



URSULA FRAYNE
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

PRE-PRIMARY PARENT HANDBOOK



CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| WELCOME TO PRE-PRIMARY | 2 |
| MORNING TEA AND LUNCH | 2 |
| PARENTAL ASSISTANCE | 2 |
| PARENT HELPERS ON ROSTER | 3 |
| UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS 3 | |
| SPECIALIST SESSIONS | 3 |
| PERMISSION REQUIREMENTS | 4 |
| PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM (PMP) | 4 |
| EXPLICIT INSTRUCTION | 4 |
| THE ON-ENTRY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (OLI) | 4 |
| READING | 5 |
| ASSEMBLIES | 5 |
| LITURGIES | 5 |
| PRAYER BOX | 5 |
| VALUE OF THE WEEK | 6 |
| PRE-PRIMARY TEAM | 6 |

WELCOME TO PRE-PRIMARY

We hope your child has a wonderful year of discovering, wondering, learning and playing. We aim to create a learning environment that will be nurturing, engaging, stimulating and challenging. We believe that as a Catholic School, God is foremost in our thoughts and actions. We begin each day with a prayer and participate in campus and whole school Masses and Liturgies. Early identification and intervention as well as a home school partnership is advocated. The children will participate in a varied and comprehensive curriculum including specialist areas. We look forward to being part of your child's learning journey.

MORNING TEA AND LUNCH

In Pre-Primary, we promote healthy eating choices for both morning tea and lunch. As Early Childhood teachers, we encourage healthy eating habits that sustain energy for learning and self-regulation.

Children are to bring their own morning tea and lunch each day. LUNCH can be purchased from the canteen via the online ordering system on a **Thursday and Friday only**. Children are also required to bring a water bottle to school which will be kept on a trolley located in the classroom.

In Pre-Primary, we also have 'Crunch and Sip'. Please pack fruit or vegetables in a separate, labelled container for your child to have as a quick snack during the course of the school day.



PARENTAL ASSISTANCE

We value your support and assistance in and beyond the classroom. When you volunteer to be a helper, arranging alternative care for younger siblings will be appreciated.

PARENT HELPERS ON ROSTER (Term 1: Week 4)

- Please sign in at the front office to receive a visitor's pass.
- Ask if you have any queries – they will be happily answered.
- Observe the positive qualities of each child and give praise and encouragement where appropriate.
- Assist children with classroom activities whilst allowing the children to become independent learners.

Anything seen or heard in Pre-Primary regarding other children must remain confidential. Your support regarding this matter is essential.

Please note that when you are on roster it is not a time for a parent-teacher meeting concerning the progress of your child. You are asked to make an appointment with the class teacher if such discussions need to be had, as is the College protocol.

We look forward to sharing this time with you.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Pre-Primary students are required to wear the red College Sport T-shirt and black shorts, available for purchase from the Uniform Shop. Please ensure all clothing items, including hats, are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Helpful Tips

- It is necessary to keep a full set of spare clothes in your child's bag. Check these regularly to ensure they fit and are seasonally appropriate.
- Appropriate footwear needs to be considered for health and safety reasons. It is an expectation that your child is able to put on and take off their shoes and/or sandals without assistance.
- No thongs or crocs permitted.

SPECIALIST SESSIONS

The children in Pre-Primary will attend the following classes with a specialist teacher each week. They will be accompanied by the Education Assistant.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| • Health Education | Mr Nguy | 1 x 40mins | Monday |
| • Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) | Mrs Podger | 1 x 30mins | Monday |
| • Visual Arts | Mrs Pithouse | 1 x 60mins | Wednesday |
| • Music | Mr Tang | 1 x 60mins | Wednesday |
| • History | Mrs Armstrong | 1 x 40mins | Friday |
| • Physical Education | Mr Nguy | 1 x 40mins | Friday |

PERMISSION REQUIREMENTS

If you need to collect your child during school hours, you must obtain a student release note from the Front Office and present it to the teacher.

If your child is to be collected by another adult, please accordingly inform their class teacher via email.

If a child is being picked up by an Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) provider, it is also imperative that you inform the class teacher through a written note stating the name of Centre, the days your child will be attending and their business telephone number. The teacher will also need to be informed immediately if there are any changes to the stated arrangements.

PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM (PMP)

‘The Perceptual Motor Program aims to teach a child perception and understanding of him/herself and his/her world through movement/motor experiences.’ (*Bulluss and Coles Perceptual Motor Programs. A Manual for Teachers*)

PMP will be part of the Pre-Primary program. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated for us to run these timetabled sessions effectively. New skills and equipment will be introduced in a 30-minute skills session. These skills will be consolidated and assessed in a weekly circuit session. We would love to see your name on our PMP roster!

Circuit sessions: Tuesday 1:40pm – 3:10pm

EXPLICIT INSTRUCTION

The Preparatory School incorporates Explicit Instruction as a learning strategy to teach some elements in literacy and numeracy. It is a direct approach to teaching that includes both instructional design and delivery procedures. It is characterised by a series of scaffolds whereby students are guided through the learning process with clear statements about the purpose and rationale for learning the new skill, clear explanations and demonstrations of the instructional target and supported practice with feedback until independent mastery has been achieved. The Explicit Instruction framework requires that the learning intentions (WALT - What are we learning today?) and the success criteria (WILF - What I am looking for) are clearly articulated so as to involve students in the learning process. The lesson format includes checking for understanding which further allows for individualised learning and curriculum differentiation.

THE ON-ENTRY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (OLI)

This assessment will be conducted in Pre-Primary from mid Term One. The main purpose of this testing is to inform the planning and delivery of a targeted and intentional learning program for literacy and numeracy, reflective of each child’s needs and capabilities.

READING

Reading is an enjoyable and integral part of life. We encourage you to read with your child as often as possible. In Semester One, comprehension packs will be sent home. These will include a book with an accompanying set of questions. Please read the book to your child each night and focus on different questions throughout the week. Reading books for your child to read to you, will be sent home when your child shows reading readiness.

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies usually take place every fortnight on a Thursday at 8.45am in the school Hall (see schedule published in the College calendar).

- PPR’s Assembly is on **Thursday 4 May 2023**.
- PPW’s Assembly is on **Thursday 3 August 2023**.

LITURGIES

In Pre-Primary, the children will attend Whole Campus Masses and Liturgies. These are listed in the College calendar. We will be preparing both a class and year level Liturgy. Preparatory School Liturgies are on Thursdays at 10.00am. Invitations will be sent out closer to the time.

- PPW's Liturgy is on **Thursday 18 May 2023**.
- PPR's Liturgy is on **Thursday 27 July 2023**.
- Combined Pre-Primary Liturgy is on **Thursday 31 August 2023**.
- Sub School Liturgy is on **Thursday 16 November 2023**.

PRAYER BOX

Throughout the year, children will be invited to take home the class Prayer Box. We invite your child and family to share a special time for prayer. Please ensure the box is returned by the end of the school week.

VALUE OF THE WEEK

Each week a new value will be introduced and discussed. Children will be able to learn the word and experience this value throughout the week.

Some of the values that will be reinforced include:

- Sharing (turn taking)
- Honesty
- Kindness

Thank you in advance for your anticipated support.

The Pre-Primary Team

Mrs Christine Gibson & Mrs Celestine Tay-Fernandez (PPR) and Mrs Julia Horgan (PPW)

Education Assistants: Ms Jade Whitefield (PPR) and Miss Brittany Allen (PPW)