

# Prep 2017

© Hamlyn Banks Primary School



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# THE PREP YEAR

**The Prep Year is a preparatory year which aims to develop in each student:-**



- A desire to learn
- An awareness of school routines
- An increasing sense of independence
- A respect for the rights and opinions of others
- An ability to work co-operatively

**Much of the Prep Year Program involves students being actively involved in developmental learning activities.**

**This promotes the development of:-**

- Foundation skills in Literacy, Numeracy and Technology
- Relationship skills (co-operating, sharing etc)
- Manipulative skills
- Problem solving and decision making skills
- Student's self-esteem



**\*PLEASE NOTE A CHILD CANNOT BE ADMITTED TO THE SCHOOL UNTIL ACCEPTABLE PROOF OF AGE HAS BEEN SUBMITTED AND AN IMMUNISATION FORM PRESENTED (must be 5 years of age by April 30th of the year of enrolment).**

# THE TRANSITION FROM HOME TO SCHOOL

Beginning school is an exciting time in the life of your child. The first year of schooling is a very important one. Together teachers, parents and carers can provide the support and the encouragement needed to make your child's introduction to school both enjoyable and successful.

**We believe that the transition from home to school or from pre-school to school can be made easier if parents and carers:-**

- Provide a wide range of experiences for their children
- Talk to their children regularly
- Read to their children
- Are positive about the school and the teachers
- Provide opportunities for their children to mix with and trust other adults
- Look on school as a happy and secure place
- Develop realistic expectations about school (i.e. the ability to read isn't required on the first day)
- Please refrain from comments such as: "Don't do that or the teacher will be cross", or "I'll tell your teacher", or "School boys/girls don't do that!" Teachers should not be feared, and should never be used as a threat. They will do their utmost to make your child feel happy and secure - they are friends.

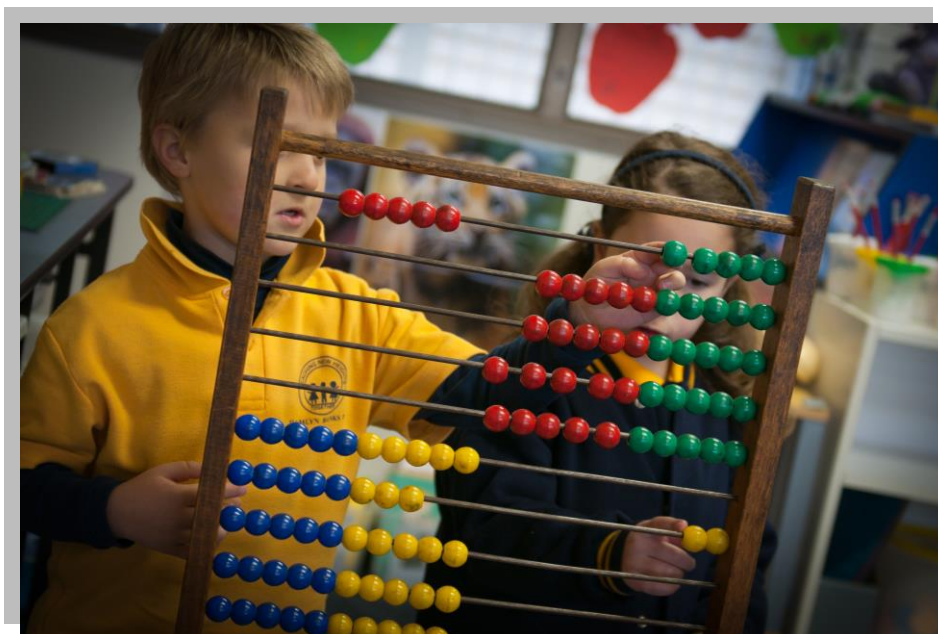


## Before school starts you might like to:

- Point out the school as you drive or walk past.
- Talk about road rules and safety.
- Discuss the dangers of talking to and/or accepting rides from strangers.
- Teach your child his/her name and address.
- Check to see whether your child can recognise his/her own name.
- Have a practice run at eating a packed lunch. Check the time taken to eat it. Past experience has shown us that too much food is often packed for the Prep child.
- Establish routines for bedtime, eating breakfast, getting dressed etc.
- Read to your child as often as you can.

