

PRE PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

TERM ONE

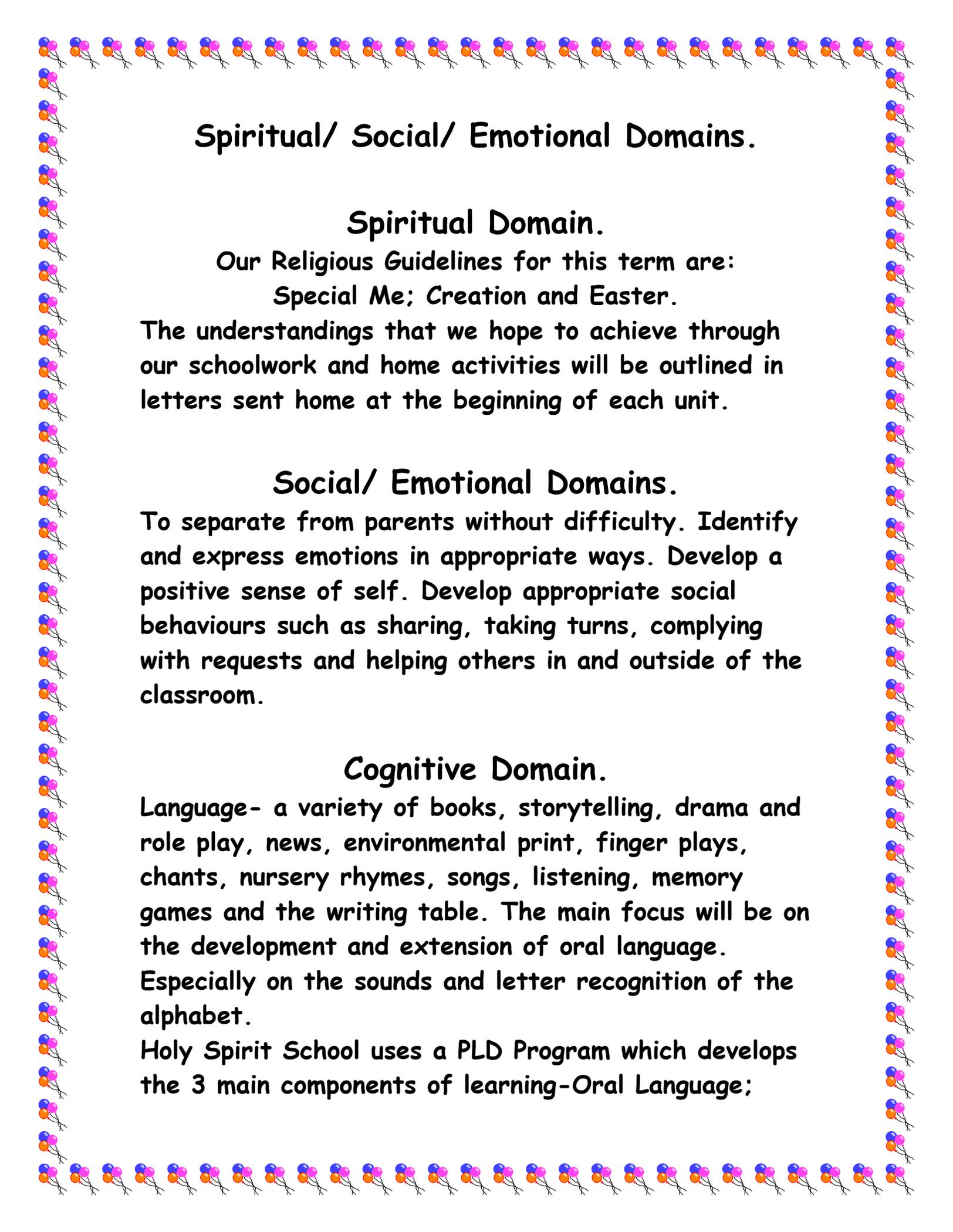
2016



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 1 in Pre Primary at Holy Spirit School. This newsletter is an outline of what we are hoping to cover this term in Pre Primary.

