



**Welcome** – Welcome to the 2019 school year at Ingle Farm Primary School. I am excited to get to know all of our wonderful children and families in Room 7!

We are a class of 15 Reception students. Most students attended the orientation visits in Term 4 of last year, so they will be familiar with some of the staff members and other students in the class. Hopefully the transition to school has been exciting and the children have been looking forward to coming to school over the break.

While it can be an exciting time to start school, it can also be a little overwhelming. I will be working alongside support staff to help all of the children become settled in the daily routine at school.

### **What to expect in the first few weeks...**

As a class we will be focusing on building relationships in the first few weeks. I like to encourage all students to build friendships with their classmates for the year and create a positive learning environment for all. The morning blocks will consist of play-based learning to encourage students to learn more about their peers and encourage the children to work together as a team. During the day we will spend time developing class routines and responsibilities. We will be spending the first week to navigate the school, learn about safe areas to play and where to line up when the bells goes.

### **Independence skills**

At the entrance of our classroom, you will see some 'I Can' statements at the door. The children are encouraged to develop a strong sense of independence early in the year with encouragement. Please help to support 'self-help' skills by allowing your child to carry their

own bag into the classroom, take their drink bottle and reader folder out and greeting their teacher in the mornings. It is also important to practice putting on/taking off jumpers at home, this is something that you can practice at home together.

### **Phonics**

Phonics sessions will begin in Week 1. A new letter sound will be introduced every day, with stations that the children can engage in that are hands-on and multi-sensory.

### **Important times**

The school day starts at 8:55am. Please take your child to the front office if you are late, where Lynn will issue you a late slip which can be placed in the post box as you enter the classroom. At the end of the day, please wait outside and I will dismiss your child to you. This ensures a safe handover for all students at the end of the day. If your child is absent, please write a note in their communication book and send an SMS to the school absence mobile number.

### **OSHC**

If your child is attending OSHC, please let me know and I will walk them down at the end of the day.

### **Things to know**

**Library** - children will be borrowing books from Week 2 onwards. Each child has been given a library bag to take home and return their library books in.

**Hats** will need to be left at school. They are compulsory in Term 1 and Term 4.

**Reader folders** will need to be checked daily for notes.

**Sight word books** will be in reader folders by week 2. Along with the sight word book will be some laminated sheets and a whiteboard marker for your child to practice handwriting,

writing their name, and writing numbers for Term 1.

## What to bring

Please ensure that your child has a bottle of water, lunch and recess every day. Healthy eating is encouraged and a part of our 'Brain Break' mid-morning, where the children can have a piece of fruit or a healthy snack. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to accommodate your children's needs.

## Seesaw

This year at Ingle Farm Primary School we will be trialling a new app called Seesaw. This can be downloaded on your mobile phone or accessed from a desktop computer. Seesaw connects you to your child's learning in the classroom by being able to view photographs of activities and work. You are also able to contact me through Seesaw. More information will be distributed throughout the first week of school.

## Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering in our classroom, the school will be offering a volunteer workshop in the coming weeks. You may wish to register your interest at the front office.

## Curriculum Information

### English Term 1

- Oral language
- Rhyming
- Phonics
- Early writing
- Fine motor skills
- Listening to and sharing stories

### Maths Term 1

- Number – counting, patterns and formation
- Measurement

### History/Geography

Families – how they are similar/different

Homes – where we live

### Child Protection Curriculum

-Keeping ourselves safe

-Building a safety network

-Safe/unsafe places

Science lessons will be with Miss Reed on Mondays and Tuesdays, in which the children will be exploring the importance of water in our daily life and as a sustainable resource.

Health and Physical Education with Miss Hannah will be on Tuesdays, exploring turn-taking, social games, safe play and practicing games for Sports Day.

Music and Drama lessons with Ms Ruth will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays, where the children will take part in singing, movement and playing instruments.

If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and have a chat with me or make a time to see me.

I am looking forward to a fantastic year ahead.

**Miss Melissa ☺**

