Welcome to Foundation

Dear Parents,

We are very happy that your child is settling into their classroom and adjusting to school life.

Starting school brings many new challenges and we look forward to working with you this year to make your child’s first year a positive and rewarding experience.

We hope the following notes below will assist with some preliminary queries you may have after our first few days.

Starting the day

Teachers are on duty in the playground from 8.45am.

Your child can leave their school bag on their allocated class ‘dots’ and play outside prior to the music commencing, just before 9.00am. The music signals that it is time to have a drink or use the toilets prior to the start of learning time. Please ensure they are on the dots/lined up at 9.00am

We encourage children to be independent and carry their own bag and place it in their own locker. We would appreciate it if parents could say goodbye to their children outside the Infant Building so that the hall area doesn’t become too congested and to ensure your child enters their classroom safely.

Absences/Late to school/Early departures

If your child is ill or unable to attend school, please contact the school office either by phone or email who will then notify us of your child’s absence. Please note that this is a legal requirement. If children are unwell, please keep them at home until better to prevent viruses and bacteria spreading.

If your child is late to school, you must sign the late register at the office. The office will give you a yellow ‘late slip’ for your child to bring into their classroom so that our attendance roles can be amended.

Similarly, parents collecting their children early must sign the register in the office and collect an early release slip before collecting their child.

Hats

Please ensure your child brings their hat every day. If they do not have a hat they will be asked to sit under the Plane tree near the new hall during recess and lunchtime. School hats may be left at school in your child’s locker.
Icy Poles

As part of the school’s fundraising, The PFA (Parents and Friends of Armadale) organises an ‘icy pole day’ each Friday recess during Term 1.

Please don’t feel obliged to give your child a coin. We try to instil in children the value of resilience. We have encouraged them to understand that it is perfectly acceptable not to have an icy pole as they still have their morning snack. Children are also encouraged to look after their money which can be kept in their bag, in their pocket or in a purse/wallet so that they can buy their icy pole at recess. We also ask students to only buy their own icy pole i.e. one per child as some children may become upset if they see their peers buying for others.

Food

Please ensure your child has sufficient food for the entire day (fruit or vegetable snack, morning tea for recess play, lunch and snacks).

Lunch orders are available on Mondays. Please send your child’s order in the small Armadale Primary Blue Bag that was distributed last year. Alternatively, you can write your order on an envelope or paper bag with money enclosed. The lunch order menu can be viewed online on the school’s website. Your child will still need to bring a fruit snack, drink bottle and snacks for the day.

End of day

School finishes at 3.30pm. If you are late and your child has not been booked into the OOSHC (out of school hours care) program your child will be taken to the office at 3.45 pm.

Specialist Classes

Our specialist classes (Physical Education, Art, Performing Arts, Library, ICT, Italian, Perceptual Motor Programme) have already started. A copy of your child’s Term 1 Specialist Timetable will be distributed next week.

Library: Your child will have already brought home their red reading bag and library book. We apologise that some children are waiting for their bags to arrive and be processed. We should have all bags ready by next week. Library books and bag must be returned each week to the classroom for weekly borrowing (0P & 0J on Tuesday and 0C on Thursday).

Art: Please ensure your child’s art smock is named. Art smocks will be kept at school for the term.

PE: (Physical Education) and PMP (Perceptual Motor Program). Students wear their school uniform for our sport classes. We suggest that bike shorts are worn under dresses. Children can wear their normal shoes or runners for classes.
Wednesday Rest Days: Don’t forget your child’s English Assessment interview time which was allocated at the Family interview. A copy of the appointment time is posted outside your classroom or the office has a copy of the times.

Buddies: Your child will meet their Buddy Class and Buddies this Friday. The older students act as role models to our Foundation students and help the students become acquainted with school. In our experience, Level 6 students (Grade 5 and 6) and the Foundation students both benefit immensely from the planned activities and informal meetings they have throughout the school year.

Communication board: Our communication board is located inside the doorway of the Infant Hall - to the left as you enter the building.

Lost Property: A number of children have already ‘misplaced’ items of clothing. Would all parents please check their child is wearing their own clothes. Lost property is located in the multipurpose hall.

Permission forms: Please check your child’s school bag if you have not already signed this Term’s yellow Levy form. Copies of the form can be printed from the school’s website.

Family photos: As part of our discussions about families we would love each child to bring a photo of their family to share with their class. We would like these as soon as possible.

Contacting us

Please come to us with any questions. Either speak directly or contact us via the school’s website. Our email address can be located in the Staff section of the school’s website. Alternatively, please contact the office who will pass on urgent messages. We are happy to arrange a longer time to talk with you further, by prior appointment.

Finally, we hope to see as many parents as possible at the Information night on Tuesday, 19 February.

The Foundation Teachers

Jennifer, Connie, Pauline and Pippa