have worked hard at Hawthorn West Primary School to create an environment for our students that is one of collaboration and support.

We consider all the Foundation students to be 'ours' collectively. This means that across all the four classrooms, teacher expectations and routines will be the same. Your children will have many opportunities across the year to work with each of us, as well as work in mixed groups with all of their Foundation peers.

Parent Partnerships

We greatly value our Parent Community, and consider parents and families a vital piece in our Learning Community. Parent involvement can lead to greater school engagement and better communication between home and school for the students.

We will be asking for Parent Helpers in our classrooms in Term 2. This allows time for our students to become settled and comfortable in their school routine during Term 1.

A timetable for your child's classroom will be available in Week 1 of Term 2. Please only nominate yourself for a few time slots, to allow other families opportunities to work within the classroom.

All family members wishing to volunteer in the classroom will need to have a current Working With Children Check, and complete our online module available through Compass.

Reading

We develop a love of reading through introducing students to a variety of texts such as fiction and non-fiction; print and screen media; as well as reading their own writing.

A great reader reads the same book, many times!

Decoding strategies we focus on:

- Look at the picture
- Point to the words
- Get your mouth ready for the first sound

Comprehension strategies we focus on:

- Reading for meaning
- Engaging with the text by thinking 'what could happen next?'
- Explaining and giving reasons for why we like/didn't like a text
- Making connections between our world and the texts

"We encourage the students to take risks as a writer and have a go! Confidence is imperative to creating wonderful writers."

Writing

Directionality - writing from left to right, and from top to bottom on a page

Using spaces between words

Recording initial or dominant sounds

Stretching out words and separating out sounds in words

Writing down the letters that correspond to those sounds

Taking risks as a writer and having a go!

Spelling

Developing phonemic awareness (hearing sounds in words)

Recognising different sounds for different letters and letter patterns

Hearing and recording dominant sounds in words

Using resources to check their own spelling e.g., word walls, HFW charts, posters

Learning to take a risk and have a go!



Numeracy



Recognising and recording numerals and their quantities up to 20 and beyond

Counting forwards and backwards to and from 20 from various starting points

Comparing and ordering collections of items to 20 and beyond

Comparing different measurements e.g, which is longer, heavier, holds more

Comparing numbers and their amounts

Ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd etc)

Subitising collections

Counting up to our 100th day of school!

“Beginning to create a sense of awareness of their wider world, and developing our students as global citizens”

Inquiry

Inquiry integrates many curriculum strands such as Civics and Citizenship, Geography, Interpersonal Development, Health, and Social Skills.

Our Term 1 Inquiry focus is ‘All About Me’.



Students are:

Beginning to create a sense of awareness of their wider world, and developing our students as global citizens

Learning to express how they are feeling

Starting to differentiate between what they like and dislike, and provide reasons

Recognising what is the same and different between themselves and their peers

Home Reading

Starting Week 4, Foundation students will take home three reading books on a Monday, and swap these book every Monday. We encourage students to read their home reading books many times throughout the week.

Students will need to bring their reading satchel and library bag to take books home. This will ensure that books remain in good condition and do not get damaged by food or drinks in school bags.

If your child is not reading the words yet, THAT IS TOTALLY FINE. We are currently encouraging students to make up a story based on the pictures.

Home reading is a wonderful time to bond with your child and celebrate their successes. It should not be a stressful or onerous task for either of you! If it is becoming an issue, please speak to your child’s teacher.

For further information, Google ‘paired reading at home’ or speak to your child’s teacher.



CURIOUS — CONFIDENT — CONNECTED
ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE