

Prep Newsletter

Term 1, 2017



Welcome all new families to Tinternvale Primary School and welcome back to all of those who have children in other levels. We are almost a week in and the children are settling in quickly, which is fantastic to see. We are going to have a great year together. Remember if you have any questions or comments, come in and have a chat with Linda, Meagan or Emily. Our doors are always open.

Morning Drop Off

As the weeks go on and the novelty of school has worn off, the children will be getting more and more tired and it is normal for them to become hesitant about coming to school. Please stay positive with your child should this happen; bring them in to their teacher, kiss them goodbye and leave promptly. Most children are happy within a minute or two but of course if this is not the case we will call you.

Each morning we will open our doors at 8.50 am for the children to come in and put their bags away, change their take home books and organise themselves for the day. This 10 minutes before teaching time is a great time for parents to speak with their child's teacher if they have any questions or concerns.

Parent Helpers

In the next week or two, we will be requesting parent helpers. Parent helpers are needed for literacy and maths sessions and for listening to children read. Please remember that to be a parent helper you will need to have a Working with Children Check. You can get the application form from the Post Office.

Important Dates

Tuesday 14th February – First Aid for all Prep children

Thursday 16th February – Life Education – Prep C

Tuesday 21st February – Life Education – Prep B

Thursday 23rd February – Life Education – Prep A

Reminder – School Entry Assessments each Wednesday until the end of February. Reminders will be sent home the night before your interview.



Book Bags

The book bag has many functions. Throughout the year all notices will be sent home in the book bag, so you will always know where to look for them in your child's bag. The book bag is also a great place for you to put things for your child to send to school, such as notes for the teacher or money in envelopes for excursions. Your child's Take Home Book will be sent home in the book bag. Please use the book bag for Take Home Books as it helps to protect the books and can prevent books from going missing.

Please help your child to remember to bring their book bag to school EVERY day, regardless of whether they have read their Take Home Book or not.

Please help us to encourage the children to take responsibility for their own book bags including passing any notes to their teacher.

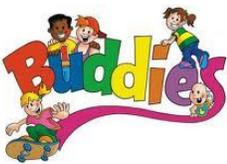
Brain Food and Drink Bottles

Please send your child with fresh fruit or vegetables to eat during our 10am break. We are trying to help teach them healthy habits, which means at this time they are permitted to eat only fresh fruit or vegetables NOT processed fruit bars or similar.

Drink bottles should only contain water not cordial or fruit juice.

Buddies

The buddy program is underway and the Prep children have now met their buddy or buddies. They are very excited about this and will meet with their buddies regularly throughout the year.



School Diaries

We have discussed with the children how they will use their diaries this year. In Prep the diary is used in a very simple way but it will get the children into the habit of using it each day, which will put them in a good place for the rest of their school life. The diary's functions are as follows:

1. To record the Take Home Book read each day.
2. For parents to communicate small pieces of information to us. This will require the children to bring us the diary, however dropping us an email to let us know that you have written in the diary is advised.
3. The absence notes in the back of the diary may be used but please cut them out as we must send them to the office for school records.

Golden Words

In your child's book bag there is a list of 12 'Golden' words pasted into a scrapbook for them to start learning. These words are the most common words that your child will come across in their reading and writing. Some of these words are easier to learn than others. Please be patient with your child. They will be tested on a regular basis at school and then given a new set of words when appropriate. It is important for the children to learn to write the words as well as being able to read them. Using these words to play games such as Memory, Snap, Fish and writing the words in the scrap book will help them to learn the words.

Emails

We believe that good communication between school and home is a vital part of keeping your child's education on track. Please make sure that you read the school newsletter, Tintalk every week to ensure that you are kept up to date about what is happening in the school. This will be sent home on a Thursday by Prep children and will be found in their Take Home Book Bag.

If you have any questions or concerns and you are not able to come up and see your child's teacher please feel free to contact us by email.

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ART SMOCKS

Please make sure that your child brings their art smocks to school asap.

Inquiry Unit – Term 1

The topic for Term 1 is 'Me and My Community'.

The main focus for this unit of work is for children to:

- recognise how they fit into a family, class and school community.
- recognise characteristics of a good learner.
- become familiar with school routines and expectations.
- understand the ways people are connected to their local community.



Teach Me How To Do

Our Prep motto is 'Teach me how to do it myself'. Children become more confident when they learn a new skill and can do things for themselves. The children discover very quickly that we won't do everything for them but are more than happy to teach them how to do it themselves. We understand that sometimes it is necessary to do things for your child in order to get things done quickly but please try and assist us with this and find the time, when you have a quiet moment, to teach them the skills they need. Difficult tasks, such as tying up shoelaces, are harder to learn, so we are more than happy to do this for them.