

# Victoria Plantation State School

*We Strive to Achieve*



## NEWSLETTER

### Term 4 Week 3

#### Principal's Message

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

We are well into Term 4, and our days are certainly busy!

This is the term where we do so many things for the last time this year. It is also a time when our expectations of students grow. After a year of new learning, building friendships, being part of a learning team and developing independence, we want to see that growth reflected in both learning and behaviour.

**Growing up means that nothing stays the same.** We learn, we change, we become more capable, and we discover things about ourselves that we didn't know before.

#### **From Our Garden to Our Table**

This term, we are piloting our exciting **Garden Harvest Program**, bringing together Pick of the Crop, healthy eating, Mathematics, English, Science and HASS in meaningful, hands-on learning experiences.

Every morning, Mrs Ros prepares a magnificent fruit and vegetable platter that is delivered to both our Prep-2 and Years 3-6 classrooms. I love finding new and interesting fruits and vegetables for our children to explore and taste. All we ask is that students **have a try**.

After all, if you don't try, how will you ever know?

Just like our children, our taste buds grow and change too. As we get older, we often discover that foods we once disliked become foods we genuinely enjoy. We don't want children to become stuck in the belief that they don't like something simply because they didn't enjoy it once.

It is so rewarding to hear a student say, *"I never liked broccoli, but now I do!"*

**Now, that's what we call a growth mindset!**

#### **A Little Help with Lunchboxes**

We are asking families to please continue providing a piece of fruit or a vegetable snack for our daily fruit break. Our morning platters are deliberately small and are designed to supplement, rather than replace, the food children bring from home.

We also encourage families to fill lunchboxes with as much fresh, nourishing food as possible. Sandwiches, fruit, vegetables, crackers, cheese and yoghurt are all wonderful options. Ideally, packaged snack foods should make up the smallest portion of a child's lunchbox.

We are noticing that some children are still hungry after eating their lunches and are asking for sandwiches later in the day.

And Fridays? Well, swimming turns our children into **famished little gremlins!** 

If you can pop an extra sandwich into their lunchbox on Fridays, that would be absolutely wonderful.

Our Breakfast Program continues three mornings each week, and we also offer a weekly Taster Lunch, giving students opportunities to explore new foods and flavours.

This week, we prepared delicious **tomato and olive pizzettas and chicken pesto pasta**. The pesto was made using beautiful, fresh basil harvested from our very own school garden!

There is something incredibly special about watching children grow food, harvest it, prepare it and then enjoy eating it together.

## 🌱 Years 3–6 Camp – Week 4

Our Years 3–6 students are heading to the **Paluma Environmental Education Centre** in Week 4! This will be an exciting opportunity to extend our learning about sustainability and environmental practices, including composting and caring for our natural environment.

Students attending camp have been asked to bring a **package-free lunch** for the day, putting some of our sustainability learning into practice.

Mrs B, Mrs Hering, Renee Adams and Chappy Dylan will be attending camp with our students.

For students not attending, an alternative learning program will be provided at school with Mrs Jo, Mrs Flood and our remaining staff.

## 🌈 Maraka Float – Community Spirit

We are also in full swing preparing our Maraka Float display!

It has been absolutely lovely to see parents getting involved, sharing ideas and contributing their time and talents.

This is what our school community, and indeed our wider Hinchinbrook community, is all about.

When families, staff and community members come together, our children experience something very special.

They see the importance of belonging, contributing and being part of something bigger than themselves.

## Growing Together

As we move through these final weeks of the school year, I encourage families to keep talking with their children about their learning, their responsibilities and the ways they have grown.

Sometimes growth is a big achievement. Sometimes it is trying a new vegetable, making a new friend, showing kindness, taking responsibility or doing something independently for the very first time.

Every little step matters.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement and involvement in our wonderful little school.

**Warm regards.**



**Adriana Hering**  
PRINCIPAL  
Victoria Plantation State School  
Northern Region, Department of Education

📞 School: 4776 9888  
📠 0429 265 925  
✉️ aheri3@eq.edu.au  
📍 244 Forrest Beach Road | Victoria Estate | Via Ingham 4850  
✉️ PO Box | Ingham 4850



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## A Term of Learning & Discovery

TERM 4 • PREP TO YEAR 2

Dear Families,

We have a wonderful term of hands-on learning ahead! Our Prep to Year 2 students will be exploring language, building mathematical confidence, investigating the world around them and learning through movement and creativity. Here is a little look at what we will be learning together.



### ENGLISH

Our English learning explores poetry and prose through a garden and harvest theme. Students will listen to, read and respond to poems and information texts, noticing rhyme, rhythm, repetition, alliteration and word choice. They will develop their comprehension, reading fluency and confidence in sharing ideas, with activities matched to their year level.



### MATHEMATICS

Students will strengthen their understanding of numbers through counting, representing and comparing collections, equal grouping, skip counting and patterns. Year two will also explore place value to 1,000, renaming numbers and using partitioning to help with calculations. Number-name writing and addition and subtraction strategies remain part of our regular practice.



### SCIENCE

In Science, students will investigate the properties of everyday materials and what happens when they are physically changed. They will explore actions such as bending, twisting, folding and stretching, make predictions, test ideas and describe their observations using scientific language.



### HEALTH & PE

Swimming is our Physical Education focus this term. Students will build water confidence, practise swimming and movement skills, and develop safe and responsible habits around the water. We will encourage every child to participate at a level appropriate to their experience and confidence.



### DRAMA

In our Drama unit, *My Place*, students will use dramatic play and improvisation to explore familiar, imagined and community places. They will develop roles and situations using voice, facial expression, movement and space, share short performances and respond to their own and others' drama.

