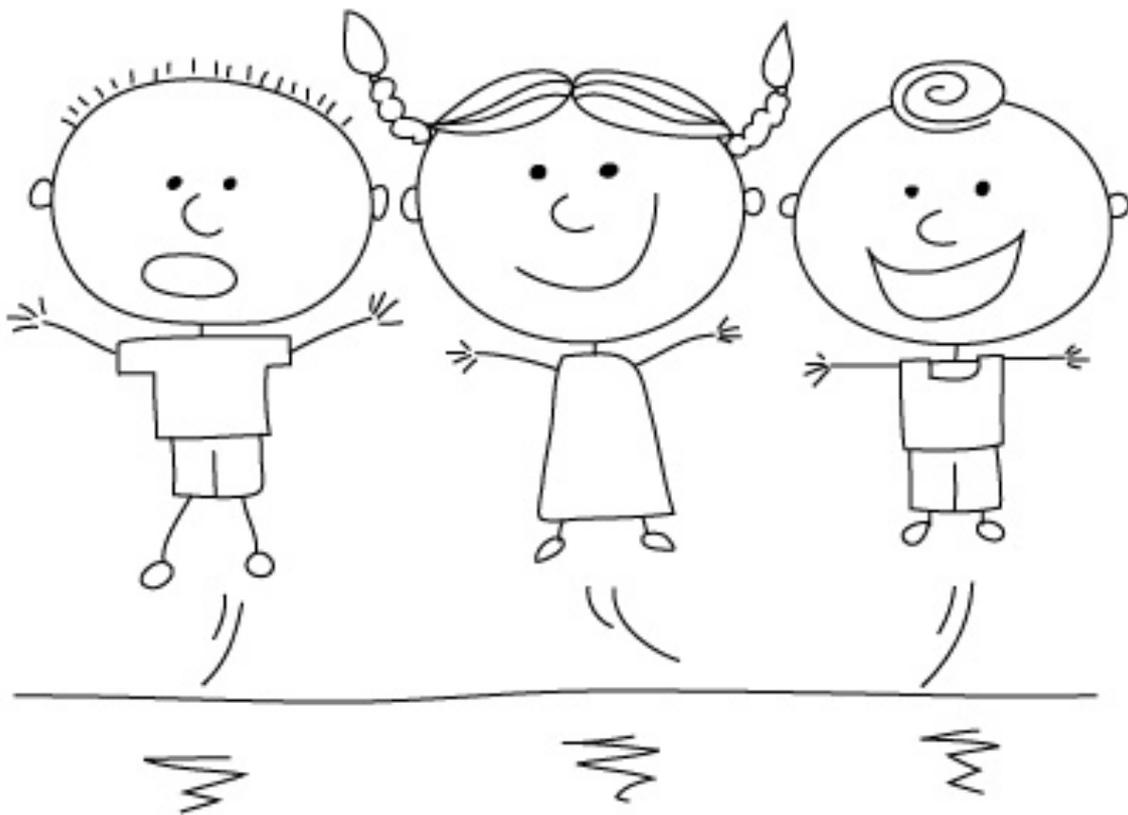


John Paul 11 School
Prep Information
2016



General Information:

School begins at 8.40 and finishes at 2.50pm. Mrs Rahn (Lindy) will be teaching on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Mrs Rennie (Megan) will be taking the class on Fridays. Mrs Rennie will be responsible for the Space/Measurement strands in Maths as well as the Science and Art curriculum and will continue the Literacy program. Mrs Rahn will cover all other curriculum areas except Music and PE.

The teachers can be contacted either in person before or after school or by phone or email. If you require a longer chat please arrange an appointment. The classroom is busy in the mornings and the teachers may not be able to give you their full attention at this time. Our email addresses are lindy.rahn@catholic.tas.edu.au and megan.rennie@catholic.tas.edu.au

Specialist times:

Tuesday: Music

Wednesday: Library. Children will require a library bag in order to borrow books
Chinese

Thursday: PE

Canteen:

The canteen is open Thursdays. Lunch orders can be placed in the box in the classroom. However, due to a lack of volunteers the canteen is unable to open as yet. If you are able to assist please contact the office.

Parent Help:

Is most welcome in the classroom to either hear reading or assist with small groups. Parent help occurs in the literacy block between 8.45 -10.30. Volunteers will require a Working with Vulnerable Children check.

