



Kindergarten 2018



to Kindergarten
We are going to have a great year!

Parent Information Booklet

I gave you a little wink and smile
As you came in our room today
For I know how hard it is to leave
And know your child must stay.

You've been with them for four years now
And have been a loving guide,
But now we know, the time has come
To leave them at my side.

Just know that as you drive away
And tears down your cheeks may flow,
I'll love them as I would my own
And help them learn and grow.

So please put your mind at ease
And cry those tears no more,
For I will love them and take them in
When you leave them at my door.



Dear Kindy Families,

We would like to welcome you and your child to our Kindy classroom for what will be a fun and exciting year. Miss Amy Rimmer, Mrs Silvana Vitale, Mrs Michelle Ward and Mrs Bec Lorimer will make up the Kindy team for 2018. Our aim is to provide a warm, friendly environment where each child feels safe, supported and loved. Early childhood is a time to foster children's learning through acknowledging each individual's characteristic of belonging, being and becoming in a play-based environment. The Kindy year will see your child develop skills in all domains- social, emotional, physical, language, intellectual and spiritual. It is a place where children talk and play together, make choices, overcome difficulties, experience success and learn to problem solve.

The planning documents for Early Childhood Education include the Early Years Learning Framework, The Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines and National Quality Framework. These documents emphasise the importance of play-based learning, while encouraging social, emotional and physical development.

The Early Childhood approach focuses on learning through play utilising the Walker Learning Approach. Children learn through play because it is a natural and spontaneous activity for children, it caters for children's interests and differences, and helps develop problem solving and social skills. Walker learning embraces intrinsic motivation, positive relationships and self-concept, resilience and creativity. Walker Learning places a high emphasis on educators setting up the learning environment to engage children and enhance learning. Children investigate and explore these learning environments to develop and acquire new skills and information.

Through play, children learn many important social skills such as sharing, taking turns, remembering their manners, talking to solve problems and cooperating with others. They are also investigating their world and what interests them. Children will have daily opportunities to develop small muscle skills through activities such as puzzles, paintings, cutting, gluing etc., and large muscle groups through running, climbing, skipping, balancing, jumping, skipping, throwing and catching. During literacy experiences, children will recognise and write their own name, learn how to form letters correctly and what sounds these letters make, hear rhyming words, clap syllables, identify characters and favourite parts of stories, and begin to experiment with writing and concepts of print. In numeracy, children will learn how to sort objects into groups, numerals 1-10, create simple patterns, name 2D shapes and compare length. All other learning areas will be integrated into the learning centres.

We look forward to a fantastic year full of fun and learning. We aim to ensure that each child is happy and has a positive attitude towards school. If you have any other concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely,

Amy Rimmer, Silvana Vitale, Michelle Ward and Bec Lorimer.

STAFF

Principal: Mr Travis Bienkowski

Assistant Principal: Mrs Jenny Gorman

Kindy Teacher: Miss Amy Rimmer

Kindy Education Assistants: Mrs Silvana Vitale,
Mrs Michelle Ward and Mrs Bec Lorimer

Administration Staff: Mrs Heather Brown, Mrs Kathy Dwyer (Term 1) and Mrs Lyn Della Franca (Returning Term 2)

School Contact Number: 9782 6500

School Email: admin@stjoeswaroona.wa.edu.au

Miss Rimmer's Email: amy.rimmer@cewa.edu.au



SESSION TIMES

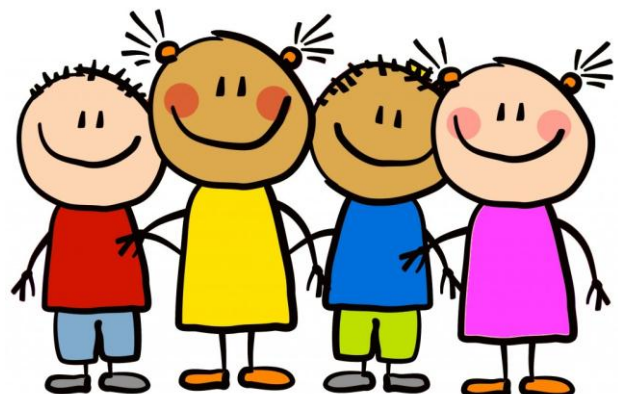
Starting from 2018, Kindy will be three full days a week. The times for each day are-

Monday- 8:40am- 3pm

Tuesday- 8:40am- 3pm

Thursday- 8:40am- 3pm

We ask that all children arrive on time as it can be quite unsettling for children to arrive once mat time has started.



What to wear to Kindy

Children need to wear comfortable play clothes to Kindy that can get messy and are easy to manage for quick dashes to the toilet. We have a school Kindy t-shirt that is available for purchase from the uniform shop. Most children wear the kindy t-shirt and a skirt or shorts. Please make sure your child wears appropriate footwear to school that they can put on independently to help develop the skills of independence.

Please apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school.

We will have sunscreen available to re-apply when needed.



