Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary

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Dear Parents,

You would remember as far back as Kindergarten Orientation when we spoke about the significance of reading development.

Reading involves the mastery of a number of skills – identifying sounds and blends, automatic recall of sight words, understanding the use of punctuation, vocabulary building and being able to talk about a text to further build up on their own life experiences and improve their ability to comprehend texts.

Further, for young children who are learning to read it is important to read a text more than once to develop their knowledge of sight words, new vocabulary, understanding of texts, whilst further developing fluency, correct phrasing and comprehension. At Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 level, these skills are taught and practised every day.

Given that our students missed out on approximately 6 weeks of learning during Covid, we are concerned about how many Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 children did not practise their reading at home during this period and in the recent school holidays.

The Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 teachers have put into place, some measures for Terms 3 and 4 to increase the volume of reading time in the classroom and the amount of one to one support that children will receive.

I want to emphasise the importance of practising reading, enjoying reading, reading to your children, having them read to their siblings, as well as reading a variety of books - their home reader, library books, PMe Collection Online and completing reading, spelling and phonics activities via your Reading Eggs subscription.

The teachers and I are asking for your support to provide a reading experience for your child everyday. Try to read with your child at least once a day, at a scheduled time. Taking the time to read with your child on a regular basis; sends an important message; reading is worthwhile.

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 children are at a significant developmental stage and reading is arguably the most important skill they will ever learn. Your help, particularly in the second half of the year will help to make a difference in their progress.

If you are unsure of how to implement these ideas, please contact us and we will provide support. Reading to and with your children should be fun, not time consuming

Regards,



*Michael Hopley*

Principal