

Prep  
Parent Information  
Booklet



2017

# Welcome

We would like to welcome you to our Parent Information Night. We invite you to explore the classroom with your child asking them to show you some of the things that they have done so far this year.



**As part of our Prep program we are learning to always tidy up after ourselves before we move on to the next activity and at the end of each session. We are also trying to develop independence by encouraging them to unpack their bags, check if they have any messages in their homework folder, keep their bags zipped up and keeping track of their belongings.**

If you have any questions regarding the Prep program, please feel free to ask your child's teacher. If you wish to discuss your child's development contact us either in person, by phone, email or a written note in your child's homework folder to arrange a suitable time before or after school.

At St. Patrick's we follow the curriculum as set out by Australian Curriculum. More information on the Australian Curriculum and what Prep will need to cover this year can be found at the Australian Curriculum website <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>

## Religion

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Term 1 - How do we live in our school community?

In this unit, we will learn what it means to pray and how to pray. Children will listen to some New Testament stories that tell of a God of love and God's plan to help each other to live safely and happily together, for the good of all.

Students listen to, read and view stories of God's teachings about love, compassion and forgiveness that challenged people about the way they were living. They also learn of God's suffering, death and resurrection. Students develop an understanding that Christians believe God created people with the freedom to choose between good and bad, right and wrong. They explore

examples of times, from familiar texts and their personal experience, when people make these choices.

## English

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The English program in Prep is supported by Sound Waves, Caterpillar Handwriting, Write for Queensland, Reading Eggs and Magic Words.

In Prep, children develop their English skills through hands on activities and structured tabletop tasks.

We have begun Sound Waves activities by developing the children's knowledge of the 43 sounds of the English language. Later this term we will focus on two sounds and their corresponding letter each week.

The children will have their Sound Book in their Homework Folder each day so they can practise what they have learnt in school, at home. This year we will be adding two sounds per week to a Sound Book to match the sounds we are focusing on in the classroom. They will be glued in here at school. Please keep the sound book in your child's homework folder so we can glue these sounds in on a Wednesday.

Reading plays an important part in children's development at this age. It is essential that children experience many opportunities to read both for enjoyment and for acquiring knowledge. Some of the opportunities offered in Prep include; modelled and guided reading lead by a teacher or a parent and online story reading; such as Reading Eggs. These are offered in an individual, small group and whole class context.



Children will be taking home Sound Books, Literacy Packs and Home Readers to develop their language skills. It is important for a regular time to be set aside each day for parents to assist children in these reading and literacy tasks.

## Show and Tell

- **Formalised** - timetabled all children so as they get an opportunity to share once each week.
  - To start with our first topic of **Me**, children will bring home and complete a "Me Shirt" poster. On the shirt they will fill in special things about themselves.
- **No toys:** to be brought in for either Show and Tell or for playing at breaks.
- **Special** Show and Tell if discussed with teacher e.g. birthdays.

## Show and Tell Tasks

- T-shirt
- Mystery box
- Maths box
- Letter Box



## Maths

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Children will have a solid understanding of numbers in digit and written form to ten and be able to count to 20 and back. They will also explore 2D and 3D shapes, informal measurements, location and movement, and data collection.

## Science

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Our Term 1 unit for Science is called What's it made of? This covers the Chemical Sciences of the Prep curriculum. Children will observe and describe the behaviours and properties of everyday objects and materials.

## Humanities and Social Sciences

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Our Semester 1 unit covers personal history, special places and the past and present. Through this unit, we will also cover maps of familiar places such as our school. We will create our own class map of the school labelling familiar places we visit.

## Technology

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Digital Technology is integrated into all curriculum areas and is an essential part of the curriculum. In Prep, we will be learning how to use iPads, computers and interactive whiteboards to assist our learning.



Design Technology is where children select appropriate materials for different purposes etc. Collage and model building.

## Health and Physical Education

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Health and Physical Education will be covered through our connected curriculum unit - All about Mel; which covers healthy eating and body awareness. We also will be running daily fine and gross motor activities.