What to bring to Kindy

- A school bag. It is recommended that all children bring an appropriate sized school bag. This makes it easier to transport any work, notes, lunchboxes etc
- A hat for outdoor play. Please note that the school has a 'No hat, no play' policy.
- A lunch box with a predominantly healthy lunch and snacks for recess. As St Joseph's is a nut free school, please ensure that your child does not bring nuts or food containing nuts to school (eg Nutella, peanut butter etc).
- A piece of fruit or vegetable for 'Crunch N Sip'. Please ensure this is cut up and placed in a separate container (not in their lunch box).
- A drink bottle of water only.
- Communication folder and communication book. This is used to send home notes.
- A spare change of clothes (suited to the season) in a plastic bag in your child's schoolbag in case of accidents, spills or water fun activities!

Please ensure that all your child's items are clearly labelled with their name.



School supplies

In your pack there is a booklist for Kindy. Children will be making their own covers for their scrapbooks so please don't cover them. Also, please don't label any of your child's book list items as these will be shared communally.



Daily routine

We ask that you please arrive on time as arriving late can be very unsettling for children. We encourage children to take responsibility of putting their bag on their bag hook, and drink bottles and communication folder/book in the tubs provided. Please come inside and help your child settle in for the day by completing a quiet activity with them (name writing, read a book, puzzle etc).

Being on time to collect your child will avoid any distress. Children will remain in the Kindy area until they are collected by a parent or caregiver. If someone other than a parent or caregiver is picking up your child we will need to be notified. This can be written in the communication book. If circumstances change throughout the day, we ask that you please call the school office so that the message can be passed on.



Toilet training

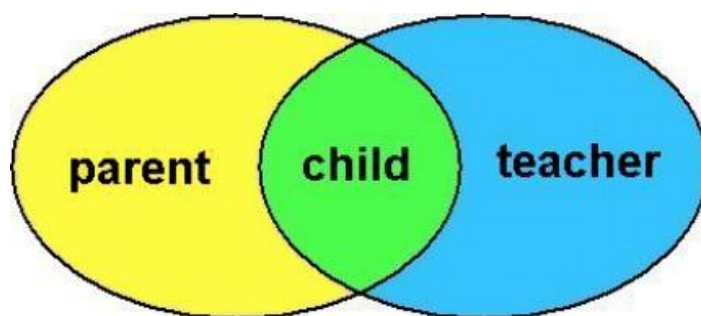
While we understand that accidents will happen, your child needs to be toilet trained before commencing Kindergarten. If you have any concerns about this, please come and see me.

Parent- Teacher Communication

Each child should have a communication folder (plastic clipboard) and communication book (exercise book). Any notes, newsletter etc will be sent home in the folder and the communication book will be used to pass information between home and school. Please initial or reply to any notes in the communication book so we know you have seen them. The Kindy team is available for a brief chat in the mornings. Please make a time to speak with Miss Rimmer if there is a specific issue you would like to discuss. We ask that children bring their communication folder and book to class each day.

The Seasaw App is a closed group which allows us to upload photos of all the fun we are having throughout the day. This promotes communication between the family, as many children often forget what they have actually done throughout the day at school. More information about this APP will be given at the start of Kindy next year.

We encourage parent help as the children enjoy sharing this important part of their life with those who they love. Parents, grandparents and other family members are most welcome. Please note that we will not be having any classroom parent help until the children are settled into routine. When they are settled, a parent help roster will be displayed on the Communication board and we encourage you to volunteer if you have the time.



Early Intervention

Term 1-

- Down South Therapy Services to complete Early Years Screen Assessment
- Teacher/ Parent Interviews

Parents will be notified of any concerns and if necessary, referrals made (with parent consent) to appropriate professionals (Speech Pathologist, Occupational Therapist or Pediatrician)

Term 2-

- Portfolio

Term 3-

- Learning Journey Evening

Term 4-

- Formal report
- End of year screening



Illness, medication and allergies

Please do not send your child to school if they are feeling unwell. It is better for them to stay home and recover so they are feeling better as soon as possible. If your child becomes unwell at school you will be notified. We ask that you notify the school by 9am if your child is absent. We are not permitted to administer medication without a written permission slip.

Please let us know of any allergies or medical concerns, so that a Medical Action Plan for your child can be put in place.

Absentees

When your child returns to school, an absentee note must be given to the teacher as it is a legal requirement. Emails to the admin team are adequate to cover this requirement. Please note that a verbal explanation is welcome, however, does not cover the written requirement.



Toys/ Personal items

Children are asked not to bring personal items to school as it can be very unsettling if they are lost or broken. If children bring toys to school, they will not be allowed to play with them.

Birthdays

We love to make a fuss of the children on their special day. You are most welcome to bring something for your child to share with their classmates. If possible, we prefer small individual treats such as cupcakes, jelly cups, chocolate crackles, muffins etc.



Things we need in Kindy

We love to receive recyclables for children to use. These include:

- Old magazines and newspapers
- Recyclable containers
- Boxes
- Egg cartons
- Milk bottle lids etc

