



Welcome to St Cecilia's Kindergarten

Your first week in Kindy

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to St Cecilia's Kindergarten. The Kindergarten Teaching Team are delighted to welcome our new Kindergarten students and their families to St Cecilia's. We are certain that Kindergarten will be a fun and exciting year for everyone.

Below is some helpful hints to get you through the first week of Kindy!

ITEMS TO BRING EACH DAY

- Labelled drink bottle filled with water only.
- Daily fruit/vegetables for your child's morning tea for e.g. sliced carrots, tomatoes, grapes, apples, cucumber or pear. Please pack in a separate container from lunch- clearly labelled.
- A healthy packed lunch e.g. sandwich, fruit, yoghurt.
- A labelled school hat (hats are left at school in student's trays)
- Communication folder.
- Appropriate shoes; easy to remove and put on e.g. Velcro- no thongs or boots please.
- Sunscreen is provided by the school, please advise if any allergies.
- No toys or jewellery are to be brought to school.



ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

When you arrive from 8:20am onwards you are most welcome to come into the classroom and practise writing their name, read a book or do a puzzle with your child. Once the students are called to the mat at 8:40am we ask that parents leave the room so we can start the day.

If your child becomes distressed when it's time for you to leave it is best to give them a quick cuddle, reassure them that you will see them soon and leave as quickly as possible. Prolonging your departure usually only adds to a child's distress. The Kindergarten Teaching Team will be on hand to help you if this happens.

IMPORTANT CLASS TIMES

Full time children

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:25am – 2:35pm

Wednesday 8.25am – 11.15am (half day)

Part time children

Tuesday, Thursday 8:25am – 2:35pm

Wednesday 8.25am – 11.15am (half day)



Please do not let children be on the play equipment before and after school.

EXTRA CLOTHING

A plastic bag, clearly marked with your child's name, will need to be kept in your child's school bag in case of accidents, either toileting or from the use of messy substances.

ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENCE

In Kindergarten every opportunity is given to develop your child's independence, which develops their self-esteem. This includes things such as learning how to be responsible for their own possessions, dressing themselves and tidying up after themselves.

You can support us in working towards this goal in many ways, including dressing your child in shoes that they can put on independently (i.e. shoes with Velcro instead of laces) and encouraging your child to carry and unpack their own bag. We ask that you try to resist the temptation to do things for your child that they can do for themselves!

PARENT – TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Each student will have a communication folder (black document zip-lock envelope). Please ensure that these are returned to school each day and that you check each night. Any school notes will be sent home in the folder. We also use the ClassDojo app to communicate with you. We can instantly share messages, updates and photos from the class. It's the easiest way for you to see how your child is doing at school and to get in touch with the classroom teacher.

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMMES

At St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School our Kindergarten educational programmes are formed around the Western Australian Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines and the Early Years Learning Framework. In this way we are able to achieve a successful balance between play-based and structured learning for the children. It is going to be an amazing learning experience where children are challenged and engaged in the learning process.

Literacy Development

PreLit- PreLit is a skills-based, early literacy preparation program for preschool children in the year before school. It is designed to complement a play-based learning environment and provides children with a sound foundation for learning to read.

Writing in the Sand- At the start of the Kindergarten year we will introduce the children to writing patterns using the Writing in the Sands Programme, which has been developed by Occupational Therapists.

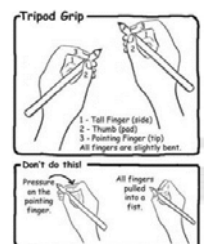
During the introduction of this program we also encourage children to hold their pencils correctly. We use triangular shaped pencils which help to develop the correct pencil grip.

Writing- Kindergarten students will be introduced to Victorian Modern Cursive style of writing. This is the style of writing they will be using in later years of schooling so an introduction at the end of Kindergarten will help prepare them for this.

We hope you find this helpful. We look forward to a wonderful year in Kindergarten!

Regards,

The Kindergarten Team



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