

PREP BULLETIN

Week 2 - TERM 1



Prep Bulletin

If you are reading this you have made a great start! Please make it a weekly practise to read the Bulletin. The purpose of our Prep Bulletin is to communicate things specific to the Preps. We strongly recommend that you also read the weekly school newsletter as this will keep you informed with news about the whole school.

Congratulations to all our wonderful Prep students for making such a fabulous start to school! The students are adapting very well to their new learning environment and are enjoying getting to know each other and their teachers. They are familiarising themselves with school routines, learning to organise themselves and re-connecting and making new connections with their peers. We would like to thank you, the parents, for assisting us with this transition and for the smooth start we have had to the school year. We greatly appreciate your support.

For safety reasons, we ask that you give us space as our students enter the building. Please stand on the grass area whilst your child lines up on his/her coloured dots. We will bring our classes into the building. Your support in encouraging your child to carry his/her own bag and enter the building will set the stage for the development of independent and confident learners. Some children have found that bringing something **small** from home (e.g. a soft toy) has helped them to cope with anxiety and we encourage this if it supports them to transition into school life.

Article: *'Times of Transition'*

Click on the link below to read an article by education consultant Lisa Burman:

<http://lisaburman.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/times-of-transition.pdf>

Consent Forms

You will have received a consent form for Local Walking Excursions and a consent form for Photography of Students in your child's enrolment pack. Please sign both forms and return to school as soon as possible. These are to be handed in at the **office**.

Incursions and Excursions

ALL activities whether they are held at school or out of school, need to be granted consent through **COMPASS**. You **must** give consent for your child to be able to participate in activities. You will receive an alert on Compass when there are upcoming events. Payment must be made through QKR or Bpay. We will discuss Compass at tonight's Information Session.

Communication

As we cannot check emails regularly during the day it is important that you contact the **office** if you need to arrange for your child to be collected by another adult. Please have your carer introduce themselves to us if he/she will be picking up your child from school at any stage of the year.

Red Bags and Art smocks:

Please send the red bag and an art smock to school (art smocks remain at school) and ensure that they are **clearly labelled**. Thank you if you have already done so. The students

will attend Library every **Wednesday** with their teacher. Please ensure that the red bag is returned every Wednesday for book borrowing. Students cannot borrow books if they do not have their red bag. The red bag will also be used for notices, so it is important that you check the bag regularly. You will receive your child's weekly timetable at tonight's Information Session. Please ensure that your child wears runners for Phys. Ed. (every **Friday**).

Food

Starting school is 'hard work' and we have noticed that the children need more fuel than usual. Packing something a little extra for lunch might help with some of the stomach rumbles. We ask you to be mindful of the fact that we have anaphylactic children at this school. For birthdays, treats are acceptable (e.g. cup cakes) as long as they **do not** contain nuts. If your child is anaphylactic, it is a good idea to bring in some treats for him/her that can be left at school when birthdays are celebrated.

2:00 pm finishing time

As children transition into school life we strongly believe that an early finishing time is crucial to this process. Thank you for making arrangements to have children collected at 2:00pm. If your child has an English Interview, he/she will remain at school until 3:00pm. Please bring your child back at 3:00pm if they have the later English Interview time.

Once the children have left school the teachers will continue to conduct English Interviews with students from 2:15pm until 3:45pm. We would appreciate it if you can email us if you have any concerns or issues as we are conducting interviews and find it difficult to talk with you at that time.

We greatly recommend rest time after school and limit after school activities whilst your child settles into school.

Enduring Understanding

An **enduring understanding** is an idea that is continuously 'unpacked' and allows students to explore concepts and think critically about the world around them. Our enduring understanding this term is ***'I am unique and I belong to different communities'***. We encourage the children to bring a photo or an item that we could display as we unravel the complexities of 'me'. Examples: Photos of family, pets and celebrations, cultural artefacts and costumes.

Friends

Making good friends is instrumental in developing a child's sense of belonging. Having friends is a top priority for children and it is one of the main reasons they come to school. We encourage you to talk about 'making friends' at home and support the need to be fair, respectful and tolerant.

Parent Reps

Prep N require one or two Parent reps for this year. Please see Nikita regarding this and she will be happy to explain what this role entails.

Reminder:

TONIGHT: Prep Information Session: **7:00pm - 7:45pm** in the **MPC**.

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!



Prep Team: *Angela, Steph and Nikita*