Week 4 Reception News

Carnevale’Assembly
This Wednesday the 22nd of February, the children are invited to wear a touch of green, white or red to celebrate Carnevale’. If they choose to wear a green, white or red t-shirt they can wear their sports uniform shorts or pants. Any touch of these colours is suitable whether it be socks, hair ribbons, shorts, t-shirt, etc.

Class Reps
A big thank you to our Reception Class Reps this year! They are... Janine Chitti and Dana Kempster from RG and Libby Luey and Vanessa Gordon from RM. We thank you in advance for supporting these wonderful ladies in ensuring that we are well looked after and having fun in Reception.

SeeSaw App
A reminder to regularly check your child’s learning portfolio on SeeSaw. We post images weekly, which give you prompts when sharing and discussing your child’s day and learning journey in Reception, as well as keeping up to date with reminders and the latest of happenings.

Skoolbag App
If you haven’t already, please make sure that you have downloaded the Skoolbag App, as this is how you will be notified of any last minute cancellations or changes from the school.

Boxes
If you have any empty boxes at home that we could use for construction in our classroom, we would love to use them. Feel free to send them in at any stage as we tend to get to the bottom of our construction box quickly with all the fun that is had in Reception.

Pancake mix
February 28th is Shrove Tuesday. If you can help out in any way with providing pancake mix that would be greatly appreciated. If you have any, please deliver it to the front office. The recipe can be found in last week’s school newsletter.

Ash Wednesday
A Mass will be held in the Church on Wednesday 1st March at 11:15am. You are all invited to attend.

Reading
Next week (week 5) your child will be coming home with 4 reading texts at the beginning of each week. The reading texts have the option of being borrowed and re-borrowed in the classroom, however this depends on the individual reader.

Becoming a ‘reader’ is a very important part of your child’s learning journey, so we want you to know that we are with you every step of the way. Our main goal is for all of the children to recognise themselves as readers. There are 3 ways in becoming a reader – reading the
pictures, reading the words and retelling the story. Therefore, I am pretty sure that most of you can say that your child is already a reader!

There are a number of ways in supporting your child in recognising that they are a reader. Please find some helpful tips below...

- To begin with, you (the adult) may begin reading the texts to your child
- Always allow your child to hold the book
- Talk about the pictures in great detail. Before reading share and discuss what they think might be happening on each page, just by looking at the pictures
- Encourage your child to find individual letters or words that they might know, eg. letters in their name, basic sight words (the, and, I, etc)
- Ask questions at the end of each page, to ensure that your child is understanding what they are hearing / reading
- Allow your child to ask any questions of words that they may not have heard of before, or if some animals or objects are referred to as something different, eg. chicken, hen
- When your child is wanting to read independently, always encourage your child to look to the first letter of each word and then check the pictures to see if they can decode what the word is
- Allow your child the opportunity to re-read the book a few times. Repetition is key in supporting your child to recall new words, recognise different aspects of the text, retell the story, comprehend, etc.
- Ask questions at the end of the text to see what your child has understood, eg. What colour was the ball? Where did the little girl go? Why do you think the person looked sad?
- Please, if you or your child are struggling make sure that you speak with your teacher. We want reading to be a positive experience for you all, and we will do all that we can to support you in the fundamental stages of your child identifying themselves as a reader

Thank you,
Abbey and Jess