Here in the prep/1 class we love learning! Now that we have a better understanding of the rules and routines of school we have started to implement more structured learning experiences into our days. In literacy we have been working on writing our names and learning how to form the letters of our names correctly. This has been done through a range of activities including writing in shaving
cream, using chalk, completing name puzzles, making a name poster out of sand and even making it out of playdough. We have also begun our new phonics program “Jolly Phonics” and last week we learnt the /s/ sound. This week we learnt the /a/ sound. We have done a wide range of learning experiences to better our understanding of these sounds.

The snake is in the grass.

/s/ /s/ the snake is in the grass

/a/ /a/ ants on my arm.

They’re causing me alarm.
This week we also began learning sight words. We learnt “a” as well as “and”. We have some wonderful songs to help us remember these words. We played a fun new game where we turn into police people and send the incorrect sight word to jail. We have so much fun with our learning.

How you can help at home ..... 
- Encourage your child to sing the songs that they have been learning in class.
- Read to your child every day.
- Help them practise writing their name.
- Play word games with them (I spy, rhyming games, snap with sounds)
We have been learning a range of mathematical concepts over the last couple of weeks. Activities have included sorting, number work and time. Make sure you come into the classroom to check out our wonderful day/night book that we made during one of our maths lessons.
The Prep/1 class had a wonderful time at swimming last week and are very much looking forward to our next lesson in at the new Gatton Pool.

Attention!
An unnamed pink swimming cap in a special zipped bag went missing at last week’s swimming lesson. If your child accidentally brought this home, please return it!!

Junk!
We LOVE making things here in the prep/1 class and as part of our technology work, we are going to be making things with boxes. If you happen to have any old boxes that you would usually
throw out, please send them our way (tissue boxes, cereal boxes, ice-cream containers etc). It would be greatly appreciated.

Hearing and vision

When children commence school, it is important that they have some general health checks to ensure they will learn effectively right from the start of their schooling years. Previously we have had a school nurse visit the school to do hearing tests, however this service is no longer available.

We strongly recommend that parents take the time to get their child’s hearing and vision checked during their first term of school. The Child Health Community Centre (CHCC) in Toowoomba offers a free hearing test service to parents of prep aged children and most optometrists offer free eye checks. Alternatively, you could contact your child’s doctor to arrange for these checks to be done.

Contact details for the CHCC are below.

Phone: 46166812
Address: 10 Rens Street, Toowoomba

We appreciate you supporting your child’s education by electing to have these recommended tests done. Please let us know if any issues for hearing or sight are discovered during testing, so that we can provide the best opportunities for learning for your child.

Kathleen Fitzpatrick 😊