**Training your child to have independent habits will assist them to adjust quickly to school life. Please help your child to be able to:-**

- Dress themselves, particularly to put on and take off items such as jumpers and coats.
- Put shoes on and tie shoelaces or provide Velcro strap shoes.
- Attend to themselves at the toilet and wash hands afterwards.
- Recognise their belongings and take care of their own property.
- Put away their own toys and materials.
- Use a tissue.
- Correctly use a rubbish bin.



## It is important for you to be aware that each child is different.

Some children will be just starting to handle writing implements while others will be writing their names. Some will want you to read to them while others will want to do the reading. The Early Years Program ensures that all children are catered for according to their academic needs.

You will be curious to know what is going on at school and may question your child about the activities of the day. Do not be concerned if your child is anxious to talk. They will tell you about school when they are ready. A good conversation starter is "Tell me something good that happened today".

You can assist us by making sure your child comes home to a suitable activity and that he/she gets the required amount of sleep.

Above all, remember that the school and the home, the parents/carers and the teacher, need to work together to ensure that your child has the chance to develop at his or her own rate.

If you are concerned about any matter, or you have some questions, you are always welcome to come to school to discuss these with your child's class teacher, our Assistant Principal or our Principal. **Please make an appointment, as this will assist us to give you our utmost attention.**

### **Sometimes.....**

Although most children adapt to school quite happily, others may have some difficulty settling in. Your teacher will discuss with you the best strategy for starting the school day.

Some children will not understand that school is not just for one or two days. They would rather be home with mum, dad or carer, especially if they are going to be doing something special. Some children may suddenly develop stomach pains or start wetting the bed or just be 'plain hard' to get going in the morning. If this occurs, talk with your child's teacher.

**A problem shared is often a problem solved.**



## Individual Assessments & Parent/Carer/Teacher Meetings

Prior to your child starting their Prep Year, a Literacy and Numeracy Interview time, which includes a parent/carers/teacher meeting will be allocated to them and will be confirmed in a letter sent out to you in the school holidays. There will be 45 minutes for assessment and 10 minutes for a meeting.

**Interview times will be conducted at the beginning of Term 1, 2017 from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February to Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.**

These interviews are usually enjoyed by students and are a positive experience. Not only does the teacher discover the skills and understandings the child is bringing to school, there is also the opportunity to have some one-on-one time for the child and the teacher to get to know each other. Parent/carers meetings are also vital to share important information about your child.

**All Prep students will begin school on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 between 8:50am-9:00am**

Your child's teacher will be on hand to greet students and show them where to place their belongings. The accompanying parent or carer may like to assist in settling the child into an activity and then leave. If your child is distressed in any way he/she will almost certainly settle down shortly after you leave.

We understand that the first few weeks of your child's Prep year is very tiring for them. For this reason; from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of February to Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, your child's school day will end at **3:00pm**. Prep teachers will be available to let you know how your child's getting along, at pick up time ☺

**From Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March, your child will be dismissed at the normal time of **3:15pm** with the rest of the students at Hamlyn Banks Primary School.**

- At dismissal time, please do not wait on the deck, as this causes congestion. Your child's teacher will bring them out to you.
- If you decide to have your child accompanied home by an older sibling, friend etc, please let your child's teacher know via a diary note and your child can be collected from their classroom.
- Children attending **After School Care** will also be collected, initially, until they become familiar with the routine.

## WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL NEED ...

\*Please supply your child with the following articles - clearly labelled

- ✓ A School Hat (sunsmart)



- ✓ An Art Smock

- ✓ A Large Library Bag



- ✓ A Large Box of Tissues

- ✓ Headphones (1) *(a cheap set is fine 😊 to be used with our iPads)*



- ✓ Spare Clothes

If your child occasionally wets him or herself please include a clean change of underwear, a dress, shorts, socks etc. in a named plastic bag and inform their teacher.

- ✓ Playdough *(please see the attached recipe)*

At the beginning of the year, manipulation (building fine motor skills) is a vital aspect of our Literacy and Numeracy programs. For this we need an ample supply of playdough. It would be appreciated if you could please send along a container (made or bought), clearly labelled with your child's name.



# Extra Information!

1.	A Playdough Recipe (Microwave)
2.	My Alphabet Chart (Letters are Victorian Cursive Script)
3.	Handwriting Pages (Uppercase & Lowercase, trace over)
4.	Snakes & Ladders Game Board (Play and colour in)
5.	Maths, Reading & Writing Tips (Double-sided page)
6.	Hamlyn Banks Primary School - Values Matrix 😊

