

Prep Newsletter

Term 1, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Clarinda Primary and our first term of the year! Each term we will send home a Prep Newsletter. There is a lot of information to digest so please ask your classroom teacher if you are unsure of anything.

It has been a busy start to the term and already your child has been introduced to 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.

Please note we have several **students with allergies** to **kiwi fruit, nuts, hazelnuts (including Nutella)** and **egg**. For the safety of our students, we ask you to serve these foods at home and refrain from sending them to school. Please ask us if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Dates to Remember

- Wednesday 15th Feb - After School Greek to commence
- Monday 20th Feb - Preps commence full time
- Monday 13th March - Labour Day Public Holiday
- Tuesday 14th March - Curriculum Day/Student free day
- Thursday 16th March - Colour Run 4pm-5pm
- Thursday 6th April – Early dismissal 2.30pm
- Monday 24th April - Curriculum Day/Student free day
- Tuesday 25th April – ANZAC Day Public Holiday
- Term 2 Begins - Wednesday 26th April

Morning Routine:

Our first school bell rings at **8:50am** each morning. Please encourage your child to line up with their class to meet their teacher near the steps on the synthetic turf area. The Prep classroom teacher will then walk the class into the Prep building. If you need to drop your child off earlier than 8:40am, please access the Before School Care service as it is important that your child is adequately supervised. We request that you refrain from waiting on the decking area in the mornings.

Afternoon Routine:

It is important that you wait outside the Prep building, near the white line off the decking area during the afternoon pick up at 3:30pm. 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.

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, 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.

Health & Hygiene: We ask that all children to bring along one box of tissues every term to share with the class, however, please keep your child at home when unwell.

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.

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.

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.

ClassDojo:

All families will have received an invitation to join your child's ClassDojo. This 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 ClassDojo, as we find that it is a wonderful communication tool between teachers and families. Please be aware any urgent matters or absences from school should be communicated in person or via the office.

It has been lovely meeting 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,

Katie Young, Kellie Williams and Sophie Loveday