

Foundation Community Learning Newsletter

Term Three 2021

Stella Maris Catholic Primary School

Welcome to Term Three!

We hope you have all had a well deserved break and are ready for another busy term. We did not expect another lockdown, however we will all play our part to keep our community safe. We are so excited to be able to return onsite. There is nothing better than teaching face to face!



DISCOVERY AND ENCOUNTER

Each member of the Foundation Community will inquire into the key understanding:

People use science to understand the world and solve challenges in regenerative ways.

During Term Three, the Foundation students will be inquiring into the world around us. They will develop a sense of appreciation of our environment and how it changes through learning about living and nonliving things, seasons and the weather. They will use science to understand their findings through observing, predicting, questioning and interpreting. Students will take actions throughout the unit to make a positive impact on the environment and our world.

In Encounter this term, the Foundation students will highlight the importance of being Stewards of God's creation. Students will begin by developing a sense of curiosity, wonder and awe, as they reflect on their local natural environment. In the same way, students will share their questions and wonderings based on the interesting things they find in their environment. Scripture and the Catholic Church's teachings (Laudato Si) will be explored as the students reflect on God's creation. Finally, students will draw on being Stewards as they inquire on how they can show responsibility and positive actions for looking after God's creation and importantly our school environment.



ENGLISH

In English this term, students will further develop skills and strategies to become confident readers and writers. They will continue to use the THRASS chart as a tool to assist them when reading and spelling words. All children will be involved in small teacher focus groups for reading and writing. These groups target the needs of your child.



We are continuing to expand our knowledge of Hot Words and we will be expecting the students to record common high frequency words also known as 'hot words' automatically and quickly, such as I, a, the, can, and, see, went, at, come, said, here. We encourage all children to practise reading and recording these high frequency words as it will assist with reading and writing.

Oxford Wordlist 1-50

I	it	she	you	weekend
the	then	said	at	time
and	he	played	me	her
to	had	one	mum	go
a	in	is	for	came
was	they	were	dad	because
my	with	day	but	up
went	of	so	saw	his
we	there	when	house	once
on	got	home	that	after

TAKE HOME READING SYSTEM REMINDER

Your child has been assigned ONE day where they are given a combination of both take home books and books from their teacher's personal library. In total your child should receive 5 books for the week.

This encourages both your child to read - *the take home books independently* and be read to *the books from the teacher's library*. We encourage both reading strategies as they are very important in the development of their reading.

On the day that your child brings their books home - we encourage the children to take all the books out of their book bags and keep them in a safe place.

Your child is required to change their 5 books on their assigned day.

IMPORTANT: All book bags need to be at school each day to collect notes if there are any.



HOME LEARNING REMINDER

We often have a number of families ask the question - what can I do at home to help my child with their learning.

At Stella Maris we use the language of Home Learning rather than homework. We believe that Home Learning can look different for each family. A guide we use is 10 minutes per day with a focus on reading their take home books, however we understand that some families will choose to do more with their child. The choice is yours as you know your child the best!

Below are some examples of how home learning occurs:

- in the home through everyday family activities (playing and sharing interests with relatives and friends including family conversations, shared bedtime stories, independent reading, family games, activities and hobbies, visits to the local library, imaginative play and outings to places of historic or natural interest)
- includes interactions and time spent by a parent with their child discussing learning that has occurred at school that strengthens home school partnerships
- includes swimming lessons, joining teams, learning instruments and drama lessons
- is age appropriate and depends on the ability of the students

Sometimes we will send home some tasks that need to be completed as part of learning at school.

On the next page you will find some suggestions on what you **can** do at home. As we all know each family is different and will do what works for them.



MATHEMATICS

We have another big term of mathematics learning in the Foundation Community! Throughout this term, students will continue to investigate number, focusing on counting, exploring ways of breaking up numbers, doubling small numbers and representing mathematical thinking in different ways. We have begun the term by exploring the sequencing and duration of time. This will include ordering the days of the week and months of the year. We will then move into exploring how to tell o'clock times on both analogue and digital clocks. As the term progresses the students will be developing their understanding of location. They will use everyday language to describe the location of objects. Students will also be exploring measurement such as length followed with investigating 3D objects. We will then revisit the concept of addition, building on our understanding that adding two collections together will result in a larger collection. Revisiting the concept subtraction will follow short after. Students will be encouraged to make links between addition and subtraction, using their new knowledge of partitions of ten to solve subtraction word problems. We will finish the term with students learning about equal groups and investigate the foundational multiplicative skills including groups and sharing.



Tasks to do at home!

Here are a few tasks you can complete at home with your child relating to number...

Counting On:

Roll a dice to start counting on a small collection.

