



Oakleigh South Primary School Prep 2017

Information Night

Welcome

- ▶ Welcome to our Prep Information night. Our Prep Information Night is on **Wednesday 8th February at 6pm - 7pm and will be held in your child's classroom.** If you have any questions regarding the information in this booklet we will happily answer them for you on this night.
- ▶ Your child's teacher will answer any questions you may have and provide you with information specific to your child's class.

Prep Classes & Teachers

- ▶ Mr Anthony Savva (Team Leader) - Prep AS
- ▶ Miss Amy Philipsen - Prep AP
- ▶ Miss Emma Hainsworth - Prep EH
- ▶ Miss Amelia Delaney- Prep AD
- ▶ Miss Jade Freeman - Prep JF
- ▶ Ms Simonne Marsden - Prep SM
- ▶ Miss Sarah Rayment - Prep SR

First Weeks of School

- ▶ By now your children will be responding to school in a variety of ways and most children will be experiencing some change - after all they are learning, playing and interacting with new people and getting used to a whole new environment - and it will take them some time to settle in. Some things you can do to help your child adjust to school include:
- ▶ Laying out your child's school uniform the night before
- ▶ Helping your child to pack their school bag
- ▶ Placing a spare pair of underpants and a change of clothes in a plastic bag and letting your child know these clothes are in their bag in case of any accidents at school
- ▶ Putting sunscreen on your child in the morning if it is needed
- ▶ Ensuring they have a healthy breakfast - this is important for energy to get through the day
- ▶ Making time to chat to your child about what they did at school that day
- ▶ Developing a bedtime routine so your child can wind down at the end of the day and get a good night's sleep - children aged five need around 10 to 11 hours sleep a night
- ▶ Try not to put too many expectations on yourself or your child; if they are happy and enjoying school, that's a real achievement.

Morning Routine

- ▶ Thank you to everyone for using the external classroom doors. Doors open at 8.45am.
- ▶ Please remember that all children need to have slippers for inside the classroom.
- ▶ Children do not need to put on slippers on Tuesday morning due to assembly. Preps need to be lined up in their classroom by 8.50am ready for assembly. If you are running late, please come straight to the hall.

Morning Reading

- ▶ Children must come in each morning and read to their teacher or an adult (a different parent is often good). Classroom teachers will have a list of students they would like to listen to read on the Interactive Whiteboard each day except Tuesday due to assembly.
- ▶ Children are not to change reading levels until advised to do so by their teacher. Reading simple books helps with: fluency, expression, comprehension and decoding.
- ▶ Once children have read or while waiting to read, we must maintain a quiet classroom environment. This provides a better learning environment for all children.
- ▶ **Morning reading will begin on Monday 13th February.**

Learning

- ▶ During the first year of school children focus on Reading, Writing, Spelling, Maths and Problem-Solving. Preps are at a stage where they're exploring the world around them, and developing physical, creative and technical skills
- ▶ **Literacy:** developing a working understanding of how sounds are represented alphabetically; learning to read and write, drawing on their knowledge of the alphabet and its relationship with the sounds the letters and words make; and listening to and responding to a range of simple texts.
- ▶ **Numeracy:** counting; relating the items counted to the actual number (for example four children with blue tops); placing objects in order (such as first, second, third) and grouping them in sets (all round objects or red blocks together); using everyday objects to identify and describe points, lines, edges and surfaces; and comparing objects using terms such as longer, heavier, fuller and hotter.
- ▶ **Interpersonal development:** developing skills that let them work and play together in a group, including taking turns and sharing, as well as listening to others and beginning to understand how their actions affect others.

Learning

- ▶ **Civics and Citizenship:** learning about respect, concern for others, and being fair; recognising rules and why they are needed and comparing classroom and family rules with other rules, such as those used in games and sport.
- ▶ **Science:** exploring things like day and night, the seasons, and living and non-living things; identifying and describing things that are similar, using things like size, shape, colour and weight.
- ▶ **Health and Physical Education:** developing skills such as running, skipping, catching, throwing, kicking and balancing. Activities such as dance, gymnastics and games help children progressively gain control of their movements.
- ▶ **The Arts:** discussing the things they are creating and, with guidance, beginning to describe their own and others' work.
- ▶ To help support your child's learning, ask your child what they did in class today, and build this question into their routine - make it something that they expect and are happy to answer every day

Fine Motor

- ▶ Many of the beginning Prep activities require good fine motor co-ordination. Please try to provide opportunities for your children to practise these skills at home.
- ▶ Have appropriate size scissors, coloured pencils, paper or colouring activities.
- ▶ Encourage your child to use a knife and fork effectively.

