

Tarwin Lower Primary School

Prep Information

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Kindergarten / Prep Transition Program

The transition dates for 2018 are:

Wednesday October 31st, 9 – 11

Monday November 12th, 9 – 11

Wednesday November 28th, 9 – 11

Tuesday December 11th, 9 – 11 (State-Wide Transition Day)

Please note parents are not required to stay at school during the transition days. However, on Tuesday 11th of December, we will run a parent information session at 9.00 in the staff room to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

If you would like further information about the transition dates, please fill in the following form. Filling in the form will also give you and your child the opportunity to attend incursions and other special days we have at school, for example, puppet shows. This will help your child become familiar with the school in a relaxed and fun atmosphere.

Please do not hesitate to ring if you have any queries or to make an appointment for a tour of the school.



Learning About our Native Wildlife
Holding a baby wombat





Readiness for School

Most children make the transition from home to school with ease. By beginning school your child will build on what they have learnt at home and Kindergarten.

Each child begins school at varying stages of their development. All children are capable of learning and will learn in different ways and at different rates.

Below is information about the key skills and attitudes that assist children with positively responding to the many aspects of school life.

Physical Development

Students will find transition smoother if they have;

- Good general health
- Stamina to last a full day/week at school
- Eye/hand coordination – for using classroom equipment and for play outdoors
- An ability to see things that are up close or in the distance and concentrate for long periods
- Body control – an ability to join in playground games and to sit for long periods

Self-Care

It is useful for students to be able to;

- Recognise thirst, hunger, hot, cold
- Open and close bags, lunch boxes, drink bottles
- Toilet independently – that is, be aware of when to go to the toilet, as well as be able to dress and wash hands after toileting
- Use a tissue correctly
- Recognise and take responsibility for their own belongings
- Take off and put on articles of clothing, including shoes, independently
- Eat lunch independently

Social Development

Students' transition will be easier if they are;

- Able to relate to unfamiliar adults
- Able to play/work with other children without adult supervision
- Able to share, take turns and recognise the rights of others
- Keen to be with other children and play in a friendly way

Intellectual Development

We understand students come with different levels of understanding, however it is beneficial if they;

- Know their age and where they live
- Are able to recognise their name
- Feel confident asking questions
- Can understand and follow rules

Emotional Development

Students will settle into school if they are able to;

- Feel positive about school
- Separate from parents/carers cheerfully
- Cope with a variety of new situations
- Accept re-direction without temper tantrums
- Ask for help when needed
- Stand up for own rights
- Apologise/make amends
- Have a go, even when tasks are difficult
- Work independently for reasonable periods of time
- Have an “I can do that” attitude

Language Development

Students will find transition easier if they;

- Can be understood by people who don't know them well
- Are able to speak clearly and confidently to other children and adults
- Can express needs and wants
- Make eye contact when speaking and listening
- Can use greetings and social conventions, for example “Excuse me”
- Can join in and retells songs, rhymes and chants
- Are able to remember and talk about things they have seen or done
- Can respond to simple instructions, for example, “Pass the pen and paper please”



How You Can Help

Before they begin school

- Ensure your child attends transition days.
- Familiarise your child with the school prior to starting, such as the location of the playground, toilets, classrooms, and travel routes/arrangements.
- Read stories with your child daily.
- Go past the school and talk to your child about how they will soon be going there, the exciting things they will do and the friends they will make.
- Go shopping together to buy a special lunch box, drink bottle and school bag. Order and collect school uniform from the office before the end of school 2018.
- Label all your child's belongings with their name.
- Teach your child how to look after their own belongings.

