

Prep Newsletter

Term 1, 2020



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Clarinda Primary and our first term of the year! It has been lovely getting to know you and your children over the past week and we are looking forward to a productive and fun year.

We are very pleased with the way your children have settled into the routine of school. The days can be very long for them but most students are coping well. Please ensure your child has good sleep routines - into bed by 7.30/8.00pm is a good guide.

In addition to introducing some early Reading, Writing and Maths activities in class, we have also taken your children on a school tour to assist them to become familiar with their new environment, meet all the staff and learn where facilities such as the Library, Music Room and Art Room are located.

Thank you to our parents who have refrained from entering the Gallery building in the afternoons. The children are easily distracted at this stage of the year and we aim to establish daily routines that will assist them to have a smooth start and end to each day. It is important that you wait outside the Gallery area during drop off and pick up times as the area becomes too noisy and congested if parents wait inside.

Each term we will send home a Prep Newsletter outlining events and any changes to our routines. There is a lot of information so do not hesitate to ask if you are unsure of anything.

Dates to Remember

- **Wednesday 12th February:** No School for Preps
- **Friday 13th February:** Parent Literacy Workshop with Karen Mackay in the Staffroom at 9:00am
- **Monday 17th February:** Parent Teacher Interviews
- **Wednesday 19^h February:** No School for Preps
- **Friday 21st February:** Dozen Days of Prep – Open for Learning in Prep Classrooms at 2:30pm, followed by afternoon tea at 3:00pm
- **Monday 24th February:** Preps Commence Full Time
- **Monday 11th March:** Labour Day Public Holiday
- **Tuesday 10th March:** Curriculum Day – No School for Students
- **Friday 13th March:** Harmony Night
- **Friday 20th March:** Prep **Healthy Snack Attack** incursion
- **Friday 27th March:** Last Day of Term 1 – Assembly @1:45pm and Early dismissal @ 2:30pm
- **Tuesday 14th April:** First Day of Term 2

Morning Routine:

Our first school bell rings at **8:50am** each morning. At this time, you can bring your child to their line on the netball courts with their school bag and their teacher will collect them from there. If you need to drop your child off earlier than 8:45am, please access the Before School Care service as it is important that your child is adequately supervised.

It is wonderful to see the Preps beginning to organise themselves more throughout the day. To further develop greater independence and a sense of responsibility, we would like to see all the Preps carrying their own bags into the building and unpacking their belongings by themselves.

On Tuesday 18th February, we will commence Reading Circles each morning. A note with further details regarding Reading Circles will be sent home. We ask all Parents and Guardians who are not assisting with Reading Circles to say your goodbyes outside. If you are assisting with Reading Circles, please enter the classroom and sign in so that you are ready to read with the children when they have unpacked their bags. Please be aware that any adults assisting with Reading Circles will be required to provide a copy of their valid **Working With Children Check** to the office before reading with the students.

ClassDojo:

All families will have received an invitation to join your child's class on ClassDojo. ClassDojo is a free app that we will use to share photos, updates and reminders of what is happening in Prep. We encourage all families to join their child's class on ClassDojo as we find that it is a wonderful communication tool between teachers and families, however, please be aware any urgent matters or absences from school should be communicated in person or via the office.

Brainy Bites:

Brainy Bites are fruit or vegetable snacks that children may eat in class. Ideally the fruit or vegetable snacks should be **bite size** and easy to eat, to enable your child to continue with their work, for example cut up apple, strawberries, carrot etc. Please send Brainy Bites in a **small, separate container** with your child's name and grade on it.

Parent Teacher Interviews:

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Monday 17th February. These will be 'get to know you' interviews and we look forward to learning more about your child and their family. Please refer to the notice that will be sent home for information on how to book a time online.



Tissues: We ask all children to bring along one box of tissues every term to share with the class.

Purple Communication Folders:



As you are now aware, the children are bringing home a Purple Communication Folder. We will send home all notices in your child's Purple Folder and expect notices to be returned via the Purple Folder too. Please check the folder **every night** and return to school **every morning**. Please ensure that you empty the Purple Folder each night, and send it to school the next day with any completed notices, forms or payments inside. Any money should be sent in a **named envelope**. This helps to minimise any confusion or loss of money.

NO NUTS at school:

As we have children in Prep who are severely allergic (anaphylactic) to peanuts and other nuts, we strongly recommend you do not pack any nuts in your child's lunch. This includes spreads, **such as Nutella and Peanut Butter**, and any other products that may contain nuts. We appreciate your assistance with keeping our school a safe place for these students. Please also talk to your children about not sharing any food.



Library: Library books will be borrowed each week. The children will bring home their book in their library bag. Please take time to read the book with your child. All books must be returned to school in the library bag by your child's library day. If you haven't yet provided a library bag for your child, please do so as soon as possible. Children without library bags will be unable to borrow. Please be aware that lost books will incur a \$20 replacement fee.










Hats: The children are required to wear navy school hats in Terms 1 and 4 as part of our SunSmart Policy. Any child without a hat will be required to sit in the shaded area during outside play times. 'No hat, no play' is our school policy.

Morning Tea: To minimise litter in the schoolyard we would like all children to have their morning tea and lunch in containers. It is also important to remember to make your child's lunch as healthy as possible – please limit treats to one per day! A healthy lunch box will give your child the energy they need to concentrate throughout the long school day. We would love to see food such as cheese, yoghurt, sandwiches, fruit and vegetables in your child's lunchbox every day.



Below is a timetable of **Prep Y Specialist Classes** for Term 1. Please be aware that days and times of specialist classes may change.

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Art 	Physical Education (PE) (From 26 th Feb) 	Music 	Library (from 14 th February) 
	Greek (From 26 th Feb) 		Greek (Until Friday 21 st Feb) 
			Physical Education (Until Friday 21 st Feb) 

We know there is a great deal of information to read and absorb. We are happy to answer any questions so please do make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

Thank you for your support,
 The Prep Team – Katie Young, Kellie Williams, Nicole Davis