



# Prep Newsletter

16<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2018

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## Important Dates

### Term 1

Wednesday's off in Term One

Check your home visit and testing time.

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Labor day – No students required at school

### Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March

Last day of Term One students finish at 2.30

### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Term Two starts

## What a great start!

We have had a fabulous start to our school year. All the children seem to be settling well into the school routines and enjoying their new experiences in Prep. As we mentioned at the information night, it is totally normal to expect the children to be exhausted and a bit cranky!

They have a huge day at school holding it all together, listening and following directions and then when they get to the sanctuary of their home they let go! Sorry about that! 😊

Yesterday Maddie sent out our Information Book via email. PLEASE READ IT. It has all the information about Prep and is really helpful in answering questions you have or just letting you know about things you may not have heard of. We really encourage (in fact beg) that you make sure you have your email registered and you check it regularly, you are signed up to Flexibuzz and that that you have QKR. We send out information using these systems and we assume that everyone receives it. If you need help setting anything up please see Maddie at the office.

We understand it can sometime be info overload (we both have 3 kids each so really get it) but it's important to set up your own system to make sure you don't miss out on information and dates etc...

## **WEDNESDAY- HOME VISITS**

We are having a lovely time visiting everybody at their homes each Wednesday. Thank you all so much for welcoming us into your homes and for being ready with your child's special things. I think this is the first year we haven't run ridiculously over time and that is thanks to you helping us stay on track! It really is a fabulous fast track to getting to know your beautiful children and make that strong bond and connection that is so important between teacher and student. It is also lovely to get to chat to each of you and also make that connection. Please check your time for next week if we are coming to you next!

### Numeracy-Term One

- ❖ Number 1-10 and beyond, counting, number recognition and formation
- ❖ Pattern- children are learning what a pattern is and how to make more complex patterns. This is a very important skill as pattern transfers to number patterns eventually.
- ❖ One-one correspondence.

### Literacy - Writing

- ❖ Writing names using correct formation
- ❖ Magic writing – children are 'writing' about their weekend or a response to a text. At this stage it may be squiggles on a line, initial sounds or words. Believing they can is the most important thing.
- ❖ Children need to tell the teacher the sentence they have 'written' and draw a picture that matches.
- ❖ We have talked about full stops to end the sentence also.

### Literacy- Reading

- ❖ Eagle Eye- we have learnt the reading strategy of Eagle Eye. When reading the readers with your child ask them to use their 'eagle eye' to look at the pictures to give them clues about the words. PLEASE DON'T cover the pictures to 'test' them. They need to find success with reading even if that means retelling the story in their own way and turning the pages.
- ❖ Starting in the right spot, pointing to the words.

## Reminders

Just check that your child has a **drink bottle, blue folder, art smock, library bag and hat.** Any jumpers found in the yard or lost end up at our lost property box outside the sick bay. If you are missing something that is where you can look for it! Most things come back to you .....eventually!

## OSHC

If your child attends before and after school care please send your teacher an email letting them know the days this is happening so we can make sure we keep an eye on where kids need to be.

## PREP PICNIC

- Thank you to those families that came along to the Prep picnic. It was only a small group that attended this year but the sun was shining and people were making new connections which was lovely! We know we have lots of siblings this year but we would encourage everyone to come along to these events as it is a great way for your child to feel more connected with school and make stronger school ties and friends too!

## Late to School

If you come in after 9am please ensure you sign your child in at the office on the iPad. ☺

## Readers and Library Books

Just to clarify, we have library on a Monday, children need to return their library book IN THERE LIBRARY BAG (not blue folder) and then they can choose another book. Children cannot borrow another book until their book is returned but it's no big deal they can still browse and enjoy the library!

Each Monday children will change their 5 readers. Please fill in the diary to show they have read something during the week. We check diaries on a Monday too. Having said that please don't feel pressure at this stage if they are too tired. If they finish their readers they can read them again, work on their golden words, or alphabet and practice writing their name. Remember everyone is at a different level, we have a huge range of abilities from children still learning the alphabet to children reading complex texts. Any stage your child is at is the right place for them and we will build on their skills from there!