The Pre Primary program will develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes of the children by providing them with a variety of multi-sensory, sequential experiences which will be relevant and meaningful. The program will provide an appropriate balance of directed and non-directed group and individual experiences. Our program is based on Investigations through Play. The program provides the integration of all learning areas into a variety of topics. Topics are subject to change or redirection if the children display an interest in a certain area. The following learning areas should give you some insight into the integrated learning experiences that we will be covering.



Spiritual/ Social/ Emotional Domains.

Spiritual Domain.

**Our Religious Guidelines for this term are:
Special Me; Creation and Easter.**

The understandings that we hope to achieve through our schoolwork and home activities will be outlined in letters sent home at the beginning of each unit.

Social/ Emotional Domains.

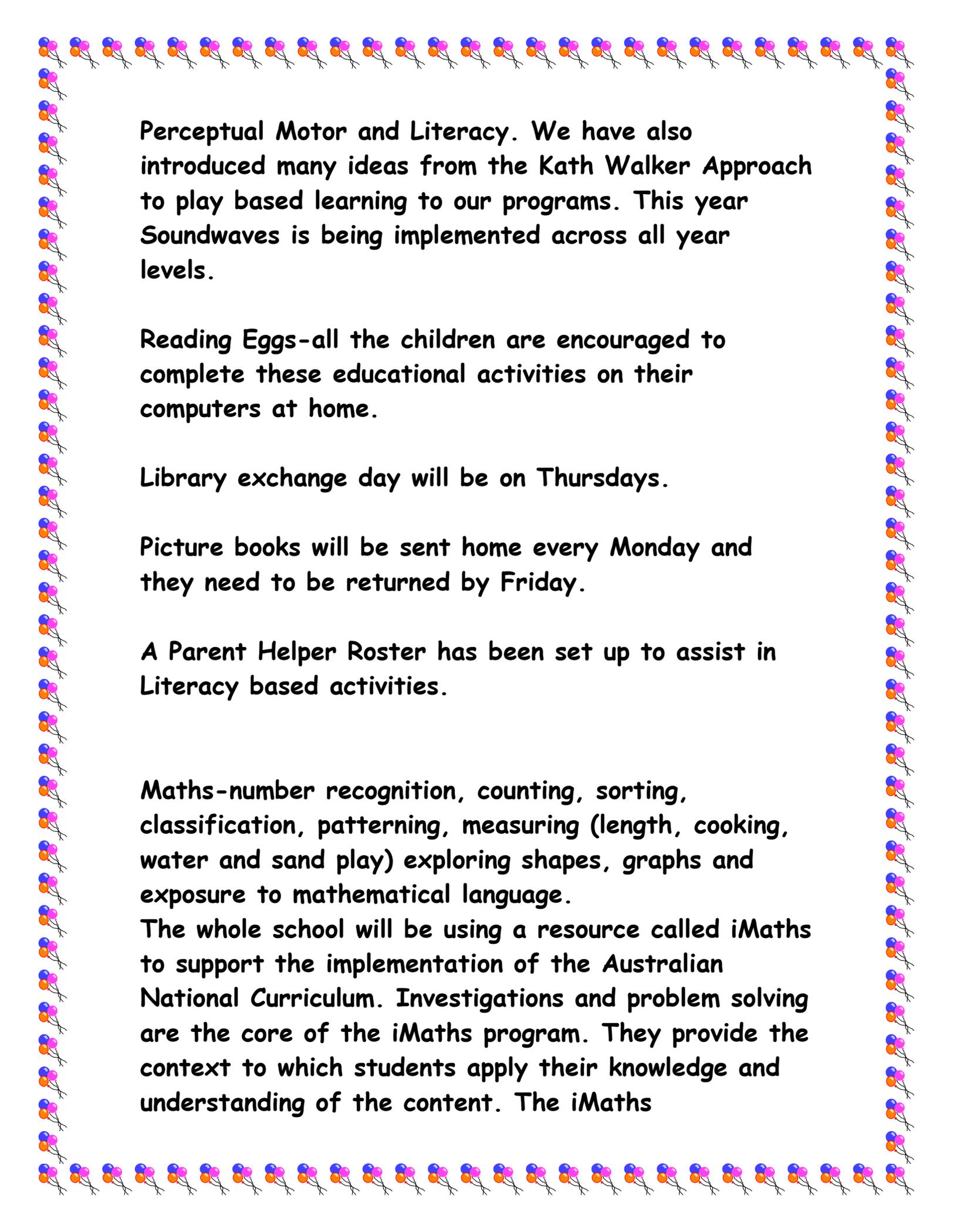
To separate from parents without difficulty. Identify and express emotions in appropriate ways. Develop a positive sense of self. Develop appropriate social behaviours such as sharing, taking turns, complying with requests and helping others in and outside of the classroom.

