Rosalie Pre-Primary

Information Booklet

2014

A Big Welcome
to
Rosalie Pre-Primary

proud tradition - shaping futures
You may wish to keep this booklet handy as your Pre-Primary guide.

Within the booklet you will find out all about your child’s Pre-Primary year, the way our program is organised and implemented and the outcomes we are striving to achieve.

**PRE-PRIMARY CLASSES**

We have a wonderful group of Pre-Primary children enrolled at Rosalie this year, divided into two groups.

**Pre-Primary Group 1 (PP1)**

Teacher – Mrs. Carol Hutchinson
Assistant – Mrs. Sue Strophair

The staff on Fridays will be:

Teacher – Mrs. Katherine Lommers
Assistant – Mrs. Sue Strophair

**Pre-Primary Group 2 (PP2)**

Teacher – Miss Chloe Westerberg
Assistant – Mrs. Helen Kubale

The staff on Fridays will be:

Teacher – Mrs. Kerry Lockley
Assistant – Mrs. Katriena Sargon

Fridays are planning and preparation time (or DOTT time as we call it – i.e. Duties Other Than Teaching)
Both PP1 and PP2 have a one hour lesson with a specialist teacher each Friday

**Friday Specialist Lessons**

Teacher – Mrs. Anna Evans

All staff are looking forward to working collaboratively and will be planning and implementing the Pre-Primary programs as a team. There will be lots of opportunities for children to mix socially during daily free play. Classes will also combine for activities, incursions and excursions throughout the year.
Other Important Staff Members

Principal           Mrs. Roslyn Kay
Assistant Principals Mrs. Helen Krynen and Mrs. Judy Gildersleeve
Registrar          Mrs. Julie Keating
School Psychologist Mrs. Chris Wharton
School Nurse       TBA

ROSALIE PRE-PRIMARY
101 Onslow Road
Shenton Park WA 6008
Phone: 9381 6011   Email: rosalie.ps@education.wa.edu.au

‘WHAT WILL MY CHILD BE DOING AT PRE-PRIMARY?’

The Pre-Primary Program is carefully planned by the teachers to encourage developmental growth in the major areas of language, social, emotional, creative, physical and cognitive learning.

Your child will be immersed in language and will participate in activities associated with the seven learning areas - The Arts, English, Health and Physical Education, Mathematics, Science, Society and Environment and Technology and Enterprise.

Your child will have many new experiences and learn many new skills.
For example, he or she will be encouraged to learn how to

- Socialize - develop social skills
- care for self and belongings
- share and think of others
- face new challenges and take risks
- build self esteem and express self
- work cooperatively with class members
- problem solve
- develop independence
- explore and be creative
- care for living things and our environment
- role play
- sing and dance
- listen to others and follow instructions
- describe and classify
- count, add on and subtract
- expand vocabulary
- recognise sounds in words (phonemic awareness)
- learn sight words and begin to read fluently
- write their whole name
- Spell phonetically, write simple sentences and use basic punctuation
ON GOING PROJECTS AT PRE-PRIMARY

The children will be involved in a number of projects that are ongoing throughout the year. Cutting, tearing, drawing and folding are just some of the fine motor skills that are so useful in getting small fingers ready for writing.

PORTFOLIO

We will collect various pieces of art and activities showing developmental progress from your child that will go towards his/her end of year portfolio, which each child will receive in December as a memento of their Pre-Primary year at Rosalie.

PRE-PRIMARY PROGRAM

The Pre-Primary program strives to be child centred, balanced, relevant and interesting. The content and framework for the program is provided through “teaching themes” which are simply topics of interest that we focus on to engage children’s interest in learning.

Please note: for learning to be relevant the program remains flexible. Time is always allowed for incidental learning and child initiated topics, which may well take place out of the chosen theme.

Children are natural learners – they are curious, interested and enthusiastic about learning new things. It is so important that we nurture and stimulate this eagerness to learn. We must resist the tendency to rush or push the children to do too much, too soon, too fast.

The implementation of the Australian Curriculum has resulted in us adapting our syllabus to continue to meet the needs of our students. Although we are now focusing on developing literacy and numeracy skills in Pre-Primary we do use a cross-curricular approach, with children learning through hands on activities and personal experience. Our goal is to provide a diverse curriculum that allows children to learn through relevant and meaningful activities that accommodate different learning styles and preferences. We aim to provide opportunities for all children to reach their individual potential.

From 2013 Pre-Primary becomes the first year of compulsory schooling.

Children learn through play – play is their work.
Children learn by doing – through active involvement and first hand experience.
‘YOU CAN DO IT!’

There are five foundations that children need to be successful and happy. (In fact these keys apply to adults also!) Children begin the ‘You Can Do It’ program in Kindy and we continue to focus on building these skills during Pre-Primary.

