Dear Parents,

Welcome to the wonderful year of Prep!

We are very excited about the year ahead and look forward to getting to know you and in partnership work with you and your children.

Remember to label EVERYTHING - lunch boxes, drink bottles, clothing - especially windcheaters and bomber jackets!
**This term in Prep:**

**Religious Education:**
Through our unit **Following Jesus** we will be developing the children's understanding of prayer. We will also investigate how we prepare for Easter during Lent.

**Literacy:**
The children will be given various opportunities to develop their oral language. This may occur through directed play, discussions, games and small group activities. Reading to and with the children will also be a focus along with looking at the alphabet letter names and sounds.

**Mathematics:**
This term our focus is on Number and Shape with lots of counting and recognition of numerals along with recognising, continuing and making patterns. As with our letters we focus on correct formation of numerals.

**Science**
Our topic this term is “the Weather”. We will be looking at daily and seasonal changes in our environment, including the weather and how it affects our everyday lives.

**History:**
The children will be looking at who the people in their family are and how they relate to each other. We will also note how there are different structures of families today through images and stories.

As the Preps begin to settle into the school routine we begin to introduce our school rules:

**School Rules:**
- Follow Directions.
- Keep hands, feet & objects to oneself.
- Ignore inappropriate behaviour.
- Speak appropriately.
- Include and help others.

**Mailbags:**
Soon your child will be bringing home “readers” in their blue rectangular bag (mailbag). Initially 4 books will be sent home to share. Books are kept for the week to encourage familiar reading. It is normal for, and we encourage Preps to, memorize the text and use pictures to “read” the words. Your child’s reading log will also be sent home in the blue mailbag every day to be filled in.

 Mailbags should be sent to school each day.

**Food in Prep.**
It is suggested that the children should be given three parts to their lunch box:

**Recess:** (10:30am)
The children are generally quite hungry at this time as it has been at least a couple of hours since breakfast, so we are encouraging Preps to eat their sandwich, roll or wrap at this time.

**Fruit / Vegetable Snack:** (12:30pm)
We have a 5-10 minute break where the children eat their fresh fruit / vegetable while listening to a story.

**Lunch:** (1:30pm)
Some ideas for this snack are cheese and biscuits, a muesli bar or banana.
Food rules:
- there will be no sharing of food.
- no food will be thrown out (if your child is full we ask them to take the remaining food home).
- children will be given plenty of time to eat in the classroom.

Please limit chocolate, lollies or sugary foods. Children require a drink bottle daily – only WATER thankyou.

Birthday Treats:
Celebrating your child’s birthday is a very important event. Parents are able, but are not obliged to bring a small purchased, packaged treat, that lists ingredients for class members. For safety reasons, lollipops of any description are not permitted. The treat will be given out at the end of the school day to be taken home.

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Tiqbiz is a communication app...
Parents are able to easily
- Notify the school of any student absences
- Connect to CareMonkey (used for medical and excursion permissions)
- Read the latest school newsletter
- Contact the school by email
- View and print the Uniform Order Form and Price List
- View the school website
- Organise your Parent / Teacher interviews

You’ll be notified of our
- News
- Messages
- Events
- & other communications.

Simply download the tiqbiz app to your phone / tablet.

Dates for the Diary:

**Feb**
- 9 Enrolments for Sacramental Programme OPEN
- 10 Ash Wednesday
- 12 School Closure Day
- 16 Literacy Information Night (Grades P – 2)
- 18 SAB Meeting (School Advisory Board)
- 23&24 Parent Teacher Interviews (Grades 1 – 6)
- 26 Enrolments for Sacramental Programme CLOSE
- 29 Preps full week.

**March**
- 11 School Closure Day
- 14 Labour Day Public Holiday
- 14 Catholic Education Week Starts
- 17 School Leaders at St Patrick’s Day Mass
- 20 Palm Sunday
- 23 School Photo Day
- 24 End of Term One
- 25 Good Friday
- 27 Easter Sunday

**April**
- 11 Term Two Commences

**June**
- 1-3 Senior School Urban Camp
- 10 School Closure Day
- 23 School Concert

Looking forward to sharing a great year together. 
Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or questions.

Thankyou
Zeeta Andrew, Renee Felmingham & Irene Stewart.
PZA specialist classes.

Performing Arts:
(with Miss Jody Banks)
Wednesday

Italian:
(with Signora Sue Larson)
Wednesday

Art:
(with Miss Helina Walker)
Monday

Sport:
Tuesday
(with Mr Reagon Haines)
Preps need to wear their sports uniform on Tuesdays.

All students wear their sports uniform on a Friday.

Library:
Monday
(Children will need to bring their library bags on Mondays)

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PRF specialist classes.

Performing Arts:
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Monday

Italian:
(with Signora Sue Larson)
Tuesday

Art:
(with Miss Helina Walker)
Wednesday

Sport:
Wednesday
(with Mr Reagon Haines)
Preps need to wear their sports uniform on Wednesdays

All students wear their sports uniform on a Friday.

Library:
Monday
(Children will need to bring their library bags on Mondays)