



TERM 1 CURRICULUM SNAPSHOT 2026 PREP

IGNITING MINDS
EMPOWERING FUTURES

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM
VERSION 9

THE LIVING LEARNING FOREST

Science Inquiry

BIG IDEA: SUSTAINABILITY

Using our little patch of forest as a provocation, students will learn how to conduct their first inquiry. Through regular visits to the forest, students will engage in play-based exploration as they observe, collect, build, create and wonder about the natural world. Learning experiences will help to connect students to the forest and to care for the plants and animals that live there.

Midway through the inquiry, students discover that a particular animal species once lived in our forest but has not been seen for several years. This sparks deeper inquiry through play, science exploration and the Arts, as students explore the animal's needs, represent their ideas through drawing, movement and construction, and develop theories about what may have happened. (Can you guess the mystery missing animal? STAY TUNED).

This unit reflects our school's Design Principles of Interconnected learning (linking subjects and ideas) and Personalised (designed to meet the personal needs and interests of the students).



ENGLISH

Talking About Stories

Focus: Speaking and Listening

Students will read, view and listen to a range of imaginative stories that focus on familiar themes like starting school, belonging and getting along. They will explore and respond to the characters, settings and events in stories.

In whole class and small group activities and literacy routines, students will build their knowledge of letters and sounds. This will form the foundation for them becoming readers and writers.

Students will demonstrate their learning by participating in a book club to share ideas about their favourite characters and events in a story.

MATHEMATICS

Concepts covered in Term 1 include:

Number

- Name, represent and order numbers including zero to at least 10, using physical and virtual materials and numerals
- Partition and combine collections up to 10 in different ways and represent these with numerals
- Use subitising and counting strategies to quantify collections

Algebra

- Use subitising and counting strategies to quantify collections

HEALTH & WELLBEING

We are a Team

In this Health unit, Prep students are learning what it means to be part of the Meridan Marlin team. Students explore how we work together, follow routines and support one another at school. They learn about the people and places that help keep them safe, and practise what to do if they are feeling unsure or need help.

Students will also develop important personal and social skills as they practise interacting respectfully with others in the classroom and playground. This unit supports students to build confidence, a sense of belonging, and the skills needed to be cooperative members of our school community.

Location

- Sequence days of the week and times of the day including morning, lunchtime, afternoon and night-time, and connect them to familiar events and actions

Shape

- Name, create and sort familiar shapes and give their reasoning
- Describe shapes and identify shapes in the environment
- Use art, construction and a range of materials to make shapes

SPECIALISTS

MUSIC – Music Makers

This term in Music, Prep are building foundations with a range of practical music making experiences.

Through a mixture of singing, movement and playing percussion, students will focus on keeping a steady beat, copying and creating simple rhythms and exploring elements like pitch, tempo and dynamics. They will also listen and respond to music.

HPE – Let's Move It

In HPE students will learn fundamental movement skills and sequences using different body parts. They will use trial and error to test solutions to movement challenges. They will learn to follow rules when participating in physical activities.

VISUAL ART – The Forest

In art workshops, Prep children explore the school forest as a living provocation for visual expression. The forest becomes a co-teacher, offering textures, forms, colours and sensory experiences that inspire mark-making and artwork creation.

Through repeated visits, slow looking, and hands-on engagement with natural materials, children learn to represent their ideas, feelings and observations through drawing, printing, constructing and mixed-media exploration.

