

Prep Newsletter

Term 1 2021

Welcome

Welcome all new families to Tinternvale Primary School and welcome back to all returning families. We are nearly two weeks in and the students 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, please don't hesitate to contact Anna, Alice or Sarah. We are always here to help.

Parent Helpers

Later this week, we will be requesting parent helpers. Parent helpers are needed to listen to students read and to assist in the practise of Magic Words. Please remember that to be a parent helper you will need to have a valid Working with Children Check. You can find the application form online.

Important dates

February

Friday 15 th	Health Questionnaire (SEHQ) to be returned
Friday 19 th	Prep Family Picnic 4:30pm to 5:30pm

March

Friday 5 th	RACV Safety Squad Incursion
Monday 8 th	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 10 th	First Wednesday for Prep students
Wednesday 24 th	School Photos

Inquiry – Term One

The topic for Term 1 is 'Me and My Community'. The main focus for this unit of work is for students to: recognise how they fit into a family, class and school community, recognise characteristics of a good learner and friend, become familiar with school routines and expectations and understand the ways people are connected to their local community.

Morning Drop Off

As the weeks go on and the novelty of school has worn off, students 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; meet their teacher at the classroom door, kiss them goodbye and leave promptly. Most students 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 8.50am for students to come in, put their bags away, change their take home books and organise themselves for the day.

Brain Food and Drinks

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. Fruit or vegetables cut up into small bite sized pieces are preferred. Drink bottles should only contain water, not cordial or fruit juice.

Buddies

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

Book Bags

The book bag has many functions. Throughout the year all notices will be sent home in them. The book bag is also a great place for you to put things in for your child to send to school, such as notes for the teacher. 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 prevents books from going missing.

Please help your child 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 your child to take responsibility for their own book bags including passing any notes to their teacher.

Art Smocks & Library Bags

Please ensure your child brings their art smock and library bag (labelled) to school ASAP.

Magic Words

In your child's book bag there will soon be a list of 12 'Golden' words pasted into a scrapbook for them to start learning. The Golden Words are the first group of words we will send home followed by others as your child progresses. These words form some of the most commonly used 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 students to learn to write the words as well as 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. Please remember that all children progress at their own pace.

School Diaries

We have discussed with students how they will use their diaries this year. In Prep the diary is used in a very simple way but it will assist students to develop the habit of using it each day, which will be important 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 students to bring us the diary, however dropping us an email to let us know that you have written in the diary is advised.

Emails

We believe that communication between school and home is a vital part of keeping your child's education on track. Please make sure 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 uploaded on Compass on a Thursday, however families can request a hardcopy version. Just drop into the office to organise. ☺

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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