



Dear Families,

We have had a wonderful start to the year getting to know your children and settling them into Kindergarten. As the weeks progress they will become familiar with the routines and become more independent.

The doors will open at 8.30am for you to come into the room and complete one of the morning activities. The bell will ring at 8.45am when we will begin our morning session. These 15 minutes of settling time allow your child to be calm, organised and ready to start the day.

Each morning we will have set activities that you can complete with your child. Other areas of the classroom will be closed so we can set up for our first learning session. Please guide your child to the morning activities first, then complete a puzzle or read a book.

FOOD:

Please note we do not allow juice, cordial, lollies or sweet biscuits in Kindy.

Fruit time: 10am is our first learning break where the children are encouraged to a healthy snack. Please make sure your child has at least one piece of fruit or vegetable to eat during this time.

Lunchtime: Lunchtime is at 12.30pm. We will encourage your child to eat their sandwich, roll, rice or main meal first before any additional snacks. As we are trying to promote healthy eating, please try not to include chocolate, lollies and other less nutritious snacks.

Although we do not have any allergies in our classroom, we are a nut aware school and would encourage you to choose alternative snacks to nuts. Yoghurt, fruit, crackers may be a healthy alternative.

DRINK:

Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day, especially during eating times and after outdoor play times. Water bottles are in the classroom at all times to allow children to drink water when required.

Water is preferred in Kindergarten, no juice or cordial please as we find children fill their tummies with juice and sometimes struggle to eat their lunch.

LABEL ALL ITEMS:

Please ensure your child's hat, drink bottle, lunch box **items are clearly labelled** so we can avoid misplacing any items. We do our best to assist children in placing items in their bag and trays but as they are learning to recognise their names they sometimes swap items.

MORNING & HOME TIME:

Many of the children are still settling in to the new school routine and are becoming a little upset in the morning and at the end of the day. This is absolutely normal and will get easier as the weeks progress. Rest assured we are comforting your child at every moment and will contact you if we feel you are needed.

COMMUNICATING & LEARNING:

We will endeavour to communicate the daily/weekly learning intentions on our class whiteboard outside so you can discuss the learning activities with your child each day. We will also be learning about PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies), which will help your child to understand theirs and other feelings.

We understand you would all like to discuss your child's progress at the end of each day and we are more than happy to discuss after school. Please be mindful, we will need to release all of the children first before we can have a chat with you.

Parent helper roster: A parent roster will commence in Term 2.

If you have any queries, please feel free to discuss with me.

Thank you for your support. We have a wonderful group of children and are very much looking forward to seeing them grow over the coming year.

Ann-Marie & Kim