



St Joseph's School

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Dear Parents,

Friday 9th February 2017

Welcome to Term One! Here is some information regarding what will be happening in Pre-Primary during this term.

Morning Routine

The door will open at 8.30am each day. Please have your child at school before 8:40am as it is very important that s/he is present for the beginning of the school day to carry out routines and set up for the day's learning. Monday is an exception as we have morning briefing in the undercover area, as are the Fridays that we have assemblies. These both take place at 8:30am so on these days we will open our doors at 8:20am. When your child comes into class they are asked to carry out their special jobs: Put their Crunch 'n' Sip in the fridge, put their water bottle on the drinks trolley, unpack their homework bag and find their name to trace. After they have completed their jobs, they are asked to find a puzzle, book or construction to complete on the mat. Our class bell will ring at 8:40am which will indicate to the children to say goodbye to parents/caregivers and begin our morning greetings.

Afternoons

Don't forget early close on Mondays at 2:30pm.

If you have arranged for your child to go home with someone else, please tell a teacher AND write it in our communication book or whiteboard. The communication book is situated on the shelf above the homework bags along with a whiteboard for you to write any changes to your child's usual pick up routine. Please ensure that we are made aware of these arrangements at all times, and if your after school plans change throughout the day, please call the school in good time so that we (and your child) can be notified.

Homework

Letter sounds: The first 2 sets of letter sounds have been sent home as revision from last year and will be added to weekly as a new set is introduced. It is very important that only the letter **sounds** are used to identify the letters and not the letter names. Please revise all sounds each night. Fun games can be used to extend your child's letter sound knowledge such as 'I spy' using letter sounds to start the word, asking your child to name something beginning with one of their letter sounds, write the letter sounds using correct starting points, or create simple consonant vowel consonant (CVC) words with the cards such as: tip, nap, mat, pan, sit, cat etc.

Comprehension books: A new story book will be sent home every Monday accompanied by a comprehension question sheet which will be sent home on Thursdays. The same book is to be read to your child by an adult each night for four nights. On the last night (Thursday), your child is asked to independently retell the story back to you using the pictures from the book as a guide. Following the retell, the comprehension questions will then be presented. This program is used to extend your child's comprehension and oral language skills. Please keep the books in your child's homework bag or folder and sign their diary each night to let us know your child has done their homework.

English

- Recognise and identify alphabet letter sounds.
- Begin to **blend** (e.g. /f/-/u/-/n/ = fun) and **segment** (e.g. "What are the sounds in fun?" = /f/-/u/-/n/) CVC words.
- Using correct writing formation for **s a t p i n** & **m e c h r d** starting from the correct starting points.
- Extend vocabulary by describing objects and retelling picture books.

Maths- Focusing on numbers initially to 5 and then to 10

- Identify numerals to 5 and write them using correct formation.
- Matching numerals to quantities up to 5.
- Subitise amounts to 5 (such as instantly recognising the number patterns on a dice).
- 1 to 1 counting objects to 5.
- Collect data to create simple picture graphs.

Uniform

Any shirt colour can be worn during the week; however Wednesday is our Sport day so please dress your child in their faction coloured shirt (red, blue or green) on this day.

Investigations

We would appreciate any donations for our tinkering Investigation area. The children thoroughly enjoy disassembling things and seeing if they can put them back together. An example of a tinkering object that we will be disassembling this term is an old bicycle. The children will start taking it apart using real life materials and tools such as gloves, safety goggles, screwdrivers, wrench etc. This is just an example- anything the children can disassemble would be perfect! However, any cords on the items MUST be removed. Suitable items may be:

- Remote controls
- CD players
- Laptops
- Old keyboards
- Old phones
- Toasters
- Kettles

Basically any old home appliances would be great. If you have any tools that you no longer use, we would love for those to be donated also!

Important dates to remember

Week	Important Date and Event
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday February 13th – P & F Meeting at 7pm• Thursday February 15th – Parent Information Night
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday February 19th – PUPIL FREE DAY
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6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday March 5th – LABOUR DAY• On Entry testing for all Pre-Primary Students
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuesday March 13th P & F Meeting at 7pm
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday March 19th – PUPIL FREE DAY• Friday March 23rd – Pre-Primary in class Liturgy
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday March 29th – Easter Hat Parade• Friday March 30th – GOOD FRIDAY
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday April 2nd – EASTER MONDAY• Tuesday April 3rd – EASTER TUESDAY• Friday April 6th – Pre-Primary Newsletter Feature
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday April 9th – Parent/Teacher Meetings• Tuesday April 10th – P & F Meeting at 7pm• Friday April 13th – Last day of Term 1

Thank you all for your support so far this year, I really appreciate it! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Kind Regards,
Brigitte Gaillard
Pre-Primary Teacher