

Prep News!

Term 1 - 2021



Welcome to Prep

Welcome to Prep for 2021, 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, patience and repetition 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 five classes: Mrs. Muriel Saverin in Prep A, Miss Lara Willits in Prep B, Mrs. Kate Mirandilla in Prep C, Mr. Michael Fletcher in Prep D, and Mrs. Hannah Marshall in Prep E. Specialist teachers include Mrs. Wilson (P.E), Ms. Bedser (L.O.T.E), Mrs. Lajiness (Science), and Mrs. Harding (Music).

We kindly ask, with COVID-19 restrictions still in place, that you are always mindful of social distancing, washing your hands, and avoiding entering school grounds and classrooms if you are unwell. Mr. Marx or your child's teacher will let you know of any changes to school routines due to current health regulations.

School commences each day at 8:20am with morning reading for ten minutes. Parents/carers are asked to give their child a quick kiss at the classroom door, and to leave promptly after. This has been found by all Prep staff to reduce morning tears and will avoid large numbers of people in the classroom to ensure the health of everyone. The school day concludes at 2:25pm and parents/carers are required to wait **outside the Prep school gate**. Teachers will escort classes to the side gate and the students will be allowed to go from there. If for any reason your child is at school before 8:00 am, they must remain seated in the Year 1 undercover area before being released by a staff member to wait outside their own class. Students can also put their hat on and play in the supervised Prep playground from 8:00am.

It is helpful to let us know if your child has had an upsetting morning or weekend. (eg. pet has died, injuries, family upset etc.) A quick email (**preferable**) or note in the B.E.E. Folder is all we need. Please check your child's B.E.E Folder (Bring Everything Everyday - this is the clear mesh folder) for daily notes and communication between home and school. Email is the best way to communicate with your child's teacher - face to face appointments can be made from there.

Pimpama State School 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.

Important Dates

Week 3: iPads can be brought to school.

Week 6: Book Fair

Week 8: Cross Country Carnival. Life Education "Healthy Harold" Incursion.

Week 9: Parent Teacher Interviews begin.

Week 10: Pimpama Celebration Day and Easter Hat Parade TBC - more information coming.



The Prep Team



Prep A

Mrs. Saverin

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Prep B

Miss Willits

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Prep C

Mrs. Mirandilla

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Prep D

Mr. Fletcher

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Prep E

Mrs. Marshall

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iPad Programme (MyPad Initiative)

As you may be aware, we incorporate an iPad Programme in our school. The MyPad Initiative is being offered as a varied learning tool and is not compulsory. By allowing students to use their own iPads, we hope to provide the opportunity for constant access to educational platforms. It offers personalised learning opportunities and an alternative medium to build on their experiences for their learning journey; leading to the strengthening of their connection between home and school. There are weekly support sessions for parents/carers and access to our school internet to download apps (families are not required to download apps using their home internet connection). **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 programme.**

Parent iPad Sessions: Term 1, Monday Afternoons, 2:35pm-3:30pm in the School Library



Reading Eggs (including Fast Phonics and Math Seeds)

This wonderful online educational programme and app has 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 can be made at administration and your class teacher will provide your child with their logon details and passwords.

Curriculum Overview

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. Measurement concepts and geometric shapes will be explored through a variety of hands-on activities.

Humanities and Social Sciences (H.A.S.S): Students will be learning about different families, the people in our families and how our families celebrate special events.

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

The Arts (Mrs. Mirandilla): 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.

Information and Communication Technology (I.C.T) (Mrs. Marshall): This term students will be learning fundamental computer skills to operate a keyboard and a mouse to explore basic computer programmes.

Technology (Mr. Fletcher): Students will be introduced to early coding concepts using iPads and online resources.

Fine - Motor (Mrs. Saverin): Students will engage with manipulative resources and equipment that promote hand-eye coordination and strength of small hand muscles necessary for writing with a correct pencil grip.

Health and Physical Education (Mrs. Wilson): Students will take part in sports and events, as well as learn about the importance of hygiene.

Values (Miss Willits): At Pimpama State School, we recognise that we have a strong influence on the developing characters of our students. For this reason, our School Values - Pride, Integrity, Manners, Partnerships, Acceptance, Morality, Accountability, and our Social Skills program, Pimpama's Six Kinds of Best, will form the basis for our School Values Unit. Students will recognise ways to be accountable, show manners and demonstrate kindness to others at school and in the community.

Languages Other Than English (L.O.T.E) (Miss Bedser): Students will take part in learning about the Japanese language and culture through a variety of activities.

Music (Mrs. Harding): Students will be introduced to musical concepts and elements through a variety of activities.



Homework and Home Readers

Each week we will set the students simple tasks to do at home that will consolidate their school learning. Please assist your child with developing a routine for completing their homework. The activities should not take more than 5 minutes per week. Please let your child's teacher know if you do not wish for your child to receive the homework activities.

Home Readers (short books tailored to your child's reading abilities) will be sent home later this term. We promote lots of reading at home if possible. When reading these books with your child, please encourage them to use the strategies they have learned at school. We are hopeful that reading is a joyful experience for you and your child.



Fruit Break

Young children become hungry during the first session of each day, so we like to provide them with a fruit break time (“munch and crunch”). They can eat while they are working, so please provide your child with fresh fruit each day to eat in the classroom at 9:30am. Please cut up the fruit at home ready for eating and put in a named container. Your child may bring it into the classroom and place on their desk prior to the day starting.



Weekly Wednesday Parade (Assembly)

Our school parades run on a 3-week cycle: Whole School, Junior School, and then Senior School parades. All Prep classes will be attending the Whole school and Junior school parades on a **Wednesday** in weeks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 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.



School and Teacher Contact Details

9 Hotham Creek Road North, Pimpama, 4209.

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Absent Line: (07) 5549 4333 (option 1)

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