Cognitive Domain.

Language- a variety of books, storytelling, drama and role play, news, environmental print, finger plays, chants, nursery rhymes, songs, listening, memory games and the writing table. The main focus will be on the development and extension of oral language.

Especially on the sounds and letter recognition of the alphabet.

Holy Spirit School uses a PLD Program which develops the 3 main components of learning-Oral Language;



Perceptual Motor and Literacy. We have also introduced many ideas from the Kath Walker Approach to play based learning to our programs. This year Soundwaves is being implemented across all year levels.

Reading Eggs-all the children are encouraged to complete these educational activities on their computers at home.

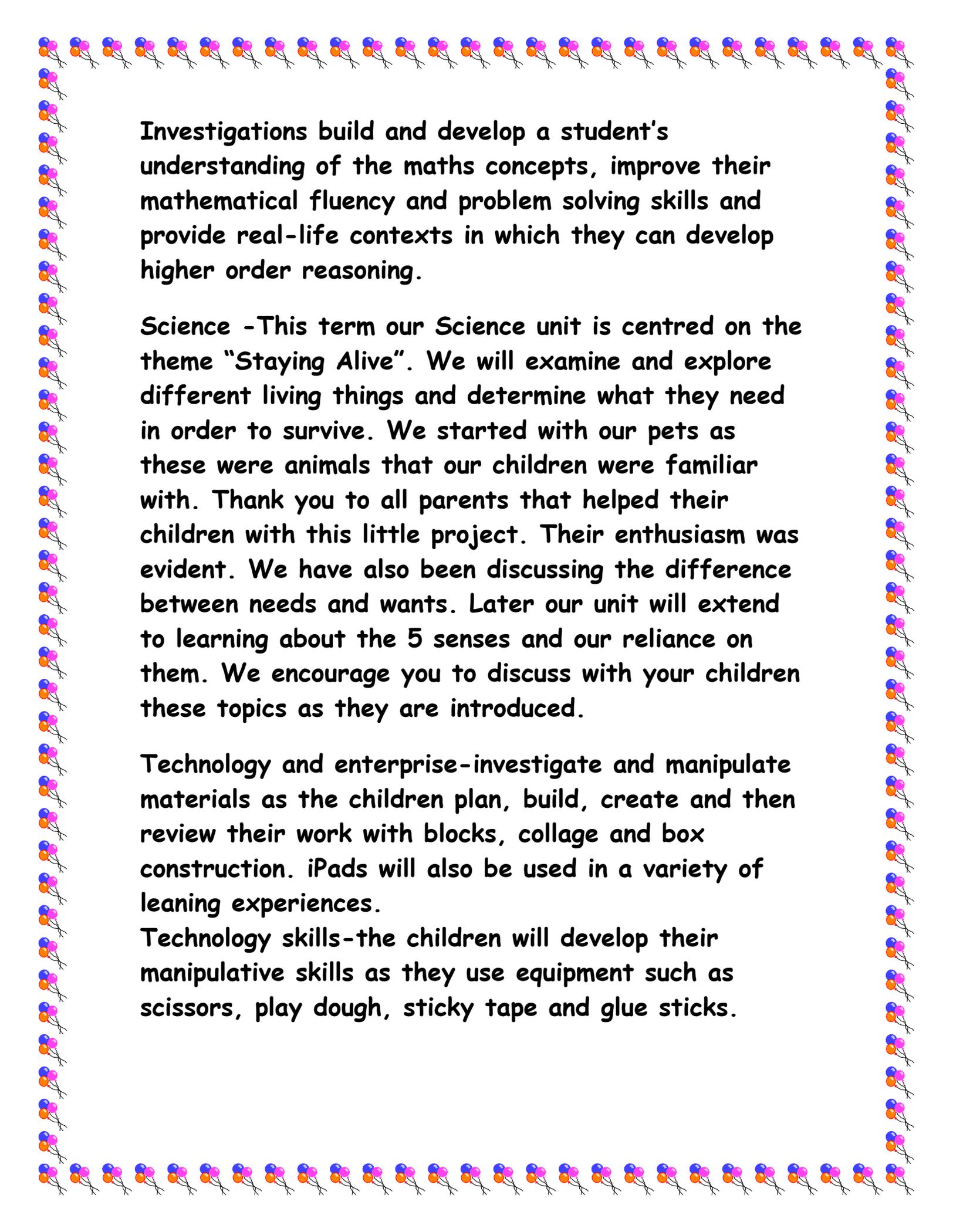
Library exchange day will be on Thursdays.