Specialist Teachers

- ▶ **Art** - Rochelle Hunt
- ▶ **Music** - Stacey Lolas
- ▶ **P.E** - Stacey Lolas
- ▶ **Japanese** - Naomi Marsh
- ▶ **Library and Computers** - Prep Teachers

Please ensure your child has an art smock, library bag at school and sport shoes must be worn on P.E day.

Buddy System

- ▶ Every Prep student will receive a Grade 4 buddy. Later in the term the Prep children will be paired with a student from Grade 4 to be their special 'buddy'.
- ▶ Buddy grades get together to have lunch and do classroom activities together.
- ▶ Buddy systems help to promote friendship and support between older and younger peers through regular collaboration between their classes. They also create friendships that enable both older and younger 'buddies' to bond more closely with their school, increasing the likelihood of more positive school behaviour for all students.

Head Lice

- ▶ Head lice infection can be a sensitive issue for parents and children and can be difficult to manage.
- ▶ The responsibility of treating and detecting head lice rests primarily with you, as parents.
- ▶ Our school maintains student confidentiality if a case of head lice is detected.
- ▶ There is no way to prevent head lice so it's important to check your child's hair regularly even when you don't think they have head lice.
- ▶ Using conditioner is a cheap and effective way to help find head lice in your child's hair. Conditioner doesn't kill head lice, but it stuns them for about 20 minutes, so they cannot move around or hang onto the hair. This method gives you time to comb through the hair with a lice comb and determine if your child has head lice and begin a treatment method as soon as possible if they are detected.

Healthy Eating

- ▶ We encourage all students to bring in a healthy snack and lunch. Foods eaten by your child at school contribute greatly to their daily nutrient intake. These foods considerably influence their eating habits, growth patterns, energy, concentration levels and ability to learn.
- ▶ You have an important role to play in helping to ensure your child eats well and stays active.
- ▶ Healthy school lunch ideas include:
 - sandwiches or pita bread with cheese, lean meat or salad
 - cheese slices, crackers with spread and fresh fruit
 - washed and cut-up raw vegetables or fresh fruits
- ▶ Please let your child's teacher know if your child is allergic to particular foods.

Medical Conditions

- ▶ It is important to keep information about your child's medical conditions up-to-date. If there is a change in your child's care plan or medication, you should contact the office.
- ▶ If your child suffers from Allergies or Anaphylaxis then a treatment plan and any medication needed must be given to the office.
- ▶ If your child suffers from Asthma please provide an asthma plan from your doctor, outlining the treatment process for your child.

OSPS Lunch Service: Classroom Cuisine

- ▶ Classroom cuisine provides options for two or three course lunches. Orders are to be made online at www.classroomcuisine.com.au and can be done until 8:30 am on the day lunch is required. The service is available every **Monday** and **Friday**. Visit the site for further information.
- ▶ Please note order cut off is at 8.30 am - no orders accepted afterwards.

Prep Welcome BBQ

- ▶ **Thursday 23rd February 5.30pm - 7.30pm.** Please save this date on your calendar. We would love to see you all there. It is a great night and a good way to meet new families from our school.

OSPS Fete

- ▶ Our biggest fundraiser for the year at OSPS is our school fete.
- ▶ This year the fete will be on **Saturday 6th May**. Each grade requires a fete co-ordinator. It is encouraged every parent helps out with their grades stall for just one hour on the day.
- ▶ More details about the fete to follow!

Parent Helpers

- ▶ Oakleigh South Primary School has an open door policy and we encourage you to come into our classrooms to help. Please feel free to offer your help with:
 - Morning Reading (8.45am - approx. 9.10am everyday except Tuesday)
 - Fete (Term 2: Saturday 6th May)
 - PMP (Terms 2,3 and 4, more details to follow).
 - Literacy Group helpers (Terms 2, 3 and 4)
 - Excursion (Term 2)
 - Swimming (Term 3)

Please note: Parents volunteering to help with external school events e.g. school excursions and swimming, will need to have a valid Working with Children Check. All paperwork is now done online. Any parents wishing to obtain a Working with Children Check will need to visit www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au and follow the links.

Mathletics

- ▶ Mathletics log in details have been stuck on the inside cover of your child's Word List Book which is placed inside your child's green reader bag.
- ▶ Children should try to spend at least approximately 45 minutes a week working on Mathletics at home.
- ▶ Any child who receives a Gold certificate will be presented at assembly on Tuesday.
- ▶ A Mathletics certificate is awarded to a student once they have earned **1000** points in a single week. Only **one** certificate is awarded each week. Once they have collected 5 bronze certificates, they receive a silver award. A gold certificate is earned when they have collected 4 silver certificates.

