

# Prep News!

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Term 1



## Dates to Remember:

- **Week 1: 28 Jan** – Australia Day Holiday
- **Week 3: iPads**
- **Week 3: 13 Feb** – Parent Info Session 3:15-3:45pm
- **Week 4:** – Harmony Day Assembly
- **Week 7: 14 March** – Cross Country
- **Week 9 and 10:** Parent/Teacher Interviews & Healthy Harold Life Education Incursion
- **Week 10: 5 Apr** – last day of term
- **Easter** – 19-22 April
- **Term 3** – Tues 23 April

## Welcome to Prep!

Welcome to Prep for 2019, we are looking forward to an enjoyable year. We understand it can be a somewhat confusing and nervous time for little ones whilst settling into a new routine. Rest assured, it just takes time and patience for things to be less stressful. There is so much to remember. That is why we try to make it easier for your child by supplying you with many notes and reminders.

This year Prep will have six classes. Mrs. Muriel Saverin in Prep A, Miss Maddisen Gill in Prep B, Mrs. Kate Mirandilla in Prep C, Mr Michael Fletcher in Prep D, Mrs. Hannah Marshall in Prep E and Mrs Bri Lajiness in Prep F. Specialist teachers include Mr. Kutcher (Health and PE), Mrs. Harding (Music) Mrs Burrell (Science) and Ms. Bedser (LOTE).

Messages and reminders are also delivered to the class at the end of the day, so please assist us by keeping out of view until **after** pick-up time to avoid student distraction.

Please remain downstairs and **not on the verandahs.**

It is important to let us know if your child has had an upsetting morning or weekend. (E.g. pet has died, injuries, etc.) A quick email (preferable) or note in the B.E.E. Folder is all we need. We welcome parent help in our classes. Please let us know if you are available to assist with activities and group work in the classroom. After Week 4, your teacher will notify any volunteers what sessions would be suitable to come in and help in the classroom. Please complete the Volunteer Induction course first.

**PLEASE CHECK DAILY for all forms of communication. We use emails (preferable) and the Home B.E.E. Folder for some notices that require a return form with signatures.**

Pimpama is a unique school and you and your child have made a great choice becoming a part of this wonderful community. We look forward to our partnership in the education of your child.

## iPad Programme

As you are aware, we incorporate an iPad Programme in our school. The MyPad initiative is being offered as an opportunity and is not compulsory. By allowing students with personal iPads, we hope to provide the opportunity for 24/7/365 access. It offers personalised learning opportunities and an alternative medium to build on their learning experiences, for their learning journey and strengthens the connection between home and school.

The teachers have participated in many hours of Professional Development as well as assisting each other in the use of these effective tools. If families choose to participate, there are weekly support sessions and there is access to our school internet to download apps (families are not required to download apps using their home internet connection). The \$50 iTunes card is expected to last the duration of the student's education at Pimpama with nearly all apps

being transferable from year to year.

Please make sure that you read and sign the iPad Agreement Policy. It is compulsory to submit this form for your child to be able to bring their iPad to school to use in our education program **BEGINNING WEEK 3, please check the settings instructions.**

**Parent iPad Sessions:**  
Term 1, Monday  
Afternoons 3:15 –  
4:00pm in the School  
Library.



# Prep Teachers and Parent Information Session



**Mrs Saverin**



**Miss Gill**



**Mr Fletcher**



**Mrs  
Mirandilla**



**Mrs  
Marshall**



**Mrs Lajiness**

We will hold a parent information session on Wednesday the **13<sup>th</sup> of February (week 3)** **3:15-3:45pm**. We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible. It will be an opportune time for you to ask questions regarding your child's learning.

## Curriculum Overview

In Prep at Pimpama State School, we follow the Australian National Curriculum and tailor it to the needs of our students. The following is an overview of what we will be learning about this term:

**Literacy:** Students will engage with a number of stories to learn more about language and how texts convey meaning. We will use the Speech Sound Pictures (SSP) approach to learn about the sounds and sound pictures that make up our written and spoken language.

**Numeracy:** We will learn about numbers – counting forwards and backwards, counting and comparing collections, and representing numbers in different ways. We will also explore measurement concepts and shape through a variety of hands-on activities.

**Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS):** Students will be learning about families, the people in our families and how our families celebrate special events.

**Science:** Students will use their senses to investigate the needs of living things, in natural and man-made environments.

**The Arts:** We will be exploring the visual arts this term, focusing on line and shape. The students will engage with a variety of mediums including paint, pastels, crayon and various materials.

**ICT:** This term students will be learning fundamental computer skills to operate a keyboard and mouse to explore basic computer programs.

**Technology:** Students will be introduced to early coding concepts using Bee-Bot robots and online resources.

**Health and Values:** Students will have the opportunity to engage with the "Healthy Harold" Life Education programme and learn about personal hygiene, healthy foods and lifestyle. Students will also be introduced to the Pimpama Values and Social Skills Programme.

## Alphabet Awareness

Each class will be focussing on 2 Alphabet letters (sound pics) a week and may send home some fun activities that require guidance with your child. Eg. "Sound Boxes"- find objects that begin with that letter's sound.



## Water Bottles

As we are in the summer months, it is very important that you send your child to school with a NAMED, full bottle of water. We encourage the students to drink plenty of water throughout the day. They must keep up their fluids to help reduce headaches and to assist their young brains to function properly. Thank you!

## Reading

At Pimpama our school day begins with reading and engaging with books. This is a whole school initiative in every classroom **before** formal lessons commence at 8.55am. However, we do ask that mum, dad or carer **spend just 10 minutes each morning** in the classroom reading a book with their child. Early reading books are supplied in the Prep classrooms and students are encouraged to select different texts.

**PLEASE NOTE- there is NO PLAY on the playground equipment before or after school.**

If for any reason your child is at school before 8.30am, they must remain seated in the Year 1 undercover area before being released by a staff member to wait outside their own class.

## Life Education Van – ‘Healthy Harold’

Each year we invite the Life Education Van to visit our school to teach the students the importance of good health. Healthy Harold is a puppet giraffe who, with his friends, explores ways to keep healthy. Janet (Life Ed. Teacher) is Harold's friend and she comes along to help Harold share his knowledge about healthy living. A note will be sent home soon regarding the payment of this activity. If your child is unable to attend, they will be supervised with work in another class. More details coming in your child's B.E.E. Home Folder. **Please check daily!**

*You can visit their website: [www.healthyharold.org.au](http://www.healthyharold.org.au)*

## Homework, Home Readers and iShare

Each week we will set the students simple tasks to do at home that will reinforce their learning from school. Please assist your child in developing a routine for doing their homework.

The book activity should not take more than 10—15 minutes per week.

Parents – if you do not wish for your child to receive the home activities please let us know. See inside homework book.

1. **Homework Book:** a simple activity that your child can do by him/ herself.
2. **Home Readers:** We will be making our own readers that will be sent home in their Reading Folder.
3. **'iShare' item:** needs to be brought in on your child's rostered day. More on this from your class teacher.
4. **Mathletics and Reading Eggs** activities on the iPad/computer.

More information will follow, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

## Fruit Break

Young children become hungry during the first session of each day, so we like to provide them with a fruit break time. They can eat while they are working, so please provide your child with fresh fruit each day to eat in the classroom at 9:50am. Please cut up the fruit at home ready for eating and put in a named container. Your child may bring it in to put on their desk prior to the day starting.



## Parade and School

Our school parades run on a 3-week cycle: Whole school, Junior and then Senior parades. All Prep classes will be attending the Whole school and Junior school parades in weeks 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10 this term. Students are required to wear their formal school uniform (checked shirts).

Our school newsletter is emailed out weekly and provides up-to-date information about events at our school. If you are not receiving the school newsletter within the first few weeks of the term, please notify the office to be added to the emailing list.

## Reading Eggs & Mathletics

These wonderful online educational programmes have been made available to enrich and extend literacy and numeracy learning. Please allow your child access to a computer or iPad at some stage throughout each week to complete their tasks. There is a **\$50 family voluntary contribution**, to help

with the expense of the extra programmes our school provides. Payment may be made at administration and your class teacher will provide your child with their logon details and passwords.



## Contact Details

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### *Prep Teacher E-mails:*

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