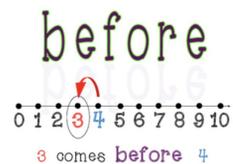


Counting forwards and backwards:

Ask your child to start counting forwards or backwards. Begin from different starting points

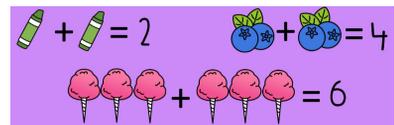
Before and After:

Asking your child the number before and after
eg, "What comes after 7" "What comes before 12"



Small doubles:

Ask your child the small doubles
eg, what is... "2 and 2" "3 and 3" "4 and 4"



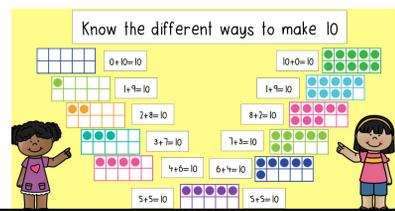
Partitions of 5:

Ask your child how many more make 5
eg, "If I have 2 have many more make 5?"



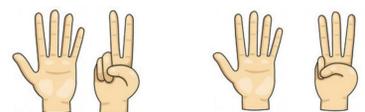
Partitions of 10:

Ask your child how many more make 10
eg, "If I have 4 have many more make 10?"



5 plus facts:

Ask your child, what is 5 plus 2? 3 plus 5?
They can use their fingers to get started, but then challenge your child to say the fact without their fingers





100 Days of School Celebration

As most families are aware we have been counting the number of learning days in Foundation. We have displayed these days using stickers within a tens frames and bundles (10 icypole sticks equals a bundle).

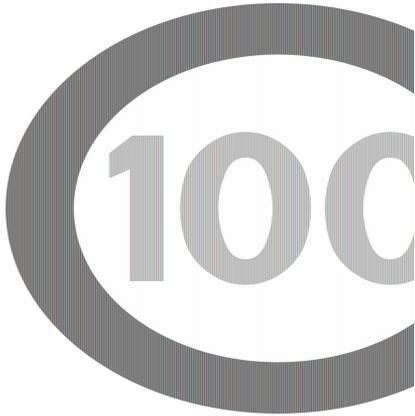
This has been encouraging your child to count by 5s and 10s.

Our official 100th day is

FRIDAY 30th July 2021

Our celebration this year will look different to past years. Due to the nature of our current situation we will still be celebrating as a Foundation Community either online OR onsite.





We are excited because today we made a crown with the number 100. This shows that we have been learning for 100 days!!!

Zara and Arjun FCF



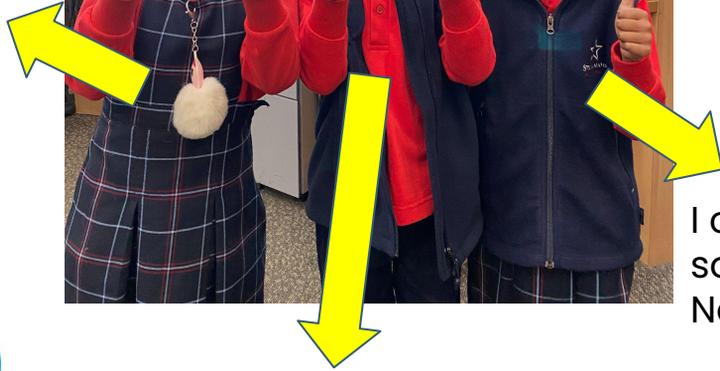
We are excited to be celebrating our 100 days of learning.

I now know how to use chromebooks because of Digitech classes. -
Noah FCS

I now know how to count to 100 -
Eva FCS

I now have lots of friends at school -
Eugene FCS

In 100 days of learning I can now read and write.
Grace - FCV



I can now read some hot words.
Naomi Jessie - FCV



I can now count to 20.
Francis - FCV



We are excited to learn at Stella Maris because we have lots of fun! We sometimes make things and sometimes we bring them home. We are lucky to have our school dog Jett and we get to make lots of friends.

Everlyn and Cathryn - FCN



Eating Time

We encourage all children to eat their brain food at around 10 a.m. each day. It has become part of our morning routine to place our brain food on their table along with their water bottles. We are now eating inside our learning area from 11:00 – until 11:10a.m. At this time we encourage your child to eat their ‘main food’ and any yoghurts. We eat again at 1:30-1:40 p.m. and children will possibly finish what is in their lunchbox.

If you recognise your child takes a long time to eat, perhaps you could practice this at home by encouraging them to eat without being distracted and to eat more quickly.



