Term 4 Science

Prep – Exploring with *The Magic Hat*

This term the Prep students will enjoy exploring science through the story *The Magic Hat*by Mem Fox. Linking with the book, students will investigate how different materials can be mixed, changed, and used for a purpose. They will experiment with combining materials to design and make their own “magic hats,” learning which materials are strong, flexible, or waterproof, and why we choose some materials over others. Through play, hands-on investigations, and creative hat-making, students will build early science skills in observing, sorting, predicting, and sharing ideas, while also developing imagination and a love for learning.

Year 1 & 2 Science – Investigating Materials

This term in Science, our Year 1 and 2 students will be investigating how different everyday materials can be used, changed, and combined for a purpose. Through hands-on experiments, they will explore how materials bend, stretch, twist, soak up water, or resist it, and test which are strongest or most waterproof. Students will design and build objects, such as mini shelters and bags, and explain why certain materials are the best choice. They will also learn how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have long used natural materials for tools, art, and shelter. This unit encourages curiosity, problem-solving, and creativity, while building students’ understanding of how science helps us in everyday life.

Year 3/4 - Investigating properties affecting the use of ochre

This term, the year 3 and year 4 students will be exploring the fascinating world of ochre, a natural earth pigment that has been used for thousands of years by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for art, ceremony and storytelling. Through hands-on investigations, the children will mix ochre with different liquids and test its smudge resistance and water fastness to discover which mixtures are most durable. They then will apply their science knowledge to create an artwork, explaining how the properties of each mixture made it suitable for different purposes. This unit will give students the chance to combine scientific inquiry, cultural knowledge, and creativity, while building important skills in observation, fair testing and explaining results.

Year 45, 56 - Testing change: Reversible or irreversible?

This term, the year 45, and year 56 will be in the role of Change Detectives, exploring how and why materials change when they are heated, cooled, mixed, or combined. Through exciting hands-on experiments such as melting chocolate, dissolving sugar, rusting metal, and popping popcorn, students will investigate the difference between reversible changes (that can be undone) and irreversible changes (that create something new). The will plan and conduct fair tests, collect and record observations, and use scientific reasoning to explain what happens at each stage. By the end of the unit, students will be able to explain that heating and cooling can cause materials to change in ways that are sometimes reversible and sometimes permanent—developing both their scientific inquiry skills and their understanding of everyday chemistry.