

Epping Primary School

2024 Prep Information Booklet



Making a difference together.

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Message from the Principal

Welcome to Epping Primary School! I am extremely honoured to be the principal of this wonderful school, and I am committed to the development of our most precious resource – our children.

As I walk around both campuses of Epping Primary School, I am so very proud of what I see. Students are excited about their learning and are engaged and motivated to do their best. The students are confident, happy, thoughtful, and enjoy a challenge.

We have a supportive and positive community and strive to build strong relationships and partnerships. We value our connections with families and the wider community and encourage all of our community to be involved in the school. Our staff are open, highly committed, and willing to do whatever it takes to ensure that every learner is both challenged and fulfilled in their learning.

The school Vision is *"Making a difference together"*, and the school values are *Respect, Honesty, Persistence, Resilience and Responsibility*. Our purpose is to provide a learning environment that is both caring and challenging. We equip all students with the necessary skills, knowledge, and dispositions to become valued and productive members of the community. Our mission is *"To inspire and empower our students to thrive as lifelong learners."*

What Makes Our School Different?

Our school is comprised of two campuses which boast large, inviting school grounds. We believe in developing the 'whole child' and have a strong focus on social and emotional wellbeing. Each school campus has a school counsellor, has a strong Social and Emotional Learning Program, and works with a number of external agencies to support students and families. The school has an English as an Additional Language (EAL) program and a Language Support program and provides Reading Intervention and Tutoring in Literacy and Numeracy. In 2023, the school was able to provide an onsite Psychologist to provide sessions through Medicare and is working to provide this service in an ongoing capacity.

Our school uses the latest research regarding the science of reading to support explicit and systematic teaching of reading and spelling through the *Little Learners Love Literacy* Program from Prep to Year 2. Children learn at a quicker rate if they are taught systematically and explicitly using a synthetic phonics and a structured literacy approach. Epping Primary School supports and teaches the crucial areas for reading instruction which are phonemic instruction, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Epping Primary School has a strong focus on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) where iPads, Laptops and Chromebooks are used as effective tools in our students' learning at all year levels. We have highly skilled staff who have built their capacity in relation to ICT and use this to engage, motivate and extend student learning beyond the classroom. We are providing 21st Century Learning where our students are critical and creative thinkers, collaborative and problem solvers. The school provides STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) as a specialist subject from Prep-Year 6.

All enrolment enquiries about High Street may be addressed by contacting our front office staff on (03)9401-1389 or any enquiries about our Greenbrook Campus please call us on (03)9401-3256.

I look forward to welcoming you to our school.

Barbara McKenzie, Principal

Transition from Kindergarten-2023/24

DURING TERM 4 2023

- Prep teachers will contact Kindergartens to meet the children during the latter part of Term Four.
- We encourage all parents to enrol their children as soon as possible for planning and staffing reasons, however, enrolments will be accepted at any time.
- Teachers will continue to work with the local Kindergartens to allow future students to engage with the school and become familiar with the school environment.
- Teachers will also discuss the individual needs of each student. You will receive a document in which you can request specific friends you wish your child to be placed with.



2024 Start to School

Monday 29th January	Teachers' first day and a STUDENT FREE DAY
Tuesday 30th January	All P-6 children commence school at 9:00am. PREPS START ON THIS DAY. Times will be staggered to allow students to settle.
All Wednesdays in February	Preps involved in individual interviews - 1:1 Numeracy and Literacy assessments. Interview times will be sent to families via mail.
March onwards	Prep children attend school full time (from Monday to Friday).

2024 Term Dates

TERM 1	Tuesday 30 th January (students) to Thursday 28 th March
TERM 2	Monday 15 th April to Friday 28 th June
TERM 3	Monday 15 th July to Friday 20 th September
TERM 4	Monday 7 th October to Friday 20 th December

Daily School Timetable

8.40	Arrive at school from 8.40am. Teachers are on yard duty at this time. Teachers in classrooms from 8.50am for students to enter classrooms and get prepared.
9.00	First Learning Session
10.00	Second Learning Session Healthy (brain food) snack at 10.00
10.50	Eating Time
11:00	1st Break
11.45	Third Learning Session
12.45	Fourth Learning Session
1.35	Eating Time
1.45	2 nd Break
2.15	Final Learning Session
3.15	Dismissal

Preparation for School

Starting school is an exciting milestone in a child's life – a cause for celebration. It involves a close partnership between home and school to provide a stable and caring environment in which each child can grow and develop fully.

Below is some helpful information about starting school, what you can expect and the ways you can assist your child, particularly in the first few weeks.

