



# GOOD SHEPHERD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## KINDERGARTEN GRADE LETTER TERM 1 2018

WE WARMLY WELCOME ALL OF YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL SCHOOL! We hope that you are starting to feel a part of the place and have made a few new friends (parents as well as students!)

Please take the time to read this newsletter as it has information pertinent to Kindergarten and it might answer some questions you may have.

The school gates open at 8:00am and **supervision begins at 8:10am**. All children and family members are to sit in the COLA until duty begins (8:10am). **Teachers will tell you when you can leave the area**. Please ensure that your child is wearing their hat.

Your child's bag can be placed on a hook outside the classrooms. As there are not enough hooks for every child, some bags will be kept inside the classrooms once the school day begins.

We encourage the children to place their own bags on the hooks so that they can find them easily throughout the course of the day. Please also make sure that your child is able to identify their own bag by letting them choose either a tag or coloured ribbon that will help them to identify their school bag.

**A school hat is essential- it is needed everyday!** Please also ensure that your child has a change of clothes in their bag as accidents do happen.

Label everything! It is very easy for things to get lost or misplaced.

School begins at 8:30am promptly. When the music goes at 8:25am, the children line up outside their rooms and have their lunch boxes with them, ready to take them inside the room to keep cool. Their hat goes into their bag.

Do not pack too much food for your child; they will not eat it all. Please pack a drink bottle filled with water.

Please say goodbye to your child before they line up with their class and remember, a **quick goodbye is a good goodbye**. When you say goodbye, remind your child that you will be back to pick them up (or remind them of the alternative pick up arrangements).

The first two weeks your child comes to school (31<sup>st</sup> January-9<sup>th</sup> February), you can pick up your Kindergarten child from 2:30pm. Other siblings cannot be picked up early. They still finish at 2:50pm. Your child finishes at 2:50pm from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February.

At the end of the day, the children can be picked up from the classroom for the first 5 minutes. After this time, they are escorted to the COLA and supervised by the duty teacher till 3:15pm. All children **MUST** be picked up by this time.

When picking up your child from the classroom, **please do not crowd the door**. It makes it difficult for children to leave the room and actually causes anxiety with so many adults in one space. Please stand behind the marked out areas and the teacher will dismiss the children one at a time to a waiting adult. This will be slow for the first couple of weeks (and take us longer than 5 minutes) as we get to know your faces and who belongs with whom. Please be patient with us!

Please check your child's bag daily when you get home. There are often important notes for you.

**PE Uniform is to be worn on the following days:**

**Tuesday-** All of Kinder

**Wednesday-** KB and KG

**Friday-** KR and KW

**Library Borrowing** will begin shortly. Please ensure that your child has a library bag to place the books in that they wish to borrow.

**A MEET THE TEACHER BBQ** will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 from 4:30-6:30pm. Come along and enjoy a sausage sizzle and have a chat with your child's class teacher. All of the family are welcome. Please return the RSVP from the flyer that was sent home recently for catering purposes.

The teachers are very busy each morning and afternoon so if you need to have a chat, please arrange for a meeting time through the office. We will be having **Parent/Teacher interviews in Week 3** and a note on how to make an online booking will come home soon.

Make sure you have signed up for the **free app for your phone**. It is called **skoolbag**. Search for our school and join. It's that simple! You will receive the weekly school newsletter LINK as well as any messages that are sent out. You can also have a look at the school website and have the LINK emailed to you each Tuesday. There are lots of other things on the website too.

**Attendance** at school is critical to ensure success at school. We understand that children sometimes get sick and should be kept home, though keep in mind that the

more days a child has away from school, the greater the negative impact this has on his/her learning. If your child is genuinely sick, please ring the office after 9am and let us know. A short letter explaining the reason for your child's absence is required the day he/she returns to school. This is given to the class teacher.

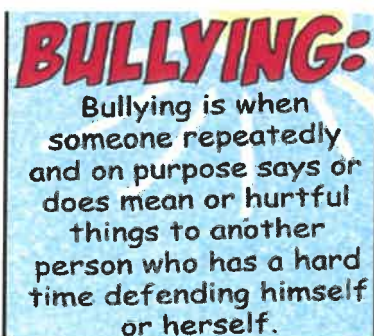
If you are late to school, you will need to sign your child in through the office.

If you need to pick up your child early, you will need to go to the office and sign your child out. We do not encourage early pickups. Please restrict them to emergencies only.

Thank you for presenting your child so beautifully in their school uniform. A reminder that suitable haircuts are an important part of our school uniform. Please refer to the LINK, the Parent Handbook or the website for details if you are unsure of our expectations.

We will be testing each child individually in Literacy and Numeracy skills using an assessment called **Best Start**. Best Start is a Kindergarten only assessment that is used extensively throughout many schools in NSW. The purpose of these assessments is to see exactly what skills your child already has and how best we can cater our teaching to their learning needs. There is no pass or fail and in fact, no marks are given! At the conclusion of the assessments you will receive a printed report outlining your child's strengths in Literacy and Numeracy. If you wish to speak to your child's class teacher about the report, this can be arranged.

From time to time we require **adult helpers** to assist with excursions, sporting carnivals, in school activities or in the classroom. If you would like to volunteer you will need to complete the 'Building Child Safe Communities' online training modules and personal declaration. Please see the attached letter for details.



Sometimes as parents we get upset when our child has a disagreement with another student and we think it is bullying. Bullying is ongoing and persistent, not a single incident. We encourage your child to talk to the duty teacher to resolve a problem. If you have any concerns, please speak to the class teacher. You are **NEVER** permitted to approach a child that is not your own (or their parents).

## **WHAT WE ARE LEARNING THIS TERM**

**RE:** *God loves me* and a lenten unit called *From Ashes to Easter*.

**English:** Learning to read, write and talk  
Learning letter names and sounds  
Nursery Rhymes

**Mathematics:** Learning to count and recognise numbers, patterns, length

**HSIE- Geography:** *My School*

**Science:** *Weather in my world*

**Creative Arts:** Visual Arts- *I know my ABC's*

Weekly Music lesson with Miss Touzell, Mrs Saliba or Mrs Burnett

**Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE):**

Weekly PE lesson with Mrs Latham or Mrs Del Duca

Gross Motor activities with the class teacher, Health unit- *I Am Special*

**Some Important Date to Remember-**

*(All details will be in the LINK or a separate information letter will be sent home)*

7<sup>th</sup> February- Meet the Teacher BBQ

8<sup>th</sup> February- Beginning Year School Mass, 9am

23<sup>rd</sup> February- Staff Development Day- children do not attend school this day

27<sup>th</sup> February- School Photos

4<sup>th</sup> March- School Open Day

16<sup>th</sup> March- National Day against bullying

29<sup>th</sup> March- Easter Hat Parade

12<sup>th</sup> April- Nursery Rhyme Day

13<sup>th</sup> April- Good Shepherd Day (and the last day of the term)

We are very excited that you have chosen Good Shepherd Primary School! We know you will love your time with us here at Good Shepherd!

**The Kindergarten Team-**



Miss Burrows (KB)



Mrs Robinson (KG)



Miss Moylan (KR)



Miss Debrincat (KW)



Mrs Hocking  
(Learning Support)



Mrs Cornett  
(Teacher Assistant)



Mrs Cooke  
(Grade Leader)