Picture books will be sent home every Monday and they need to be returned by Friday.

A Parent Helper Roster has been set up to assist in Literacy based activities.

Maths-number recognition, counting, sorting, classification, patterning, measuring (length, cooking, water and sand play) exploring shapes, graphs and exposure to mathematical language.

The whole school will be using a resource called iMaths to support the implementation of the Australian National Curriculum. Investigations and problem solving are the core of the iMaths program. They provide the context to which students apply their knowledge and understanding of the content. The iMaths

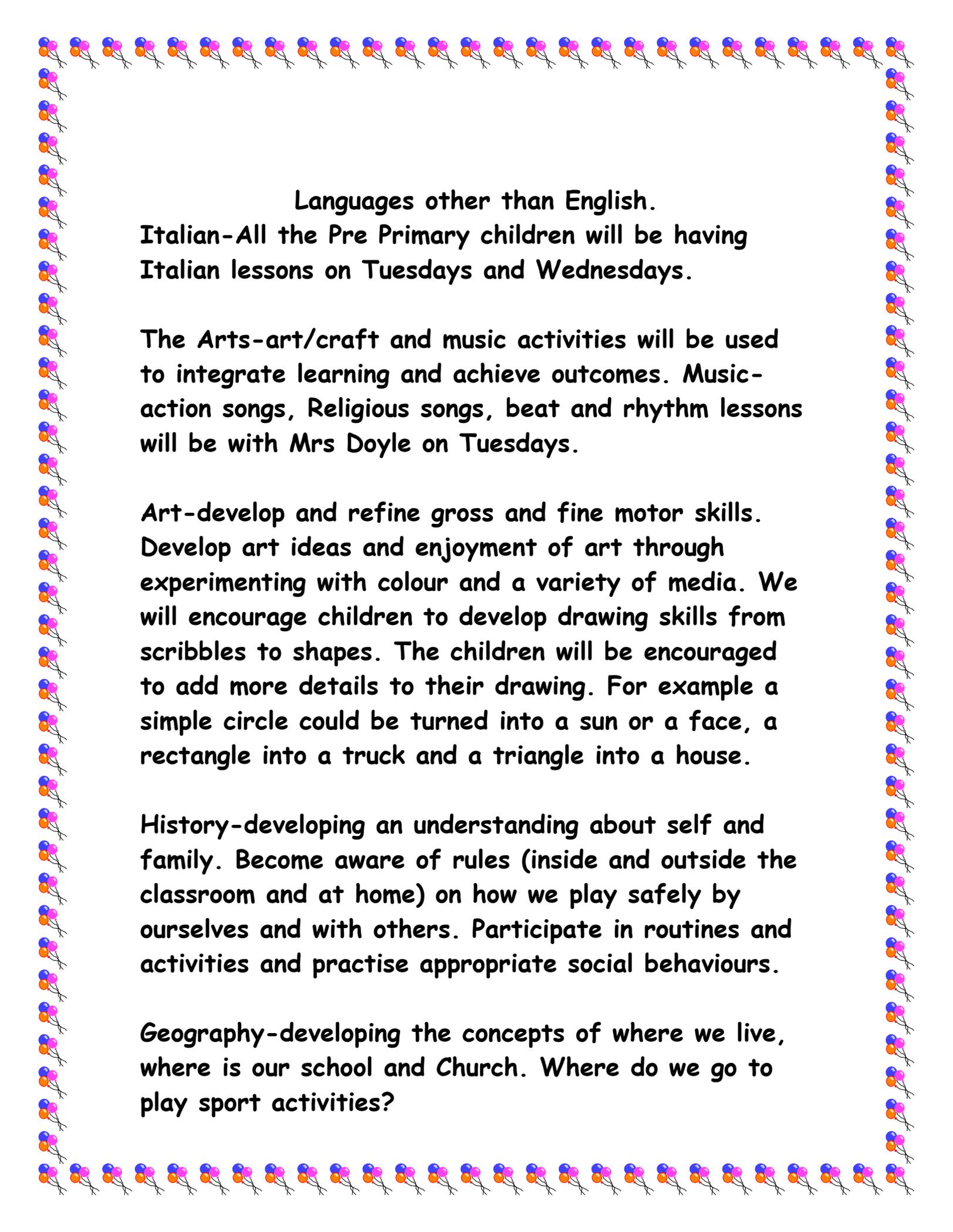


Investigations build and develop a student's understanding of the maths concepts, improve their mathematical fluency and problem solving skills and provide real-life contexts in which they can develop higher order reasoning.

Science -This term our Science unit is centred on the theme "Staying Alive". We will examine and explore different living things and determine what they need in order to survive. We started with our pets as these were animals that our children were familiar with. Thank you to all parents that helped their children with this little project. Their enthusiasm was evident. We have also been discussing the difference between needs and wants. Later our unit will extend to learning about the 5 senses and our reliance on them. We encourage you to discuss with your children these topics as they are introduced.

Technology and enterprise-investigate and manipulate materials as the children plan, build, create and then review their work with blocks, collage and box construction. iPads will also be used in a variety of leaning experiences.

Technology skills-the children will develop their manipulative skills as they use equipment such as scissors, play dough, sticky tape and glue sticks.



Languages other than English.