Reading Eggs

- ▶ Reading Eggs is a Literacy based program to help children consolidate letter sounds, sight words, reading and comprehension.
- ▶ Your child's password can be found on the inside cover of their Word List book which will be kept inside their green reading bag.
- ▶ Children should try to spend at least 45 minutes a week working on Reading Eggs at home.
- ▶ Reading Eggs will also form part of our Literacy program at school.

Mathseeds

- ▶ Mathseeds is a comprehensive online mathematics program. It offers a huge range of carefully structured lessons and activities that build mathematical skills over a broad range of number, shape and measurement topics.
- ▶ It teaches fundamental concepts in a fun, motivating and engaging way, whilst rewarding children for their efforts.
- ▶ Mathseeds can be accessed through Reading Eggs using the same password.

School Newsletter and School Website

- ▶ The school newsletter will be available to you via our school website. The website address is:

<http://oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/>

Click on the school news and events tab on the top of the page. The previous ten newsletters will be available there.

The school website has all the latest dates, news and information regarding any event happening at our school.

Tiqbiz

- ▶ OSPS use an app to send our messages. The tiqbiz app will help our school keep parents fully informed and up-to-date with newsletters, notices, news and events. It's easy to use and also has the benefit of helping reduce our paper consumption by printing less. The first step is to download tiqbiz to your phone, tablet, computer.... or all of them.
- ▶ Please visit the OSPS website for instructions and further information www.oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/tiqbiz-qkr
- ▶ Tiqbiz link www.tiqbiz.com/au/school-app

Payments - QKR!

- ▶ OSPS uses an app called QKR! as our preferred payment method. We ask that you use QKR! When making payments for all your school accounts. It is quick and easy to download and learn. Charges are child specific - please ensure you have selected the correct child before finalising a payment.
- ▶ Please visit the OSPS website for instructions and further information www.oakleighsouthps.vic.edu.au/tiqbiz-qkr
- ▶ The following items are some examples of what can be paid essential learning fees, excursions / incursions, production DVDs, ride wrist bands for the fete
- ▶ QKR link www.qkr.mastercard.com/for-everyone-australia
- ▶ Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding Qkr!

Ambulance

- ▶ The school strongly encourages all families to have Ambulance cover, if ever there was a need for an ambulance to be called for your child.

Problems & Concerns

- ▶ Please come and see us regarding work concerns, everyday issues etc. Many issues can be investigated and smoothly resolved through parent/teacher communication.
- ▶ Always bear in mind there may be more to a story than what your child has explained to you. Having an open mind is very helpful and ask yourself, 'What hasn't my child told me?'
- ▶ Don't let playground problems continue unresolved. Speak to your child's teacher. We WILL follow up on any issues of concern but it is impossible to support you or your child if we aren't informed.
- ▶ Children will make mistakes in their behaviour. This is normal and part of being a child. Please support us to encourage positive behaviours in your child.
- ▶ Encourage and expect your child to approach the teacher with any concerns first. We have asked the children to do this. We may be able to resolve the problem much faster. Your support in this is appreciated.
- ▶ **NOTE: Do not under any circumstances, directly approach other children in the yard to sort playground problems out. This is an extremely serious matter and always results in the situation becoming worse, rather than better.**
- ▶ **PLEASE allow the teachers, team leaders, Assistant Principals or Ron Cantlon (Principal) to deal with such concerns.**

Things to remember

- ▶ Please name **ALL** children's clothing and belongings.
- ▶ Green reader bags must be brought to school **everyday**.
- ▶ Drink bottles must contain water only.
- ▶ It is very important to remember that some students have allergies. Please remind your children not to share their food.
- ▶ It is a departmental requirement that an absent note be provided whenever your child is not at school. Emailing through to your classroom teacher is also acceptable.
- ▶ A sign in and out sign out slip must be completed if your child is coming in late (after 9.30am) or leaving early from school.
- ▶ Parent are reminded that driving into the driveway entrance of the school is not allowed.

Communication

Please do not hesitate to contact us about anything involving your child's education. Our teachers are very approachable. If you have any concerns or wish to touch base, please chat to your child's teacher. We look forward to an enjoyable and productive partnership with you and your family over the coming year.

- ▶ Mr Anthony Savva: savva.anthony.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
- ▶ Miss Amy Philipsen: philipsen.amy.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
- ▶ Miss Emma Hainsworth: hainsworth.emma.k@edumail.vic.gov.au
- ▶ Miss Amelia Delaney: delaney.amelia.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
- ▶ Miss Jade Freeman: freeman.jade.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
- ▶ Ms Simonne Marsden: marsden.simonne.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
- ▶ Miss Sarah Rayment: rayment.sarah.e@edumail.vic.gov.au