Lunches:

Lunch boxes are kept in bags. We have a fruit break during the morning so please send your child with a piece of fruit for a quick snack. Some children have difficulty with whole fruit due to missing teeth etc, so it would be helpful if the fruit could be easy to eat, or cut up. Please ensure your child has their drink bottle with them each day and encourage them to unpack it and put it in the tub outside the classroom door. We encourage water only in drink bottles.

Uniform:

Each child requires an art smock to protect their uniform. This can be placed in the plastic tub in front of the teachers' desk.

Please ensure EVERY item of clothing is clearly labelled as they are easily lost or mistaken. We have already had a number of lost hats.

Quiet time:

Currently we have quiet time after lunch where children wind down and read books or simply rest on the carpet if they feel they need to. There are a few cushions in the classroom but if children wish to bring one of their own or a SMALL soft toy to lay on they are most welcome. These will be stored in bag boxes outside the classroom and only used during quiet time.

Homework:

There is no formal homework in Prep but the children will be given Home Readers later in the term. Home reading is meant to be an enjoyable time where children can PRACTISE skills as well as hone their fluency and phrasing. Therefore books that are sent home are usually aimed at an easy level. They can be returned each day and placed in the tub to be swapped.

Star of the Day:

Each child will be given multiple turns to be Star of the Day during the course of the year. The children are chosen on merit because of their achievements during the day either in class or in the playground. At this stage we will focus mostly on social aspects such as playing nicely, listening etc. The Star of the Day has their name on the chart and is given various special jobs. Children are also rewarded via the Happy Face on the whiteboard for behaving in an appropriate way in the classroom and with golden tickets.

Class 'Pet':

In the coming weeks the children will be introduced to our special class friend – a teddy bear. The teddy will appear at the home of Star of the Day with his journal, some pencils and textas. Please help your child construct a sentence (you may write for them if you wish) or do a drawing about his adventures at your house. He is to be returned to class the following day for the next recipient.

Curriculum:

We will be following the Australian Curriculum at Foundation level.

RE:

The children will be introduced to seasons of the church beginning with Lent and Easter. Other topics will include units on Church, God, Prayer and Sacraments.

English:

We will be using Letters & Sounds as the basis of the Literacy Program. Children will be taught letters of the alphabet and the sounds they make and learn how to blend and segment these to make and break words. They will be exposed to high frequency words to read and spell. We will be doing a lot of fine motor practise in readiness for writing as well as practising correct letter formation and pencil grip.

Maths:

Children will expand their knowledge of numbers up to 100 and learn how to do basic addition and subtraction, how to make collections of objects, recognise and make patterns. They will also be exposed to informal units of measuring (including time and money) and become more familiar with 2D shapes and their properties.

History/Geography:

Will be integrated into units of work based around the Foundation Curriculum.

Our first units will look at families and homes. We will investigate how people lived a long time ago and compare homes from around the world.

Science: will also be tied into the integrated units where possible and will follow the Primary Connections program.

Drama/Music/Art:

Will closely follow the literacy program. The children will have the opportunity to move to music, sing songs and create art in many forms during the day rather than as a designated lesson.

Prep News: Semester 1

The following topics will be the focus for news during the given week. If you could help your child prepare at home before their news day it would be greatly appreciated. If your child is nervous about sharing feel free to write his/her news down and the teachers will assist. The items being discussed each week are most welcome to come to school to be shown as part of news. EG: books, photos. They will not be allowed to be taken into the playground as we don't want anything to be lost or broken. If a special event has occurred your child is free to share this on their day but generally we try to stick within the guidelines

Week	News Focus
(Feb 22)	People I love (photos, memorabilia welcome)
Feb 29	A fun place I went with my family (photos, memorabilia welcome)
March 7	My favourite story (books welcome)
March 14	Something cool from my bedroom
March 21 (holy week)	A movie I love (tell us something about it and why you love it)
March 28 (after easter)	Something precious to me
April 4	A place I have been for holidays (photos, memorabilia welcome)
Term 2 Week 1	Something I am good at doing (photos welcome)
2	Why I love my Mum
3	My favourite TV show and why
4	My favourite toy
5	Something old from my family
6	A fun time I had with my friends
7	My best birthday
9	When I was a baby
10	Children's choice (anything you like!)

NEWS GROUPS

MONDAY

Lilly

Caleb

Hamish S

Jock

WEDNESDAY

Teegan

Tom

Ella

Elias

TUESDAY

Archie

Eli

Max

Charlie

Chloe

THURSDAY

Bella

Hamish G

Liam

Riley

Grace