

Prep Newsletter

Term 1, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Clarinda Primary and our first term of the year!

We are so happy with the way your child has settled into the routine of school. In addition to introducing early Reading, Writing and Maths activities in class, we have also taken your child 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 and the office are located.

Thank you to the parents who have refrained from entering the Prep building and decking area in the afternoons. It is important that you wait outside the Prep building, near the white line off the decking area during the afternoon pick up. This area becomes too noisy, overwhelming and congested if parents wait on the decking or inside the building. Please encourage your child to raise their hand up high when they see you so they can be dismissed quickly and safely.

Each term we will send home a Prep Newsletter outlining events and any changes to our routines. There is a lot of information to digest so please ask your classroom teacher if you are unsure of anything.



Dates to Remember

- **Monday 15th February:** Parent Teacher Interviews
- **Wednesday 17th February:** Parent Teacher Interviews
- **Wednesday 17th February:** No School for Preps
- **Friday 19th February:** 2:40pm- Open for Learning in Prep & Dozen Days of Prep/ Prep afternoon tea at 3pm
- **Monday 22nd February:** Preps Commence School Full Time (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week)
- **Monday 8th March:** Labour Day Public Holiday
- **Friday 26th March:** Harmony Night
- **Thursday 1st April:** Last Day of Term 1 – Assembly @1:45pm and Early dismissal @ 2:30pm
- **Monday 19th 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 classroom. 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.

On Tuesday 9th February, we commenced Reading Circles to assist students with changing their take home book as well as give students the opportunity to read aloud to an adult. A note with further details regarding Reading Circles will be sent home shortly. 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 on time 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 15th February and Wednesday 17th February. These will be 'getting to know you' interviews and we look forward to learning more about your child and their family. Please ensure you book a time on Compass.

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 inside this and expect notices to be returned via the Purple Folder too. 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 students and staff who are severely allergic (anaphylactic) to peanuts and other nuts, we strongly recommend that 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 can be borrowed each week and 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.

It has been lovely getting to know you all in recent weeks and we are happy to clarify any of the information in this newsletter if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support,

The Prep Team – Katie Young, Kellie Williams, Nicole Davis

Prep D Specialist Classes

Below is a timetable of for our specialist lessons in 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) 	Library 	Physical Education (Until Friday 19 th Feb) 
Music 	Greek (From 26 th Feb) 		Greek (Until Friday 19 th Feb) 