



# Orewa North Primary School

## *Tips to Help Children's Preparation for School*

Thank you for enquiring about enrolling your child at Orewa North Primary School. These notes are a guide as to the types of things parents can focus on with their children in the time leading up to their start to assist with a successful transition into primary school.

### **Reading to Your Child:**

The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children. If you haven't already done so join the local library and regularly take your child to select new books.

### **Life Experiences:**

As a family make sure you take the time to go out and do things together. Children benefit from experiencing as many things as they can which increases their life experiences that they bring into their learning at school. Visit the zoo, the beach and all those other great places we have in our local environment.

### **Talk to Your Children:**

In our busy world surrounded by technology it is surprising the number of obstacles we have talking with each other. Have times where you turn off the television and computer and talk to your children. Use the experiences above and times of reading to talk about and have children express their feelings about the book you are reading to them or the place you have visited. Successful oral communication is the foundation of so many things children learn at school.

### **Social Interaction:**

Although the majority of children will learn to play and interact with other children through some form of Early Child Education Centre it is important to ensure that they have as many experiences of being with other children whether this is with brothers and sisters, cousins, neighbours or children of family friends. Through these types of situations children learn the importance of sharing and taking their place. Children also benefit from an understanding of what the word "no" means as they move into the world of being involved with others.

### **Other Useful Things to Work On:**

- Knowledge of colours and shapes.
- The numbers 1 to 10 and letter names and sounds
- How to hold a pencil
- How to use scissors
- How to flush a toilet and wash their hands
- How to blow their nose rather than just wipe it.
- How to tie laces if not wearing Velcro

Bruce Tilby  
Principal

Louise Boot  
Class Teacher