Once the year starts

- Organise play dates to help your child socialise with the other children in their class.
- Have a routine each morning as you and your child get ready to go to school.
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time, as both key learning and socialising occurs as soon as they day begins.
- Have regular sleeping habits and reasonable bed times. Once school starts you will probably find that your child is tired. This is normal as they adjust to their busy days at school.
- Make sure they eat a nourishing breakfast and provide your child with a nutritious lunch and snack to keep them energised through the day. Prep students are encouraged to bring an additional piece of fruit for a brain break during the busy morning.
- Talk with your child about their day when they get home. Your enthusiasm is important for them to see and feel, and will show them that school is important.
- Involve your child in the world around them, for example, take them shopping, to the beach, park, or picnics.
- Get to know your child's teacher, don't hesitate to talk to them about your child and what is happening at school. For an in depth meeting, please make an appointment.
- Have realistic expectations – change and new experiences are challenging for children and adults alike.

Helping your child have a positive first experience of school is important as it can help shape the way they think about school in the future. Once school starts, we encourage parents to be actively involved. Children love it when a significant person in their life comes along to help out in the classroom or around the school.

Your ongoing support will help your child build strong foundations for success as a life-long learner.



Learning at School

School provides many new experiences and challenges, which will lead to your child developing new skills and independence. The curriculum in the Prep year is designed to provide a solid foundation which children need for success in later schooling.

LITERACY: Every morning Preps complete an uninterrupted two-hour Literacy block which includes Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. At Tarwin Lower Primary School, the Preps are taught the 42 letter sounds using the highly successful and engaging Jolly Phonics Program. Your child will be introduced to one sound per day, quickly developing their reading and writing skills.

NUMERACY: All classes complete one hour of numeracy per day. The Prep numeracy sessions consist of hands on activities as they explore numbers to 20, simple addition and subtraction problems, shapes and patterns.

INTEGRATED STUDIES: Each term all students are exposed to a new topic based around the curriculum areas of Science, History and Design & Technology. Integrated studies are based on the Inquiry Learning Approach.

MUSIC: Each week all classes are scheduled for a one-hour specialist Music program. Students are taught many new songs and learn to play a variety of instruments including; drums, keyboards, marimbas, shakers and tambourines. There are various music performances throughout the year to showcase the students' talent.

ART: Each week all classes are scheduled for a one-hour Art program. Students complete different art activities and learn different art techniques and mediums. Their vibrant work is displayed throughout the school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Each week all classes receive a 50-minute Physical Education lesson. During this lesson, Prep students develop basic motor skills and movement patterns such as running, hopping, jumping, skipping, catching, throwing, kicking, rolling, balancing, twisting and turning. Later they develop the capacity to link these skills into more complex and coordinated movement sequences and games. Swimming lessons are held during the year, and a Junior Athletics carnival is held in Term 4.

MARC VAN: Each week the mobile library arrives at Tarwin Lower Primary School. The Preps have a scheduled one-hour lesson each week with a specialist library teacher. During these sessions students are allowed to borrow books. They learn the features of libraries as well as different book types through fun and engaging activities.

LOTE: Each week students will have an hour of Indonesian. During these lessons they will develop their understanding of the language and culture, through activities, games and craft.

HOME LEARNING: Tarwin Lower Primary School believes that a strong and positive home school relationship is integral to educational success for your child. There is an

expectation that your child will read every night. Reading each day is incredibly important for your child's academic development. Studies have found students who read daily perform better across a range of curriculum areas and reading for 20 minutes per night equates to around 180,000,000 words per year.

EXCURSIONS: Excursions are regularly scheduled throughout the year to tie in with the integrated studies learning that takes place in the classroom. These excursions are both local and to the city. Tarwin Lower Primary School has a strong relationship with surrounding primary schools and we often coordinate activities together. We also have regular incursions at the school from visiting performers and expert presenters.



Prep Pre-enrolment for 2019

PREP PRE ENROLMENT FORM

Tarwin Lower Primary School will contact you with information regarding Prep Transition Days and also to let you know about upcoming events that your child may like to participate in, such as visiting performers, cultural days etc.

Name of Child: _____

Parent Name(S): _____

Home Phone: _____

Mobile No: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Preschool: _____