## Library

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Library - Friday with a catch up time on a Tuesday

- Bring red library bag into school on Friday and please put them in their drawer. If the books are forgotten on a Friday please remember to return them on the following Monday or Tuesday.

## Mornings

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Classroom opens at 8.30am. This is depending on teacher availability.

All children without parents are to be sitting on the concrete outside the hall until the classroom opens.

Main Playground supervised from 8.20am.

**No playing on school equipment before or after school.**

**Late or leaving early** - please go to office to sign in (receive a late slip) and sign out.

## Afternoons

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There are five different supervised options for collecting your child from school. There are two car pickup areas on Church St and Blight St, walking to the college with the bus line, classroom collection or collection from the office. In Prep we supervise the classroom until 3.10. If you are running late and have not collected your child by then we will walk them over to the office.

If there are any changes to their usual routine please let the teacher know through email or in person.

Please note that on Wednesday and Friday afternoons there will only be one teacher supervising as the other will be on duty at Church Street.

**Please make sure there are no children playing on the boat during pick up time even if their parent is supervising.**

## Homework

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Prep's homework tasks will consist of Magic Words, Literacy Packs, Sound Book, prepared Show and Tell tasks and Reading.

**Reading:** library books, levelled home readers



**Literacy Packs;** returned every Tuesday and sent home Wednesday.

**Magic Words;** practiced every day and children are assessed once a fortnight or sooner if needed.

**Sound Book;** please keep these in their homework folder.

**Show and Tell** on their assigned day each week.

**Star of the Week** – once a year and children will bring home guidelines and some instructions when it is their turn.

## Parent Classroom Helpers

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We welcome parent help in many ways in Prep. We have formal times when parent help is required for rotations, individual or group



activities. We will send home any changes that occur to our timetables over the course of the year.

This term we will be requiring parent help on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.45.

Please remember that if you are helping in any way at school you need to have filled out a parent volunteer package that is available from the office.

### **Food at school**

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**Healthy Food Break** - fruit, vegetables, cheese, yoghurt.

**Please help us by having your fruit or vegetable cut up into bite size pieces.**

**Lunch - Eating time.** Sandwiches or similar. Save chips, cakes, muesli bars, breakfast bars etc. for afternoon tea.

**Please no lollies or nuts!**

➤ **Tuckshop** - Monday, Wednesday and Friday

The tuckshop boxes are in each classroom. It helps if having afternoon tea to use 2 bags; one for lunch and one for afternoon tea.

#### **BEING IN A NUT-FREE ENVIRONMENT**

This year, as in all recent previous years we have a small number of children enrolled in the school who have severe allergic reactions to some foods in particular peanuts, nuts and eggs. With some of these students their reaction is so severe that their life is endangered by contact with them. **For this reason, we ask that families do not send food containing peanuts, nuts or nut-based products. Peanut paste, in particular, because it can stick to hands so easily, is one product that we encourage all families not to send to school.**

Parents can help minimize the possibility of an allergic reaction by reminding your child not to share their food and to wash their hands before and after eating. Please also assist by removing all traces of food from your child's (and

toddlers coming into the classroom) face, hands and clothes, if it is possible that they have eaten anything containing nuts. Please do not send any items to school for box constructions which have contained any nut products. **We realize that this may not always be possible, but every effort you can make, will be certainly appreciated by these children, their parents and the staff at St Patrick's.**

## Health and Safety

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For health and safety reasons we are not permitted to heat up food for children's lunches.



There is a policy for bringing animals into the school grounds. If your child would like to bring in a pet for show and tell then please speak to the class teacher or Vickie McEnery in the office.

## Hand Washing

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Students are encouraged to wash hands before and after eating at every break.