- Talk positively to your child about starting school. Talk about meeting new friends, playing games, singing, and making things.
- Talk about how long the school day will be in a way that a child can understand. 'It's as long as kinder, but you'll have your lunch after that, and perhaps some stories, and then I'll come and get you'.
- Establish a strong routine as this is important to help your child adjust to school life. Try to be consistent so that your child knows what to expect.
- Have your child practise putting on and taking off their school uniform and packing their school bag.
- Talk about toileting routines, including the washing of hands and the use of urinals for boys. How to lock and unlock toilet doors.
- Talk about what you see and do with your child. Encourage them to name people and sing songs and nursery rhymes-in any language!
- **READ** with your child every night and discuss the characters and events. Reading at least 15 minutes a night is important to develop strong readers.
- Encourage your child to do things for themselves such as carrying their own school bag, putting their bag on the bag hook, and opening their lunchbox. Independence is an essential skill for all children to develop.
- Make sure your child knows where to meet you at pick-up time. Let your child know to always wait with the classroom teacher if being picked up by you and discuss with them to NEVER leave school with somebody they don't know. It is important to be on time to reduce anxiety.
- Ensure your child has a good night's sleep. A tired child cannot learn effectively. Many Prep students go to bed at 7:00pm, but the need for sleep varies with each individual child.

EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

At school, children will have to cope with their feelings in a variety of situations. It is important to TALK to your children about how they might feel and how they might deal with their feelings. Take the time to listen to their questions and concerns and answer them honestly. Encourage your child to talk to the teacher if they have a concern. We need to be aware of any problems so that we can help. If you have any concerns about how your child is settling in, please feel free to talk to your child's classroom teacher.

SEPARATION

Let your child know that you will be leaving him/her at school BUT you will be returning to collect them later in the day. It is normal for children to feel anxious or upset around school drop-off time and children generally settle quickly after drop-off.

INDEPENDENCE

At school we encourage our students to develop independence and responsibility.

At home you can encourage your child to:

- TAKE OFF AND PUT ON outer clothing by themselves, to manage zips and buttons, and to put these items away
- tie shoelaces – this requires perseverance
- visit the toilet independently, to flush after use and then wash hands and to adjust clothing
- use tissues to wipe/blow their nose, and know the importance of covering their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and then used hand sanitizer
- pack away toys, books, and materials neatly after use
- recognise their full name on possessions, clothing, lunch boxes, etc. in Victorian Modern cursive writing or capital letters
- open and close their lunch box and eat from this without making a mess
- share things (not food), take turns, and cooperate with others (this includes listening to others, instructions, and stories)
- know how to use a supervised school crossing
- hold a pencil correctly and cut with scissors
- complete small tasks at home such as setting the table, clearing plates, wiping benches
- make choices by themselves
- try things they are not sure about
- keep going until a task is finished.

CONFIDENCE

Confident children are flexible and cope with new situations. Making mistakes is an important part of learning. Praise your child for having a go and show them that you value their efforts, not just the finished product. Show an interest in what your child does at school. Above all, talk positively about school and value what happens here.

We understand that not all children are at the same stage of their learning and development at the same time. What is important is to foster in children a willingness to learn, a sense of pride in their work and an appreciation of the worth of others. It is vital that parents do not compare their child's learning to that of other children, as this can have a negative impact on their self-esteem.

SOCIAL SKILLS

At school, listening to others, sharing, taking turns, and following instructions are important aspects of learning. Ways that you can support developing these skills at home are:

- if you are already in a conversation and your child wishes to talk to you, remind him/her that it is polite to wait (unless it is really important)
- encourage your child to share belongings and take turns with siblings and friends
- allow your child to have conversations with known adults outside of the family group
- let your child know that he/she cannot always get his/her own way
- allow your child to entertain him/herself - don't always provide the suggestions or toys.



TOILETING ACCIDENTS

Sometimes toileting accidents happen while the children are getting used to the school routine and using the school toilets. Due to health regulations, the school cannot 'lend' changes of underwear and socks in the event of toileting accidents. Please pack your child's school bag with a **clean change of socks, underwear and pants in a plastic bag labelled with your child's name** for use if needed.

LABELLING BELONGINGS

Occasionally belongings can be lost or misplaced, especially in the first few weeks of school. Please **clearly label all your child's belongings** with their full name and show your child where this label is to help them find missing items. We ask parents to occasionally check the names on items as regular washing fades the letters on clothing items.

Healthy Lunchbox

At Epping Primary School, we encourage students to **bring a healthy lunch to school every day** and where possible, choose nude foods. Nude foods are foods without packaging such as fresh fruit, vegetables, and healthy sandwiches. Children are also encouraged to bring to school a water bottle for use inside the classroom. These can be refilled using the drink fountains outside.