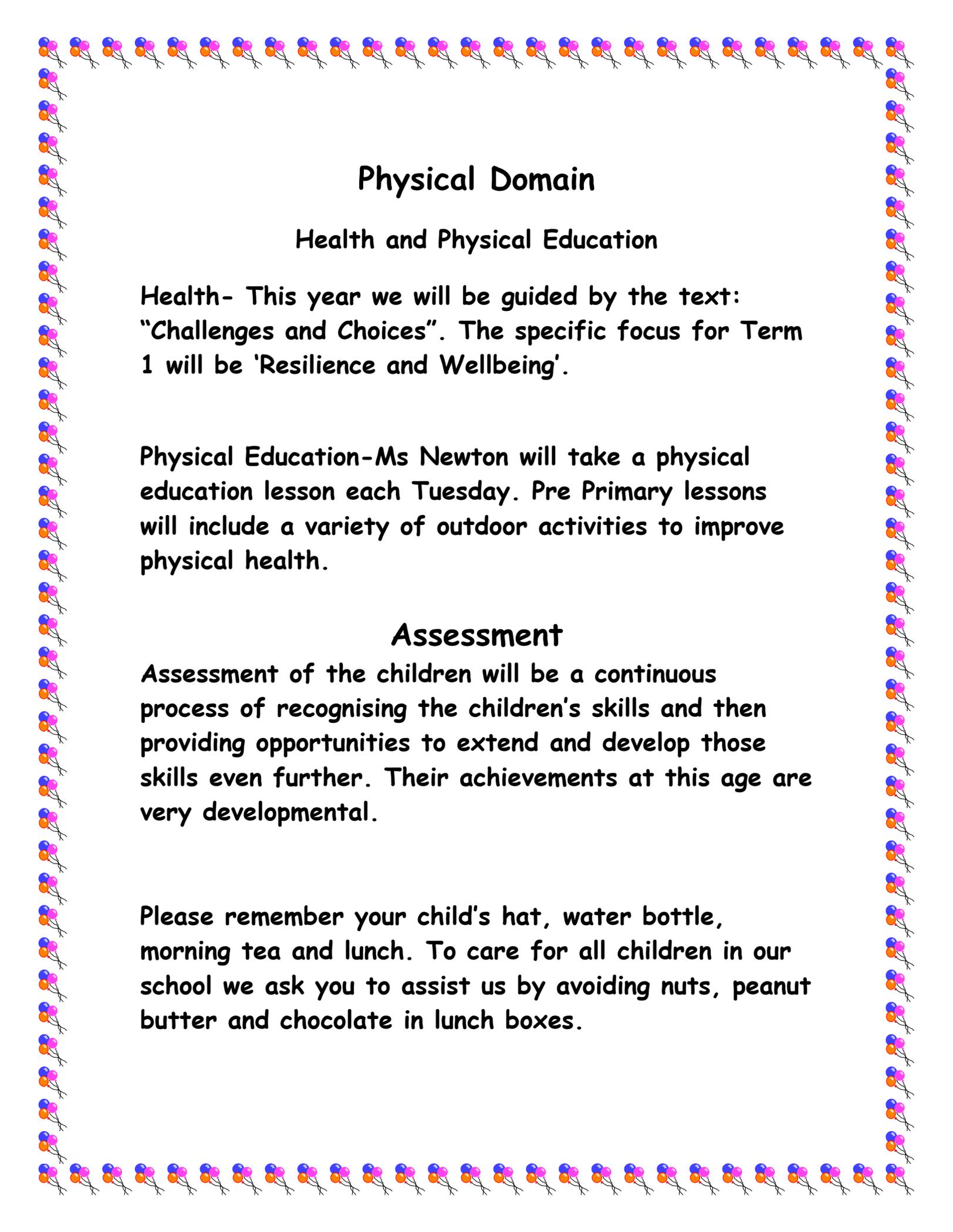
Italian-All the Pre Primary children will be having Italian lessons on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The Arts-art/craft and music activities will be used to integrate learning and achieve outcomes. Music-action songs, Religious songs, beat and rhythm lessons will be with Mrs Doyle on Tuesdays.

Art-develop and refine gross and fine motor skills. Develop art ideas and enjoyment of art through experimenting with colour and a variety of media. We will encourage children to develop drawing skills from scribbles to shapes. The children will be encouraged to add more details to their drawing. For example a simple circle could be turned into a sun or a face, a rectangle into a truck and a triangle into a house.

History-developing an understanding about self and family. Become aware of rules (inside and outside the classroom and at home) on how we play safely by ourselves and with others. Participate in routines and activities and practise appropriate social behaviours.

Geography-developing the concepts of where we live, where is our school and Church. Where do we go to play sport activities?



Physical Domain

Health and Physical Education

Health- This year we will be guided by the text: "Challenges and Choices". The specific focus for Term 1 will be 'Resilience and Wellbeing'.

Physical Education-Ms Newton will take a physical education lesson each Tuesday. Pre Primary lessons will include a variety of outdoor activities to improve physical health.

Assessment

Assessment of the children will be a continuous process of recognising the children's skills and then providing opportunities to extend and develop those skills even further. Their achievements at this age are very developmental.

Please remember your child's hat, water bottle, morning tea and lunch. To care for all children in our school we ask you to assist us by avoiding nuts, peanut butter and chocolate in lunch boxes.

When your child is celebrating a birthday we ask that you hand out the invitations to other parents, not directly to the children.