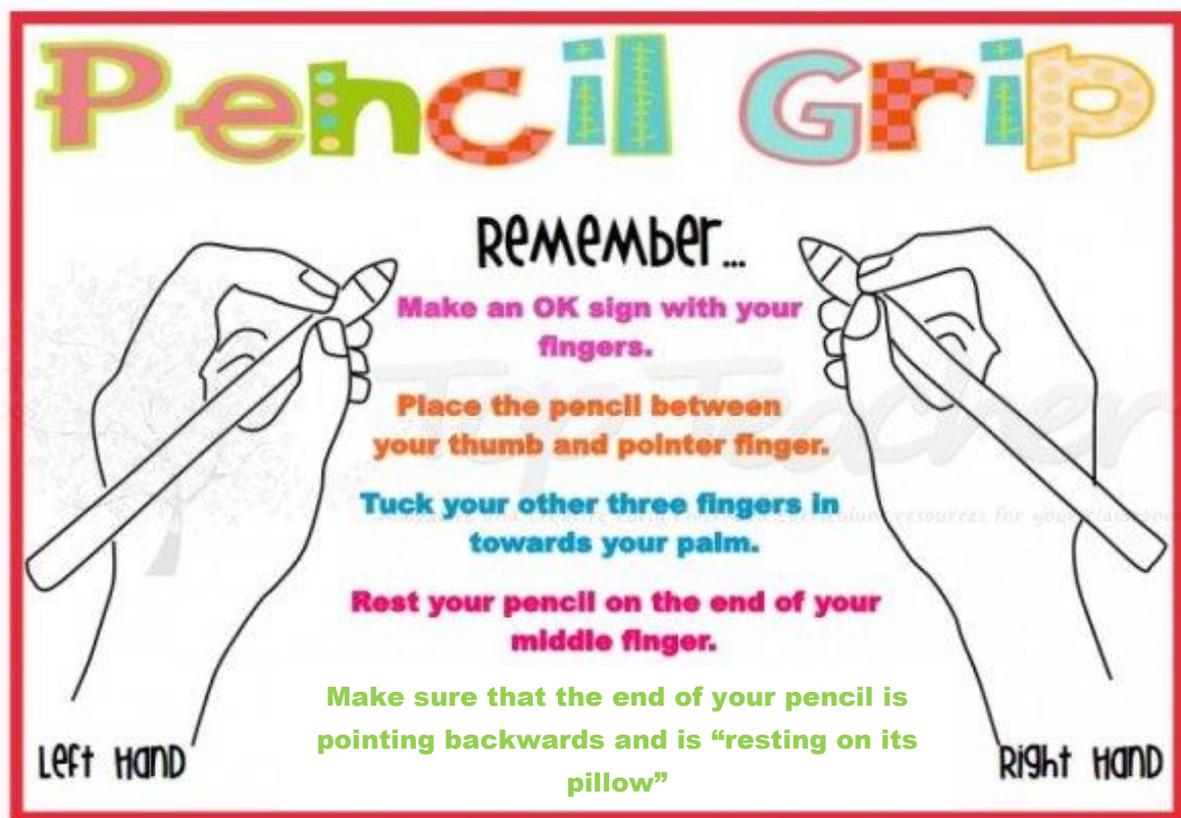
Each student should have an individual washer hung outside the classroom to dry hands. The washers are sent home every Friday, ready to be washed and returned Monday.



## Handwriting and pencil grip

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Handwriting with the correct pencil grip is important to begin good habits and enables fluency when in the older year levels.



If you wish to discuss any concerns about your child, please feel free to contact us to arrange a suitable out of school time to meet. You can phone the school, write a note or send an email.

Best contact is by email - checked once daily Monday to Friday.

- Charmaine - [cfrancis@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cfrancis@bne.catholic.edu.au)
- Kim - [kweier@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:kweier@bne.catholic.edu.au)

*Please make sure your email address is up to date with the school office so we can contact you also.*

## USE OF EMAILS

As you can appreciate, your children are our priority. Giving our students our full attention is paramount. For this reason, it is not possible for our staff to be constantly checking emails. The teaching staff have been asked to respond to emails within a 24-hour turn-around during the working week. Therefore, if it is something that needs immediate action a message through the school office is a lot more practical. Using social media to ask staff questions about school issues is not the best option.

