Lundavra State School

Prep 2009
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Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to Lundavra State School Prep Year. Prep is the first year of the Early Phase of Learning which spans from Prep to Year 3.

Whole School Philosophy

Creating and sustaining a LEARNING COMMUNITY
Where everyone continually learns and grows

Through

Learners who:
- are unique individuals
- have a broad interest in knowledge and life experience which affects the meaning they gain from new learning
- learn in many different ways and different stages
- are resilient and self confident

Learning which:
- is a lifelong process
- is more effective when it is
  a.) is supportive, collaborative, challenging, relevant, meaningful and fun
  b.) involves active partnerships
Early Years Philosophy

Leading To

Lifelong Learners who:
• Are enthusiastic about continued learning
• Have a breadth of grounding with a strong moral and ethical foundation

These Understandings and Beliefs about Young Children underpin our Early Years Philosophy.

Our children:

• come from diverse backgrounds, are at varied stages of development and have varied learning styles
• work best in a safe environment with flexible, meaningful activities
• benefit from strong working partnerships between families and the school community

How Young Children Learn

Our children learn best:

Through multi-sensory experiences and active exploration incorporating Physical, Intellectual, Language, Emotional and Social skills
• in a non-competitive environment where efforts are valued
• in a supportive environment where learning is built around prior experiences
• when involved in developmentally appropriate decision making
• where flexibility and routine co-exist
The Role of the Early Childhood Teacher

The teacher:-
- is a facilitator
- is a co-ordinator
- develops social skills
- values child-centred learning
- develops partnerships
- develops and implements age appropriate curriculum
- is a resource manager
- supports all stakeholders
- understands the phases of child development

The Unique Characteristics of the Lundavra Community

- Strong academic focus
- Senior Leader program and Student Council gives students a voice
- Buddy system allowing our Early Years to share and celebrate success
- Cross campus music program with instrumental music commencing in Year 3
- Cluster school with an SEU for students with ASD and II with a strong commitment for mainstreaming these students
- Caters for other students with disabilities ASD, II, HI, VI, PI and SLI
- Education Queensland
- A dedicated team of teachers, teacher aides and support staff work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for our students

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**Student Health**

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<th>Required immunisations and Boosters</th>
<th>A Complete Health Examination</th>
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<td>These may include diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella.</td>
<td>(It's a good idea!) The examination should include speech, hearing and vision tests. These tests can spot problems that could interfere with learning early on.</td>
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**Teach your Child to be Safe**

*Try to make your child familiar with his or her:
NEVER TALK TO STRANGERS
Habits that will help at school

Putting Things Away
Setting a regular pick-up time is a good way to develop responsibility and the ability to organise.

Learning to Listen
Being able to follow directions is a necessity at school.

Doing Simple Chores
Being responsible for regular household tasks teaches reliability.

Getting Along With Others
The ability to work with others plus a sense of helping, caring and sharing are vital for children entering school.

Learning to use Scissors
Children do many cutting and gluing activities at school. Being able to do these activities easily is an advantage when beginning school.

Dressing Self
Encourage independence. As swimming begins in Term 1, children will need to be able to manipulate zips, buttons and tie shoelaces. If Children cannot tie laces please purchase Velcro shoes.

Independence
It is important to foster a feeling of independence right from Day One. We appeal to parents for all beginning pupils to:

- Allow your child to carry his/her school bag
- Walk unaccompanied to the classroom after the first week or two.
- Exceptions of course exist if the parent(s) wish to speak with the teacher.
- Search for lost property, especially if it’s an item which **HAS** to be in the classroom.

**Parental Involvement**

An invitation is extended to all parents to be active and involved in their child’s schooling.

There will be many opportunities for parents to be involved in a wide variety of classroom activities. Your child’s teacher will be extending appeals for help very early in Term Once. Hopefully you will be able to respond positively to these invitations to assist.

**Drop Off and Pick Up**

Parents/carers are requested to drop your child off and pick up from the bottom car park out in front of the Swimming pool. The other car parks will be locked from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. and 2:45 to 3:15 p.m.

**School Day**

Begins at 8:50am. Please be on time as we begin work then and it teaches children about punctuality. The school day finishes at 3:00pm. Please be punctual or make sure arrangements have been made and discussed if there is to be a change as young children panic (5 minutes can seem like an hour to a 5 year old). Please try to avoid phoning the office to pass on messages unless it is urgent.

**Naming of Possessions**

The ongoing cost of preparing a child for school can be drastically reduced by **NAMING EVERY ITEM** that your child brings to school. (The exception being those items identified on the booklist).

As our school has an active swimming program, hats, uniforms, underwear, togs, towels, shoes and even socks **MUST BE NAMED** as no child ever seems to be able to identify an item of clothing once they are not wearing it. When you multiply 50 children with the number of items belonging to each child, the naming of clothing and possession limits the problem of lost property.
**Dress Code**

All Prep children are expected to wear the school uniform.

**Handy Hints**

Have you child practice eating lunch from their lunch box over the holidays and opening packets, poppers, distinguishing ‘little lunch’ from ‘big lunch’ etc.

- Include a spare set of underwear in your child’s port.
- Purchase the uniform and shoes before the end of school to beat the rush and also to let them get used to dressing for school independently (but don’t let them wear it out before they get to school!!)

**Toys**

It is a school rule that toys from home not be brought to school as this can cause problems:-

- the toys can be broken and children get upset
- the children give the toys away without permission from their parents
- the children argue over the toys and their ownership

**Birthdays**

Children may celebrate their birthday at school by bringing an iced cake or thirty small patty cakes to be shared with the other children. They may also bring a gift for show and tell if they wish.

**Choosing Your Child’s Bag**
A practical school bag can help your child to organise their school life........ just like the way we choose a practical briefcase or handbag.

Everyday your child will need to fit these items into their school bag. Please make sure they fit easily.
- Lunch Box
- Hat
- Water bottle

Zips are easier than clasps or drawstrings for young children to manage independently.

Make sure your child can open and close the zips. Encourage him or her to **ALWAYS** zip up their bag when it is not in use so items do not fall out.

Encourage independence. Let your child be responsible for packing and unpacking their own bag each day. Of course reminders will be needed initially. It is a small job but will help them develop a responsible attitude towards their belongings.

Allow your child to carry their school bag to and from school. Make sure that they are the ones who actually put their school bag on the port racks. This will ensure that they know where it is at break times.

Here are some other items that your child will need to bring to or from school sometime during the week. It would be extraordinary if all these items had to be at school on the same day…. but there will certainly be days when the load is big. Try to buy a school bag that will accommodate these items.
- library bag
- jumper
- swimming bag (can be attached if it does not fit)