



Term 1, Week 1

A very big welcome to you all as we begin 2020 - what an exciting time! I look forward to hearing all the holiday stories in the coming week as we settle into our learning space in Room 8. Many of the children were part of the 2019 Transition visits, so I hope that starting school has been something to look forward to over the break. For some children, this time can be a little overwhelming, so please come and see me if your child is having any challenges or worries.

What to expect in the first few weeks...

As a class we will be working on getting to know each other and forming relationships. It is important that all students feel safe and comfortable in their classroom and amongst their peers. The morning sessions will offer play-based learning to encourage the children to work together, learn each other's names as we move towards developing classroom routines, responsibilities and daily organisation.

I will encourage children to be "buddied up" with a friend for break times to ensure that they have someone to play with. We will also spend much of the first week, navigating the school to find areas to play that are safe and where to line up after play times have finished.

Phonics

Introducing letter sounds through explicit Phonics lessons will begin in Week 1, with a new letter sound every day. The phonics program is engaging, multi-sensory and lots of fun. Information will come home regarding how you can support your child's learning at home.



Building Independence Skills/Routines

The children will be encouraged to develop a strong sense of independence from very early in the year. Please support this by encouraging your child to carry their own bag into the classroom, take care of their belongings (such as lunchboxes and drink bottles) and by greeting their teacher in the mornings. Putting on/taking off jumpers and zipping up jackets is something you can practise at home too.

Routines and independence can help your child to be organised and prepared for their day ahead. Laying out clothes, packing lunchboxes, filling drink bottles and organising their school bag the night before can allow the morning to run smoothly. Please ensure your child is getting to bed early in the evenings to ensure they are well rested for the following day. A relaxed, steady start at home, allows for a calm start to their learning day at school.



Seesaw

Seesaw is an App used to share learning stories and for communication between teachers and families. I will send home a unique login code for your child and family to set up your account – it is super easy! I can share photos, videos, class stories and celebrate milestones. A permission form will also need to be signed and returned, outlining the conditions for use.

Please be mindful that I am not accessible at all times on Seesaw, especially during learning time. I check notifications and messages in the morning and after school. **If you have an urgent message, please phone through to the front office.**

Things to know

- Our **Library** day will be **Monday** – children will begin borrowing books from Week 2. Each child will receive a library bag to take home and return their library book 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 newsletters and information about upcoming events
- **Sight words/Sound** books will be distributed from week 2 for at home practise.
- Families are always welcome to attend Assemblies. Whole school assemblies are in Weeks 3, 6 and 9 of each term at 9:15am in the Gym.
- A donation of a box of tissues would be greatly appreciated 😊

Important times

The school day starts at 8:55am. Please take your child to the front office if you are late, where your child will be issued a late slip to hand to me. Students will be dismissed at 3:05pm. Please **wait outside** at the end of the day 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 will be attending OSHC, please let me know and I will take them down at the end of the day. If your child is going to be collected by someone different (family friend or relative), it is **very important** to let me know in the morning or pass on a message via calling the front office.

Volunteers

For any parents who may wish to volunteer in class, a volunteer workshop will be offered in the coming weeks. You may wish to register your interest at the front office.

Absences/Illness

Any absence from school requires a valid reason. Please contact the teacher/school via phone call, SMS to school or Seesaw.

Please keep your child home if they have a temperature, they are unwell or have an illness that is contagious. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing for others around them, including myself.

What to bring

Please ensure your child has a bottle of water every day, lunch and a healthy snack (fresh fruit – peeled/cut if needed). Other snacks are recommended depending on your child's appetite. Please let me know if you notice lots of food coming home and I can try to monitor what is being consumed during eating time. We are a **nut-free school** and request no nut or nut products (i.e. – Nutella/peanut butter/nut muesli bars). I request **no kiwi fruit** please, as I have an allergy.



If you have any worries or concerns, please come and have a chat or make a time to see me (Mornings and afternoons can become busy). Happy times ahead in Term 1! 😊

Mrs Fedele