All teachers will communicate their work email address and will endeavour to respond to emails within 24hours from Monday to Friday.

Prep W Timetable

Term 1	Monday D8.45-3.00	Tuesday D 9.30-3.00	Wednesday D9.00-2.30	Thursday D 8.45-3.30	Friday
8.15-9.00	Morning Routine	Morning Routine	Morning Routine	Morning Routine	Assembly
9.00-9.30	8.55-9.20 Literacy Rotations	8.55-9.20 Literacy Rotations	8.50-9.30 Social Skills	8.55-9.45 Motor program Magic Games Rotations	
9.30-10.00	Maths Number	9.30-10.10 Music	9.30-10.10 PE		Religion
10.00-10.30	Healthy Snack	Healthy Snack	Healthy Snack	Healthy Snack	Healthy Snack
	10-10.40 Gymnastics	Connected Curriculum	Maths	Connected Curriculum	Motor Skills Fort
10.30-10.50	Casey Handwriting				English
					Maths
10.50-11.15	Duty – Prep/Bball crts		Duty – Fort/Sandpit		
11.15-11.30					
11.30-12.00	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading
12.00-12.30	English Sound Waves 12.00 Meditation	Maths	English Sound Waves	Maths Rotatfons	Connected Curriculum
12.30-1.00	Religion	Library Catch Up	Buddies		Religion
1.00-1.30	5 mins supervised eating time	Line up Prayer Duty – Sandpit Oval		Line up Prayer	
1.30-1.45	Pack bags, show and tell, story time	Pack bags, show and tell, story time	Pack bags, show and tell, story time	Pack bags, show and tell, story time	Pack bags, show and tell, story time
1.45-2.30	Daily 5 Social Play	Active outdoor play Motor Skills	Daily 5 Social Play Motor Skills	Active outdoor play	Daily 5 Social Play
2.30-3.00	Show and tell	Religion	Show and Tell 2.55 Prep W/F Go Noodle	Religion	Show and Tell 2.55 Prep W/F Go Noodle
3.00-	ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD		STACK CHAIRS		STACK CHAIRS Duty – Church Street

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Prep Gold F Time Table Term One					
Time	Monday tuckshop	Tuesday	Wednesday tuckshop	Thursday	Friday tuckshop
8:50			8:50-9:30		
9:00	8:55 – 9:20 Literacy rotations Whole Prep	8:55 – 9:20 Literacy rotations Whole Prep	PE: non-contact	8:55-9:45 Magic Games and motor skills rotations Whole Prep	Assembly
9:30	Healthy snack	Healthy snack	9:30-10:10 Social skills non-contact	Healthy snack	Healthy snack
	Phonics: Sound Waves	Phonics: Sound Waves		Phonics: Sound Waves	Phonics: Sound Waves
10:00	10:00-10:40 Gymnastics	10:10-10:50 Music non-contact	Healthy snack Casey Caterpillar & Handwriting	Religion	Religion
	Maths: number				
10:50		Prep basketball			
11:15			Supervised eating		
11:30	Guided reading	Religion	Religion	Science	Connected curriculum
12:00	Whole school meditation Religion	Maths	Connected curriculum	HASS	Library
12:30	Maths	Buddies & Library catch up		English	
1:00			Supervised eating		
1:05	Main Oval				Prep basketball
1:30	Guided reading	Guided reading	Guided reading	Guided reading	Guided reading
1:45	Daily 5	Active Outdoor Play (motor dev for one activity)	Daily 5	Active Outdoor Play (motor dev for one activity)	Daily 5
2:00			Prayer		Prayer
2:30	Pack bags and show and tell	Pack bags and show and tell	Pack bags and show and tell	Pack bags and show and tell	Pack bags and show and tell
2:55	Prayer	Prayer	Go Noodle in Prep W	Prayer	Go Noodle in Prep F
3:00			Church street		