

# PREP CURRICULUM

*At 545 we care*

The Prep Program at Sale 545 Primary School is stimulating and exciting and follows the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Victorian Essential Learning Standards Curriculum, introduced into Victorian schools in 2006. Our Language Other Than English is Japanese.

The Prep English Curriculum consists of speaking and listening, reading and writing. The children are encouraged to speak to each other and the group, and are taught to develop their listening skills. Children come to school excited about books. This is nurtured through the daily two hour literacy program and the library program. The children are taught reading strategies through meaningful classroom activities. Comprehension of what children read is a continual focus. All efforts in children's writing are encouraged as they progress from their own scribble to recognisable letters and sentences. Emphasis is placed on literacy skills at Sale Primary School but we also acknowledge that children are individuals and develop their skills at different rates.

The Prep Mathematics Curriculum encourages the children to see maths in their everyday lives. They handle and describe shapes, give locations using appropriate language, order and compare using language for length, mass and capacity, become aware of time and learn to question and problem solve through number. Maths, in the prep curriculum, is very much "hands on". As with literacy, numeracy skills are of great importance at Sale Primary School and a solid grounding is established in the prep year.

Through the Science Curriculum children are investigating the world around them and are encouraged to question and develop their observation skills. Through this curiosity their scientific knowledge, skills and language will develop.

The Humanities (Social Studies) Curriculum develops the children's understanding and knowledge of their world (family and community). Students learn to gather and present information, communicate through their drawings and writing and to participate with the group. The children learn these skills and knowledge through a variety of integrated curriculum topics.

Children learn about Technology and how it applies to their world. They learn the process of investigating, designing, producing and evaluating whilst learning how to use tools safely. We have multiple computers in all classrooms at Sale Primary School and these are used to integrate class work. Children also have a weekly focussed Learning Technologies session on our school computer bank.



Physical Education skills are taught as a specialist program. At the prep level children are taught ball skills and body movement. Swimming is a part of the physical education program at Sale Primary School. Fitness and enjoyment of physical activities are promoted for the prep level. Health is integrated within the class program to teach the children about good health, nutrition, personal safety, dealing with feelings and developing social skills.

The Arts Curriculum is divided into Performing Arts and Visual Arts. Visual art and music are taught by specialist teachers. Dance and drama are integrated into the classroom program. From prep, the children are encouraged to express themselves and communicate through all forms of art whilst learning the skills and appreciating the art.

Our Language Other Than English is Japanese and at the prep level the classroom teachers introduce aspects of the Japanese culture, and basic words such as greetings, numbers and colours. The emphasis, at this stage, is on oral language and the children develop confidence through fun activities such as games and singing.

Sale Primary School offers a friendly and supportive school environment. The prep/year 6 buddy system gives each prep child a senior student to do cross-age activities with, throughout the year. Multi age activities are also organised to nurture the caring attitude we foster throughout the school. We encourage parental involvement with the parents assisting in many areas within the classroom, on excursions, with the Perceptual Motorskills Program (P.M.P.) and through the wider school community.

A child's first year of school is crucial to future education. It is during this year they begin to develop new skills and refine existing skills. Sale Primary School offers your child an environment where warm, caring adults and older children will support your child in his / her efforts, celebrate achievements and offer encouragement when there are difficulties. Sale Primary School aims to develop and increase each child's skills to reach their potential in a caring and encouraging learning environment.

As your child begins their journey through primary school the importance of ongoing parental support and involvement cannot be stressed enough. By becoming an active participant in the everyday life of the school, you are sending your child a powerful message on your attitude to schooling. For education to be a successful experience it must be a continuous three way dialogue between teacher, parent and student. We look forward to welcoming your family to Sale 545 Primary School.

For further information please contact the Acting Principal, Brad Evans.

**Sale 545 Primary School  
Prep Team.**

