

WELCOME to KINDERGARTEN

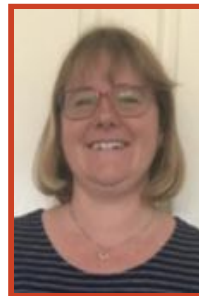


Dear Kinder Parents and Carers

We welcome you to Kindergarten, 2020! Thank you for trusting us with the care and education of your treasured child in their first year of school. We are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, fun and new experiences!

Our Kinder Teaching Teams for 2020 are:

Mrs Sarah McKinnon, Mrs Lyn Kelly and Mrs Alison Young in KM



Mrs Laura Stapleton and Mrs Veronica Hawkins in KS



Educational Assistants - Briony Butt and Josie Wilton



We look forward to getting to know you better over the coming weeks.

Here are a few things as we begin the new year....

Morning Routine

Each morning the children will need to put their reading folder in the box outside their classroom door. We ask you to remind them to do this, but please encourage the children to do this themselves in order to develop their independence. From 8:30am the children will go out to the playground with the teacher on duty. Children are not allowed to remain on the cement playground. In the early days you are welcome to go on to the playground with your child if they are feeling unsure. The children are able to play on the adventure playground in the mornings.



Afternoon Routine

The children will walk to homelines with their class and then sit down together in the hall to wait for parents. Please do not call for your child as we are walking to the hall as we need to ensure we know where all children are at all times. The children will be asked to receive a stamp on their hand from the teacher as they say goodbye once you arrive. The bus children will be taken to the bus lines by our Educational Assistants and shown where to sit. When you are ready for your child to catch the bus please send in a note with the days and bus number. If your afternoon plans change or someone different is picking up your child please send in a note.

Crunch & Sip

At St Joseph's we encourage the children to bring in each day a small container of fruit or vegetables that they can enjoy at a time we call 'Crunch & Sip'. Please cut the fruit up so that it is manageable and if needed put in a separate container. Children are also encouraged to bring a water bottle into the classroom each day.



School Routines

- 8:55am start of school day
- 11:00am-11:40am Lunch 1 ("big lunch")
- 1:40pm-2:10pm Lunch 2 ("afternoon tea")
- 3:10pm end of school day

Please help children to know what is in their lunch box for Lunch 1 (big lunch) and Lunch 2 (afternoon tea). The canteen is open only at Lunch 1. Lunch can be ordered online by 8:30am or in labelled paper bags or envelopes. Please put lunch orders in the basket outside the canteen in the mornings prior to class starting.



Home Learning

Your child will be bringing their reading folders home each day to share with you. We ask that you check these daily, as this is where you will find notes and some work samples your children have created. Starting Week 4 (17th February) we will start to send home individualised sight word sheets. Each week the children are asked to practise the sight words at home. Students will receive a new set of sight words once they are tested off at school. A combination of home readers and picture books will also be sent home soon as a Home Learning task. Please empty the folder each night and return

just the Home Learning book and reader. You can also place notes for the teacher in the folder as it is checked first thing in the morning each day.

Kindergarten Buddies

Each Kinder child is partnered with a Year 5 student. The Year 5's will assist the children during lunch breaks and have come and visited our classrooms during the first week to do some craft activities together. A wonderful relationship is formed between the children and we have several get togethers during the year.

Sport

Please note that our sport days are Thursday and Friday - this is when children wear their Sport Uniform. This Term the children are learning Gymnastics skills. We also have PE (Physical Education) lessons during the week.

Normal uniform- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sports uniform-Thursday and Friday.

Library

Each week the children will visit the library and borrow a book to bring home. Our **Library day is Wednesday**. This will start Week 3. Please ensure you have a library bag for your child. Students without a library bag will be unable to borrow a book. This can be as simple as a shopping bag or pillowcase. Please return any library books you have at home on Tuesday in their library bag.



This is an overview of your child's learning this Term.

In Religious Education, we begin by learning how we can establish simple prayer routines with a focus on the Sign of the Cross. Key symbols and religious objects in the school and parish environment are explored. Lent and Holy Week will follow as we move towards the Easter season. Students are introduced to Jesus as the one who loves us, who seeks out the lost, who humbly serves others and who provides nourishment.

In English students will read and respond to a variety of stories in different modes. The concept for our English unit is **retelling stories and rhyme**. The unit has a focus on speaking and listening, group interaction skills and responding to texts. Students will focus on using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces consistently.

In Mathematics our lessons will be varied across all strands, however there will be a strong focus on counting and recognising numbers. We will be using a variety of materials such as counters, dice, pop sticks and blocks to assist with developing an understanding of quantity. We will also be learning about interpreting data, creating and continuing patterns, solving addition and subtraction problems and measuring volume and capacity.

In Science and Technology, our unit of work is called 'How does your garden grow?' where we will learn that all living things have needs to survive and that we can use living things to help us survive. It will certainly spark the interest of these inquisitive little minds! Through working scientifically the children will explore the needs of animals and plants and compare them to their own needs.

Our little Historians will be provided with the opportunity to learn about their own history and that of their family. Students will learn how the stories of families and the past can be communicated. We will also explore different structures of families and lastly, how families and friends commemorate past events.

In Creative Arts, the children will enjoy developing their skills in Drama and Visual Arts. Drama lessons will focus on exploring role-play, improvisation, story telling, mime and movement. In Visual Arts, students will experiment with colour, texture, line and shape, with a focus on self-portraiture and ceramics.

In Physical Education students will practise using their Fundamental Movement Skills. In Health children will explore what makes them special and learn how to develop good relationships with their family, friends and others.

We look forward to working in partnership with you this year!

Kind Regards

Your Kindergarten Teaching Team



Afternoon travel arrangements

To ensure your child's safety and reduce any potential anxiety, we like to be clear on the afternoon travel arrangements for your child. Please take a moment to complete the details below and return it to your class teacher at your earliest convenience.

..... Please tear off and return ASAP

My child in classwill travel home as follows:

Please tick	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Bus Please include which bus					
Home Lines Please collect from the Hall not the classroom or the class line on the way to the Hall					

Other information (if necessary)
