Welcome to our first Term of the year and what an exciting year we have in store.

Firstly we must mention how pleased we are with the way your children have settled into the routine of school. They are long days and most are coping remarkably well. Some children are still a bit tired by the end of the day. Please make sure your child has good sleep routines - to bed by 7.30pm is a good guide.

Thank you to our parents who have refrained from waving through windows and having a peek through the glass. The children become easily distracted at this stage of the year and we are helping them establish daily routines that will assist them to have a smooth start and end to each day.

We encourage all our parents to access the parent tab on our school website to view further timely information relevant to Foundation.

**TAKE HOME BOOKS**

Home reading is about to begin and we would like you to please take the time to read the information provided in the letter entitled ‘Shared Reading in Foundation’. This is an ideal time for you to create an ongoing routine for home reading including the daily return of the ‘Take-Home’ book.

At the moment the children will be bringing home books for you to read to them. This will continue for most of Term 1.

---

**ASSEMBLY ETIQUETTE**

During Assembly it is essential that we give teachers and students the room to move around the courtyard. That is why we kindly ask that parents stand towards the sides and back of assembly rather than next to the Art room.

**SPECIALISTS**

Our specialist program has begun so if you haven’t already done so, please remember to supply your child with an art smock, library bag and velcro runners if possible. It is essential that your child wear the appropriate footwear for P.E.

**SCHOOL BELL TIMES**

Our recess and lunch times are as follows:
- 9.00am: School starts
- 11.00-11:30am: Morning snack
- 1.30-1.40pm: Lunch eating
- 1.40-2.30pm: Lunchtime
- 3.30pm: Dismissal
SUN SMART
Please remember that as we are a Sunsmart school, hats are required to be worn Term 1 and beginning again in Term 4. Hats will now be kept at school in your child’s tub. Please make sure that your child's hat is clearly named. Also that your child has some sunscreen to use at school.

IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATES
Could your child’s Immunisation Certificates please be handed into the office if you haven’t done so already. It is important we have these records on file.

BLUES SATCHELS
All notices and home reading items come home in the blue satchel. It will be sent home each day so please check this daily, empty and share the contents, and have your child pack their satchel back in their school bag ready for the next day. It is important to tell your child when you put a note in their blue satchel so they know to pass it on to their teacher first thing in the morning.

EARLY DISMISSAL OR LATE ARRIVAL
Please remember that if you need to pick your child up early or if they arrive late, you must sign them in or out at the Office, before going to their classroom.

HEAD LICE
Please check your child’s hair regularly as unfortunately Head Lice is always a possibility. If your child has long hair it is best to keep it tied back.

RUBBISH FREE LUNCHES - SNACK TIME
As part of our schools strong environmental focus, we would like all families to participate in sending their children to school with rubbish free lunches on Mondays. This hopefully ensures that there are no wrappers or containers that your child would need to dispose of during the day. Compartment lunch boxes are a great way to pack your child’s lunch without the additional packaging. If you can do this everyday, that would be fantastic! Morning break-(Snack time) is a good time for our children to eat fruit and maybe one sandwich and leave the treat type food for after their lunch. This helps with children having adequate time to eat a less bulky lunch and spreads the nutrition across the day.

UNIFORMS
Could you please be vigilant in naming your children’s uniforms. The polar fleeces are difficult to name so may we suggest stitching a name tag on, in a prominent position, as they are not a cheap item of clothing.

HEAD LICE
Please check your child’s hair regularly as unfortunately Head Lice is always a possibility. If your child has long hair it is best to keep it tied back.

Upcoming dates to remember

Monday 9th March - Labour Day Holiday
Thursday 19th March - Excursion to Kew Traffic School
Wednesday 25th March - Grandparents Day

TEACHER CONTACTS
Here are our email addresses. Please use these as a means of contact regarding your child if you are not able to come in and see us. We will endeavor to reply to your emails ASAP, however, we cannot guarantee a reply on the same day that you send it. A note or email is mandatory if your child is absent from school for any reason, this can be done on COMPASS. We are looking forward to getting to know your child and your family over the coming year.

osborne.jaclyn.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
holloway.shane.t@edumail.vic.gov.au
williams.tamara.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
richards.dianne.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

EARLY DISMISSAL OR LATE ARRIVAL
Please remember that if you need to pick your child up early or if they arrive late, you must sign them in or out at the Office, before going to their classroom.