1. Confidence
2. Persistence
3. Organization
4. Getting along with others
5. Resilience.

The children learn these skills throughout the year as we tackle many varied tasks to enable them to increase their self confidence, social skills and independence.

READING AND WRITING

Many children have already commenced pre reading activities and have learnt sight words and we will continue to develop their literacy skills.

The most frequently asked question that we get at Pre-Primary is, “Will my child learn to read and write?” And the answer is, “Of course!” Your child has been learning language long before they started Kindergarten and Pre-Primary. We find that many parents get a little stressed about their child’s progress toward reading and writing and tend to compare their children’s progress to others.

Always remember that children develop at their own pace.

If you do want to give your child a head start however, the single most powerful thing you can do is really, really simple.

Read aloud to your children…. 

When you read aloud, ensure you are comfortable and relaxed. Learning to read comes from the happiness of reading. Reading aloud to children early in life rapidly increases their speaking and reading skills. We recommend that parents get a hold of a copy of “Reading Magic” an easy read by Mem Fox which really explains the full benefits of reading aloud to your children.

So, is reading aloud to our children enough to get every child reading? Probably! However, just in case, we have a safety net in place - a strong phonemic awareness (or sounds) program. There is a basic developmental continuum or hierarchy of phonemic awareness skills through which the children will progress through. In first semester we will start with knowledge of rhyme, word awareness, recognition and production of rhyme, recognition and production of syllables and recognition and production of initial sounds. These are the skills children use to begin reading.

WRITING

As part of our commitment to implementing the Curriculum we conduct an explicit writing hour each week and encourage children to learn to write, using correct pencil grip and letter formation, during daily activities. It is vitally important that students learn the correct pencil grip as it is much more difficult to change bad habits.
ICT

Children will be regularly using ICT resources in the classroom including the Smartboard, i-pads and computers. Rosalie Primary has developed an ICT Profile for each child that will ensure they increasingly build their ICT skills as they progress through the school.

HOME READING PROGRAM

In Term One we will send home a list of sight words to allow children to continue learning simple words and enable them to build confidence in their reading abilities. Children who attended Rosalie Kindy are already familiar with this program.

From Week 2 we will commence our home reading program, where children take home a simple reading book to share with their family.

‘READING EGGS’ and ‘MATHLETICS’

The P & C kindly provide funding for us to enrol our students in the online ‘Reading Eggs’ and ‘Mathletics’ programs this year. These programs support our Literacy and Numeracy teaching, helping children learn the basic skills essential for academic success. Children are able to access lessons from school and at home, including during the school holidays.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED TO BRING TO PRE-PRIMARY?

- Specified items from the school Personal Items list.
  (Please do not label individual writing materials as we share these items and replace them as necessary)
- A clearly labeled WATER bottle to be brought to school each day.
- A hat. We insist that all children wear a hat outside ALL YEAR ROUND. Hats should be taken or worn home and worn or brought back to school each day. (A spare hat in your child’s bag is a great idea.)
- A piece of fruit to share at “fruit time” EVERY day.
- A packed lunch
- A labeled change of clothes (to be kept in the child’s bag)
- Sneakers or sandals, (no slip-ons please)
- A small pillow with a washable cover for “rest time” in Semester 1 (Rest time is simply a quiet time when the children listen to stories and music and a cushion contributes to a cozy atmosphere)
- A large library bag
- A large school bag (Rosalie School backpacks are great!) It’s a good idea to attach an easy identifiable tag to your child’s bag and hat in addition to a name label (eg ribbon, button or iron on fabric picture).

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED A THEME HERE - PLEASE LABEL ALL BELONGINGS!
CHILDREN’S BELONGINGS

We have an abundance of toys at Pre-Primary and children should not bring in toys or precious items from home, unless they have been requested for a specific reason. Children become very upset if a toy is lost at Pre-Primary.

PAINT ON CLOTHING

Many of our activities are messy and children often get paint on their clothes, despite the use of aprons. Most of the paint we use will come out in cold water. DO NOT USE STAIN REMOVING SPRAYS OR HOT WATER AS THEY CAN SET THE PAINT.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Please advise the staff if your child has any food allergies. Similarly, please advise if your child has special dietary requirements for example, vegetarian, or due to religious beliefs. Please be aware that there may be children attending Pre-Primary who have severe allergies to nuts.

For this reason, both Pre-Primary Centres at Rosalie are considered “NUT FREE ZONES” and we ask that no nut products are sent to school for any reason.

HEAD LICE

Unfortunately head lice are part and parcel of coming to school! Please be diligent and check your child’s hair regularly for these annoying pests! A head lice fact sheet is available from the school office.

