

Prep Newsletter

Term 1, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Clarinda Primary School and our first term of the year! Starting school is a big adjustment for you and your child, but we are so pleased with the way in which the Preps are already adapting to their new routines. You will receive a lot of information over the coming weeks, so please ask your classroom teacher if you are unsure of anything.

It has been a busy start to the term and your child has already 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 SEVERE allergies to seafood, nuts, (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.*

Important Dates to Remember

- **Monday 17th Feb:** Preps commence full time
- **Tuesday 4th March:** Parent Teacher Interviews
- **Monday 10th March:** Labour Day Public Holiday
- **Monday 31st March:** School Photos
- **Tuesday 1st April:** Harmony Night
- **Friday 4th April:** Last Day of Term 1 - Early dismissal 2.30pm

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 fortnight 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 and that absences can be added to Compass.

It has been lovely meeting you all 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 Grace Bridges