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:**

This term the Inquiry unit is about ‘Belonging’ which will be integrated into our History and Religious Education.

**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.

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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.

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**Mailbags:**
Soon your child will be bringing home “readers” in their blue rectangular bag *(mailbag)*. Four 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.**

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Please ensure that you have created your child’s online CareMonkey profile.
If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact the school office.
**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 thank you.

**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. Treats will be given out at the end of the day to be taken home. This ensures that any child with food allergies is not eating any food other than that supplied by the parent.

For safety reasons, lollipops of any description are not permitted.

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.

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### Dates for the Diary:

**Feb**
- 7 Enrolments for Sacramental Programme OPEN
- 9 Beginning of Year Mass 9am
- 14 Parent / Teacher Interviews 3:30pm – 8pm.
- 15 Parent / Teacher Interviews 3:30pm – 6pm.
- 15 Prep Rest Day
- 16 Cybersafety Parent Evening
- 28 Literacy Information Night – strongly recommended!
- 22 Prep Rest Day
- 24 Enrolments for Sacramental Programme CLOSE

**March**
- 1 Ash Wednesday
  - Prep Rest Day
- 1-3 Senior School Camp
- 7 Parent Helpers Course 9am – 10:30am
- 10 School Closure Day – Staff Professional
- 13 Labour Day Public Holiday
- 14 Parent Helpers Course 9am – 10:30am
- 21 Parent Helpers Course 9am – 10:30am
- 21 Twilight Sports
- 22 School Photo Day
- 31 Last day of Term 1

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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 the Uniform Order Form /Price List
- View the school website

You’ll be notified of our news, messages, events & other communications.

Simply download the tiqbiz app!
PZA specialist classes.

Performing Arts:  
(with Miss Jody Banks)  
Wednesday

Italian:  
(with Signora Sue Larson)  
Tuesday

Art:  
(with Miss Helina Walker)  
Wednesday

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

All students wear their sports uniform on a Friday.

Library:  
Tuesday  
(Children will need to bring their library bags on Tuesdays)

PRF specialist classes.

Performing Arts:  
(with Miss Jody Banks)  
Monday

Italian:  
(with Signora Sue Larson)  
Wednesday

Art:  
(with Miss Helina Walker)  
Wednesday

Sport:  
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