MATERIALS TO COLLECT FOR THE ART CENTRE

Recycle, Recycle, Recycle!

At various times we will notify parents that we need recycled materials, usually via a notice on the classroom door. Cardboard cartons, e.g. cereal boxes and small boxes, egg cartons, old cards, etc. are ideal for art/craft at Pre-Primary, so please don’t throw them away!

PARENT HELP ROSTER

The “Pre-Primary Parent Help Roster” will commence in Week Five after the children have settled in and had some time to adjust to the full time program. Please feel free to put your name down on our roster and come along to lend a helping hand in the morning. Roster times are from 8.45 until 11.00am. This is a very special time to share with your child. You may be required to work with small groups of children doing various activities, as well as preparing fruit. We usually require extra hands at the beginning of the week. However please refer to the roster for details. Although we love to have you in the classroom with us, please consider that all parents would like the opportunity to attend when adding your name to our roster.
You will have the opportunity to observe ......

- How your child mixes with others
- What activities are available and what your child enjoys doing most
- How your child progresses during the year

Any adult family member is very welcome to come on roster.

EXCURSIONS

The children may be taken on excursions throughout the year. A note will be sent home to parents/guardians prior to the excursion with information and an authorisation form. The authorisation form must be signed and returned to the teacher; otherwise your child will be unable to attend.

All excursions at Rosalie follow the Department of Education guidelines which specify the adult, child ratio. We may ask parents to accompany us on some excursions and prefer you to find alternative arrangements for younger siblings.

Please note:
We have a NO AUTHOURISATION, NO GO policy in force at Rosalie.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

We love to celebrate birthdays and special occasions at Pre-Primary. If you would like to send in a cake or cupcakes for the children to share, we will celebrate your child’s birthday following fruit time. Please let teachers know beforehand. We ask that no nut products are sent to school.

LIAISON PARENTS

We are looking for two parents from each Pre-Primary centre to be liaison parents. Liaison parents compile a parent contact list at the beginning of the year, assist in informing the parent groups of special events and quite often organize social events, e.g. coffee mornings, dinners out or plays at the park.

PARENT COMMITTEE 2014

Both the Kindergartens and on-site Pre-Primary Centres at Rosalie are fortunate to have a very efficient Parent Committee, a sub-committee of the school’s P & C Association, which oversees financial matters and contributes to the smooth running of both centres. Details of the first committee meeting for 2014 will be advertised as soon as the date is set. All parents are very welcome to attend. You don’t have to be on the committee, but this is an opportunity to meet other new parents and become involved in our school.
SESSION TIMES – 8.55am to 3.00pm

Please respect that time before school is precious “setting up” time for the staff preparing for the busy day ahead and children should not be at school prior to 8:30am.

- 8:55am Pre-Primary Commences
- 11:00am Morning Break
- 12:30pm Lunch Break
- 3:00pm Day Finishes
- N.B. Break times may vary according to events planned.

Staff are happy to engage in short informal discussions with you before the day commences. However, if you have any queries regarding your child, please arrange a suitable time to meet, when your teacher can give you their full attention.

The phone number for both On-Site Pre-Primary Centres is through the school office on 9381 6011.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

It is important that all Pre-Primary children be dropped off and picked up from the class by an adult caregiver. This is a legal requirement as part of our duty of care to your child. Please write down the details in our “drop off and pick up” book if your child is going home with someone other than you. The book is situated on the bench by the front door in each room. Children attending the onsite OSHCLUB after school care will be collected from the classroom by a carer.

Please ensure that your child is delivered to and collected from the Centres promptly. Attendance is compulsory and provides continuity in your child’s educational program. We ask that you inform the Centre if your child will be (or has been) absent.
**TERM 1 COMMENCEMENT**

Pre-Primary students will attend **full time** (5 days per week) in 2014 from the first day of term (Monday 3 February). Some children may find participating in a full day program quite challenging in the early weeks of the school year. If this is a concern, parents should consider their child’s needs and discuss the situation with the teacher. It may be best to make some short term individual adjustments to their child’s timetable.

**TERM DATES 2014**

**Semester One**

Term 1  Monday 3 February  -  Friday 11 April

Term 2  Monday 28 April  -  Friday 4 July

**Semester Two**

Term 3  Tuesday 22 July  -  Friday 26 September

Term 4  Tuesday 14 October  -  Thursday 18 December

**School Development Days (Pupil Free)**

Term 2  Friday 30 May

Term 3  Friday 22 August

We are looking forward to a wonderful year at Rosalie Pre-Primary, action packed with fun and learning. We believe that a positive start to school puts your child on the path to being an eager learner for life!

**Carol Hutchinson and Katherine Lommers**

**Chloe Westerberg and Kerry Lockley**

On behalf of Your Rosalie Pre-Primary Team