

Mrs Simpson's Sizzling Spotlight

Prep for Prep Program



This week's sizzling spotlight is all about our **Prep 4 Prep Program**. At Mareeba SS we have a strong philosophy that making a difference in the early years makes a difference, when we enrol a child, we enrol the whole family and we understand the need to work collaboratively with community groups to establish common practices and provide effective support. To achieve this, Mareeba SS is committed to working with children, families and other community agencies

and professional networks to ensure a clear line of sight to school readiness for our learners beginning their school journey.

Kicking off with our signature event, the 'Teddy Bear's Picnic', all children enrolled, or those expressing an interest in enrolment, in Prep at Mareeba SS are invited to bring along their cuddly friend and join us for a 'Bear Hunt'. During our first Prep 4 Prep session, families and children join Mareeba SS staff to further build relationships by experiencing some play-based activities based on the book, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

During our following Prep 4 Prep sessions, we provide an opportunity for Prep students to attend transition activities in our Prep classrooms with our current Prep teachers and students while parents and carers attend information sessions in our library. By providing opportunities for children to attend Prep classrooms in a supported manner, it helps our newest learners to build nurturing relationships with peers and staff from the Mareeba SS community and familiarise themselves with everything Prep. Critical to Prep4Prep are the congruent learning activities for parents and caregivers which are conducted by external agencies. These include workshops on healthy eating, oral hygiene, supporting EALD learners and strategies to use at home to achieve routines that enable children to be prepared for school.

