

# FOUNDATION NEWS

## JANUARY, 2017



Welcome to the 2017 school year! Listed below are a few details that may help make the beginning of the year a smooth one!

### ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

**From Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** – Foundation students line up in their class lines at bottom of the steps in front of our building (we will be practising this as it is also where they line up at the end of recess and lunch). For the first few weeks we will have cones marking the spots. Bags should not be brought inside before the bell.

### DISMISSAL



FS, FT & FM - The students will be brought out to green assembly area by their teachers at the end of the day. Please wait by the marked cones.

FD & FB - The students will be brought out to the area behind the Foundation building by their teachers at the end of the day. Please wait by the marked cones.

**Please do not come in or up to the classrooms to collect them as there is simply not enough room. It is very important that you do not wait on the decking area. It can get very crowded and we ask for you to wait for the teachers to bring students down off the decking, onto the quadrangle before you collect them.**

The teachers will remain outside until everyone has been collected. The students will be instructed to make sure they tell their teacher when they see their parents, rather than just race off. Don't panic if you are running late, simply call the school office and let us know and we will make sure your child stays next to us and is made aware that you have been held up.

Students who attend After School Care will be collected by Camp Australia staff.

### ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY



The school has an Anaphylaxis Policy and we ask that the students please do not bring nuts or any nut products such as Peanut Butter and/or Nutella in their lunch boxes.

### MEDICAL ISSUES

Please ensure a copy of all Action Plans (Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Allergies etc) have been given to your child's teacher ASAP. If you need to discuss the issue further, please feel free to organise a time to meet with their teacher.

### BLUE NOTICE BAGS



Please make sure that you check the blue bags each afternoon. Thursday is generally the day we send notices home. However, particularly at the beginning of the year, information may be sent home on other days. When take home reading begins (Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February), these bags will also contain the student's reader cover. These bags should be brought to school **every day** and placed into a box near the classroom door as the students come into class. Please encourage your child to become independent by having them unpack their bags each morning.

### ASSEMBLY

This year we will be holding our whole school Assembly on Fridays at about 3:10pm. We will attend our first Assembly on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

### HATS



A reminder that hats are compulsory until April 30th. Please make sure they are clearly named. Please put sunscreen on your child in the morning before school on hot days.

### FOUNDATION T-SHIRTS



The students look gorgeous in their Parkdale Prep t-shirts. We will make Fridays our t-shirt day (with school shorts/skorts/pants). It is not compulsory, but students are welcome to wear them on Fridays. Monday to Thursday the students should be in their correct uniform.

## **SPARE CLOTHES**

Please pack a spare pair of underwear, pants/dress and socks for your child. Just in case of an accident. 😊



## **PARENT HELPERS**

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February the students will bring home their first take home book in their reader cover. These need to be read and signed each night and sent back to be changed the next morning. There will also be lists of sight words for the students to practise and learn. We ask for parents to help with this change over each morning. If you can help, even if it is once a week or once a fortnight, please put your name down on the sheets which are displayed outside the classrooms. With enough helpers the job gets done quickly and is hopefully done by 9.30 so we can have all students back in the classroom ready to start work. All parent helpers are required to have a current Working with Children Check before they can volunteer. Please make sure you show this to your child's teacher at some point before next week so that we can check off your name and if you haven't already, take it up to the office for the office staff to make a copy of it. 😊

*\* Jackie will run a quick "How to change over readers" course in Foundation S classroom at 3:15 on Monday 13<sup>th</sup>. It is not compulsory, but will be helpful for new families to the school. If you cannot attend don't panic, there will be lots of experienced helpers to lend a hand in the mornings when you start reading.*

## **FOUNDATION INTERVIEWS**



Foundation students **do not** attend school on Wednesdays during February and the first week of March. If possible, please have a quiet day at home to allow your child to 'recharge their batteries'. The start of the school year is particularly exhausting to most foundation students (and teachers! 😊) Your child has been given an interview time on one of these Wednesdays. Please ensure you arrive on time. Teachers will work with you child to assess their skills and future learning needs. This needs to be done without any distractions so we would appreciate it if you could drop off your child on time and return after about 40 minutes. We will then have a "Getting to Know You" interview where you can share any information we need to know, concerns you may have and ask some questions. The first full week of school will be from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

## **SPECIALISTS**

Please find attached the days of Specialist classes. Library borrowing will not be available while the Building works are on. We encourage you to visit the local council Library in Parkers Road, Parkdale.

## **PHOTOS**

Feel free to take photos of your children, however it is School Policy that photos of other students are not published on social media, without parental permission.



## **COMMUNICATION**

The next few weeks will be very busy. Please feel free to come see your teacher if you have any questions or queries. We will be outside each day after school which is the perfect time to have a quick chat. Email is also a great way of communicating with us – although please note that we may not always have time to check emails during the school day so if it is urgent, please contact the office or grab us before or after school. On Mondays we have Whole School Staff Meetings and Professional Development. On Tuesdays we have our Foundation Level Meeting. These meetings start at 3:45 so if you require a longer meeting with your class teacher we are happy to set up convenient time.

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***We are looking forward to a fantastic year with you and your children!***

***Jackie, Caz, Brianna, Ash and Lauren***