BLUE SATCHELS
All notices and home reading items come home in the blue satchel. It will be sent home each day so please check this daily, empty and share the contents, and have your child pack their satchel back in their school bag ready for the next day. It is important to tell your child when you put a note in their blue satchel so they know to pass it on to their teacher first thing in the morning.

HEAD LICE
Please check your child’s hair regularly as unfortunately Head Lice is always a possibility. If your child has long hair it is best to keep it tied back.

RUBBISH FREE LUNCHES - SNACK TIME
As part of our schools strong environmental focus, we would like all families to participate in sending their children to school with rubbish free lunches on Mondays. This hopefully ensures that there are no wrappers or containers that your child would need to dispose of during the day. Compartment lunch boxes are a great way to pack your child’s lunch without the additional packaging. If you can do this everyday, that would be fantastic! Morning break-(Snack time) is a good time for our children to eat fruit and maybe one sandwich and leave the treat type food for after their lunch. This helps with children having adequate time to eat a less bulky lunch and spreads the nutrition across the day.

UNIFORMS
Could you please be vigilant in naming your children’s uniforms. The polar fleeces are difficult to name so may we suggest stitching a name tag on, in a prominent position, as they are not a cheap item of clothing.

HEAD LICE
Please check your child’s hair regularly as unfortunately Head Lice is always a possibility. If your child has long hair it is best to keep it tied back.
INTERPERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

‘At Foundation, students identify the qualities of a friend and demonstrate care of other students. They contribute to the development of positive social relationships in a range of contexts. They use appropriate language and actions when dealing with conflict. Students describe basic skills required to work cooperatively in groups.’

In the classroom the students will learn to play constructively together and are encouraged to develop friendships with their peers. Students learn to manage their impulses by developing habits and routines that help them to be a cooperative class member. They develop a vocabulary to describe the emotions they experience when interacting with others. With teacher support they begin to develop skills related to working in a group, including taking turns, sharing equipment and resources. The students are encouraged to reflect on their experiences of working with others and they practise skills that contribute to formation of positive relationships.

When playing games and taking part in other classroom activities the students will practise listening to others and retelling what they have heard. Students are supported to develop appropriate language to explain what happens and how they feel when experiencing conflict. They begin to understand how their actions affect others. Students also learn that some people have special needs and to respect the rights, feelings and efforts of others.

Our Investigative Learning Program engages students in a range of learning activities where they can practise and further develop their social and emotional skills in a supportive environment.

INTERPERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT HOME

Parents can reinforce the learning focus as outlined above. Discuss ways your child can further develop their friendships and how to engage in positive social behaviours. When sharing ideas with the family take time to discuss clarity of speech as your child uses oral language to communicate with others, both children and adults. Some discussion points:

What does being a good friend mean? Do you need to be friends with everyone? Some friends need to have some days where they play with others, how will you manage? Children need to develop strategies to use to assist them build up resilience to help them manage their reactions to life’s little mishaps and less favourable situations and events.
ART

Students will explore and with guidance, a variety of Arts elements, both on their own and in combination to develop skills, techniques and use a wide range of materials. Students will explore drawing, collage and painting as a start and will build up their vocabulary when discussing art works.
All students will be required to have a smock to protect their clothing.

L.O.T.E

Language other than English
(Indonesian)

What fun the Foundation classes had in their first Indonesian lesson! For the rest of Term 1 they will have a 40 minute Indonesian lesson each week on Tuesday. Our LOTE room is in the Senior block. You are very welcome to pop in for a look if you are in the school. Most of our Indonesian in Term 1 will be spoken Indonesian, with lots of games and songs.

Let the fun continue!
STUDENT AWARDS

This year we will be giving parents notification about when your child will be receiving an award at assembly. You may like to be present and share in your child’s achievement.

Please check your child’s satchel for a ‘Shhhh! note by Friday which will be in there if your child is receiving a special award.

FREE DRESS BIRTHDAYS

On your child’s birthday ( or the next day if weekend) we celebrate their special day by having the option to wear ‘out of uniform’ clothes.

We recommend this website to parents, it has some excellent articles and tips for parents and teachers. www.raisingchildren.net.au