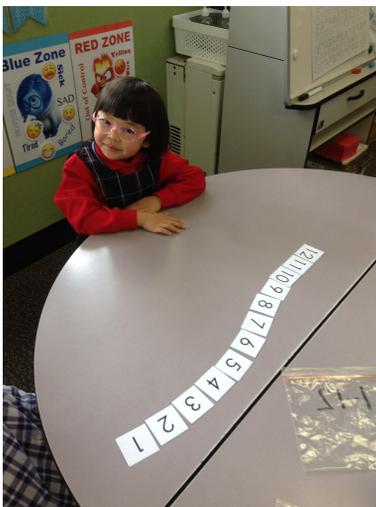
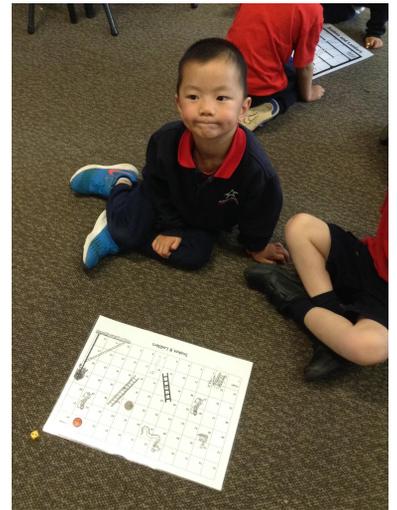
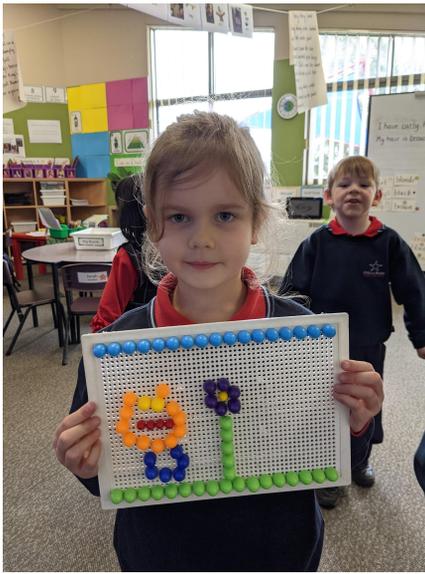
Suggested Questions to ask your child!

Often we ask our child how was your day or what did you do today? Sometimes we are lucky to receive a response and other times we receive an answer along the lines of I don't remember or nothing! We have suggested the following the questions to ask to see if it generates more a conversation letting you know about their day!

Good Luck.....

Asking your child about their day....

- When did you experience joy today?
- What brought you joy?
- What surprised you today?
- What are you wondering about now?



COMMUNITY BIRTHDAYS

OUR
April
BABIES



OUR
May
BABIES



COMMUNITY BIRTHDAYS



OUR
June
BABIES

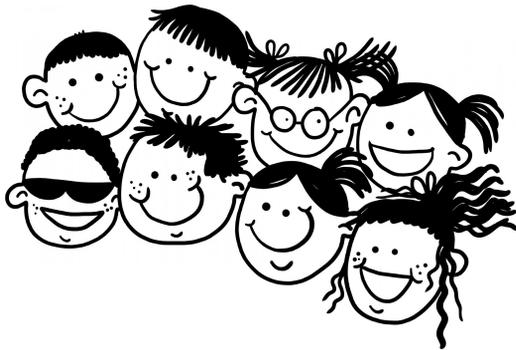
OUR
July
BABIES



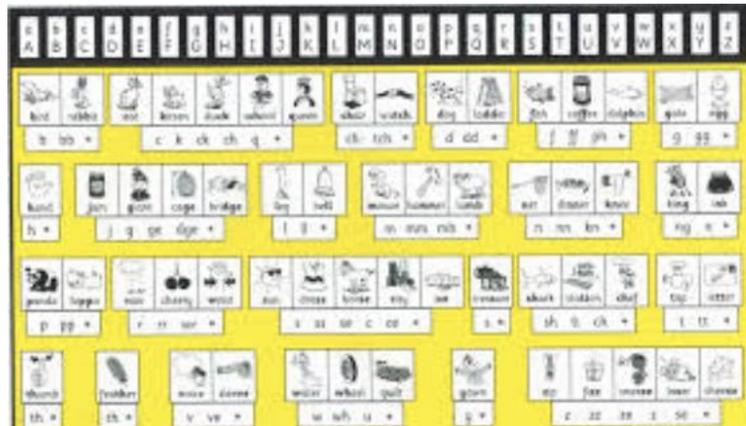
General Information

REMINDER ABOUT LOST PROPERTY

We have noticed quite a number of uniform pieces and plastic containers in our lost property. We cannot stress enough about the importance of labelling your child's personal belongings. At the end of the term we will be placing all lost property either in the sick bay for extra clothing or the 2nd hand uniform shop. We strongly encourage you to check our lost property if your child has misplaced any part of their uniform.



REMINDER - THRASScharts
THRASScharts are for sale at the office for \$6.00 each.



HATS

During Term Two and Three hats are optional for students at school.

DRINK BOTTLES

We ask that children continue to bring water bottles to school with them. This ensures that if your child needs a drink during the day they do not have to leave the learning area and that disruptions

BOOK BAGS

We ask that children continue to bring their book bags each day to school to ensure that all notes arrive home safely!

STAFF CONTACT EMAILS

Leah Morrow: lmorrow@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au
Claire Falzon: cfalzon@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au
Steff Hall: shall@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au
Simone Norman: snorman@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au
Lillian Valencia: lvalencia@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au
Vivienne Taylor : vtaylor@stellamaris.catholic.edu.au