We look forward to celebrating each child's achievements as they learn, practise and grow. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement at home.

Warm regards,

*Miss Jo Ferrar*

Classroom Teacher

# Term 4

## What's Happening in Our Classroom?

### English

Poetry and Prose | Mrs B

This term, students are exploring poetry and prose through our garden theme, From the Garden to Our Table. They are learning how authors use descriptive language, imagery, rhyme and other literary devices to create meaning. Students will compare text structures and language choices while developing their understanding of how authors engage readers.



### Mathematics

Number and Algebra | Mrs B

Students are strengthening their number skills through place value, number patterns, fractions, decimals, percentages and problem-solving activities. Learning is tailored to each year level, with a focus on building confidence, developing mathematical understanding and applying skills to everyday situations.



### Health

Healthy Habits and Wellbeing | Mrs B

Students are exploring how healthy choices support their physical health and wellbeing. They are learning about nutritious foods, physical activity and everyday habits that help keep our bodies and minds healthy. Students will investigate practical strategies to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.



### Drama

Mrs Flood



#### Years 3-4:

Students are learning about stage directions, space and situations through movement activities and short performances. They are developing confidence in following scripts, working together and bringing characters to life.

#### Years 5-6:

Students are exploring how atmosphere, character and tension influence a performance. Through film clips, music and scripts, they are learning how different moods can shape characters and engage an audience.

### Science

Mrs Hering

#### Years 3-4:

Students are investigating solids and liquids and how heating and cooling can change materials. Through hands-on experiments, they are exploring melting, cooling and freezing while developing their observation and prediction skills.

#### Years 5-6:

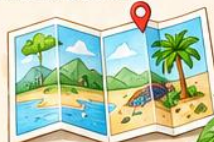
Students are exploring solids, liquids and gases, with a focus on evaporation. They are conducting fair tests, collecting data and explaining their findings while making connections to everyday experiences.



### HASS – Humanities and Social Sciences

#### Years 3-4: People and Places | Mrs B

Students are investigating and comparing Cairns and the Gold Coast, exploring their climates, natural and built landmarks, attractions and activities. They are developing research and mapping skills while learning how the environment influences the way people live and connect with different places.



#### Years 5-6: Garden Harvest Business | Mrs Hering

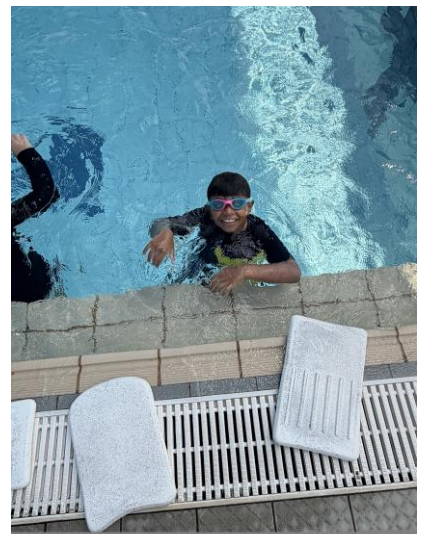
Students are exploring how our Garden Harvest program could support a small school business. They are comparing ideas such as school lunches, pesto and tomato relish while considering costs, sustainability and benefits to our school community. Students will use their research to recommend the most suitable business idea.





At Victoria Plantation State School, we are more than teachers and students we are a community that learns together, grows together and inspires one another every day. Through kindness, respect and teamwork we create a place where every person belongs, every voice matters and every child has the opportunity to shine.





# October Harvest

## Recipes for Kids

Simple  
• Healthy  
• Fun  
• Delicious!

### 1 Pumpkin Muffins



You will need:



-  Mix wet ingredients.
-  Add dry ingredients and mix.
-  Spoon into muffin tray.
-  Bake at 180°C for 20-25 mins.

### 2 Carrot & Apple Snack Bites



You will need:



-  Mix all ingredients together.
-  Roll into small balls.
-  Chill in the fridge for 30 minutes.
-  Enjoy as a healthy snack!

### 3 Pumpkin Soup



You will need:



-  Cook onion in a pot.
-  Add pumpkin and stock.
-  Simmer until soft (15-20 mins).
-  Blend until smooth. Add milk and heat.

### 4 Apple Crumble Cups



You will need:



-  Place chopped apples in a muffin tray.
-  Mix oats, flour, butter, sugar and cinnamon.
-  Spoon crumble on top.
-  Bake at 180°C for 20-25 mins.

### 5 Vegetable Rainbow Wraps



You will need:



-  Spread hummus on wrap.
-  Add colourful vegetables and cheese.
-  Roll up tightly.
-  Cut and enjoy!

### 6 Roasted Veggie Chips



You will need:



-  Slice vegetables thinly.
-  Toss with a little olive oil.
-  Spread on a tray.
-  Bake at 180°C for 20-25 mins until crispy.

|       |                                  |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 8:15  | Supervised Time                  |
| 8:45  | First Session of Learning        |
| 11:00 | First Break - Supervised Eating  |
| 11:20 | First Break                      |
| 11:45 | Second Session of Learning       |
| 1:30  | Second Break - Supervised Eating |
| 1:40  | Second Break                     |
| 1:50  | Third Session of Learning        |
| 3:00  | End of Day                       |



The latest newsletter is also available in digital format on the Victoria Plantation state School website

## Dates to remember

Week 4 -School Camp - 26-28 October

Week 5 – Country Swimming Carnival – 5 November

Week 6 – World Kindness Day, Mt Fox – 11<sup>th</sup> November