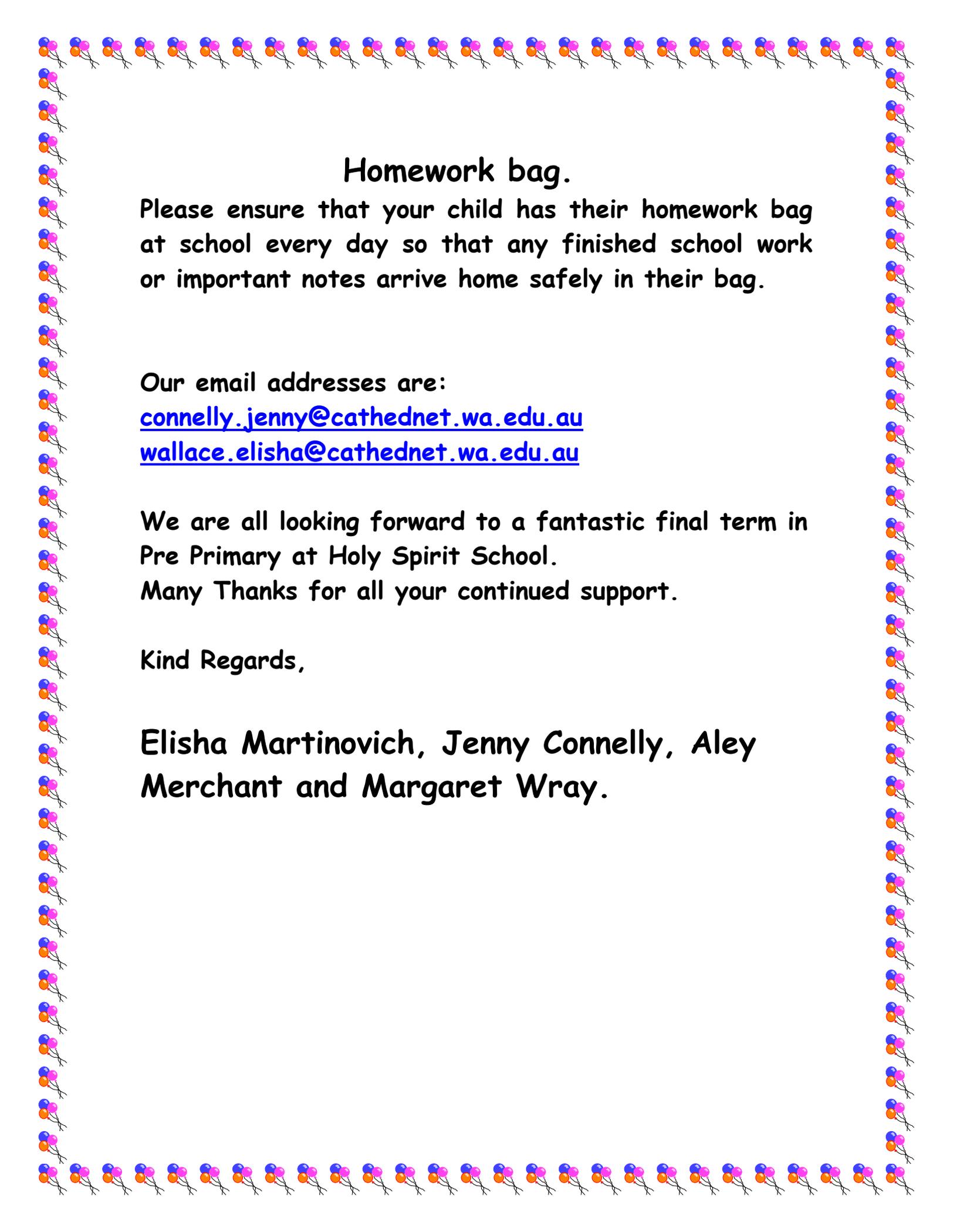
Parent/Teacher Contact

Please feel free to make an appointment to see us if you need to discuss something about your child. We are available before and after school.

An arrival and departure log book is on the bench inside the classroom. If your child is going to be away or has an appointment, could you please fill in the book so we are aware of what is happening. Please also inform the office if your child will be away from school for a few days eg illness, holiday etc. Please be aware that if you send an email then you must come into the classroom and sign the note.

As a duty of care, it is also very important that you sign your child in and out of the school, at the office. We are all then aware that your child has arrived late to school or is leaving early for the day.





Homework bag.

Please ensure that your child has their homework bag at school every day so that any finished school work or important notes arrive home safely in their bag.

Our email addresses are:

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We are all looking forward to a fantastic final term in Pre Primary at Holy Spirit School.

Many Thanks for all your continued support.

Kind Regards,

Elisha Martinovich, Jenny Connelly, Aley Merchant and Margaret Wray.