Epping Primary School also schedules daily brain food breaks for children to snack on during specified class times, to keep up energy levels. Brain Food provides students with a mid-morning energy burst that gives students more energy to learn and provides students with lifelong skills around healthy eating. Brain Foods are generally unprocessed and ensure a slow release of glucose rather than a quick fix provided by high sugar/fat filled foods. Please provide your child with daily 'nude' brain food such as a piece of fruit or a vegetable. **Brain food happens at 10am daily.**

SNACK ARRANGEMENTS

Students eat their first bit of food under teacher supervision from 10:50am-11.00am. Most children are hungry by this time and enjoy either a small snack e.g., sultanas, cheese stick, piece of fruit, etc. or their main snack (sandwich, roll, wrap etc). To help your child understand the difference between snack and main snack, wrap them separately and discuss these with your child. Better still, have your child help pack their small and main snack!

All children will eat their second snack in their classroom from 1:35pm-1.45pm. You will need to ensure that your child brings prepared snacks to school DAILY, commencing on the first day.

LUNCH ORDERS

Currently both campuses of Epping Primary School do not offer lunch orders to students. This will be reviewed during 2023-24 for outsourcing to a relevant provider and will be available on 1-2 days.

To help keep our school looking clean and tidy, students are unable to eat their food outside unless they can hold this in their hand, and it does not have packaging.



OTHER POINTS TO REMEMBER ABOUT FOOD

- Your child's food should be in a clearly named lunch box.
- Drinks must be in a clearly named unbreakable container (no flavoured drinks or juices, **water only**).
- Please do not give your child too much food.
- Clear wrap/plastic film is often difficult for young children to undo. Choose nude food and containers where possible.
- Explain and practise at home before starting school, an order of eating, e.g., start with sandwiches, then fruit, followed by any special treats.

ANAPHYLAXIS

Anaphylaxis is a medical condition with serious consequences. In the school we have a small number of children who have a severe, life-threatening allergy to some triggers such as nuts and eggs. Although this may not affect your child's class directly, we ask that you discuss with your child the need not to share food at school. Due to the anaphylaxis risk, we also do not promote the sharing of food, such as cakes, for children's birthdays. If you would like to share something special for your child's birthday, please speak to your child's teacher to discuss alternatives. If your child suffers from anaphylaxis, please provide the school with a copy of the anaphylaxis safety plan and EpiPen for your child.

Please Note: food sharing of any kind is not possible.

The form is titled 'ACTION PLAN FOR Anaphylaxis' and is for use with adrenaline (epinephrine) autoinjectors. It includes sections for 'SIGNS OF MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTION', 'ACTION FOR MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTION', 'WATCH FOR ALL SIGNS OF THE FOLLOWING SIGNS OF ANAPHYLAXIS (SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION)', and 'ACTION FOR ANAPHYLAXIS'. The form also includes a section for 'Refer to the doctor (GP) for instructions on how to give an adrenaline (epinephrine) autoinjector.' and a section for 'ADDITIONAL INFORMATION'.



Day One at School

There are some simple steps you can follow to ensure your child's first day at school is enjoyable and relaxed.

- Be prepared and have everything ready. Have a practice run of getting dressed, packing bag, identifying small and main snack, and opening lunch boxes and water bottles prior to starting school.
- Talk through the daily routine (see Daily School Timetable on page 4) and have your child draw what they might do at these times.
- Role play some "What if?" situations. What if you can't find a friend at playtime? What if you can't open your lunch box? What if you need to go to the toilet? What if you feel sick?

On the first day of school, parents are welcome to accompany their children into the classroom (pending COVID restrictions). Once your child has unpacked their bag and settled into an activity, it will be time for 'goodbyes'. The kindest thing for both you and your child is a quick, positive goodbye. Prolonged farewells often end up in needless tears and upset children (and parents). The classroom teacher, support staff and Leadership will be there to assist with any separation issues.

On Day One your child will need to bring:

- **School Hat (named and kept at school)**
- **School bag (with change of clothes)**
- **School snacks (small and main) and water bottle.**

School hats will be kept at school to ensure the children are always protected during their time outside. As per our school's **Sun Smart Policy**, children must wear hats from **September to April**. Please **label all the above items** with your child's first name and last name, as well as all clothing, shoes, lunch boxes, lids, drink containers, etc. This way, if something gets lost, it can be easily returned.

The First Weeks at School

SAYING GOODBYE

Establish arrival routines – greeting teacher, allowing children to put their own belongings away, etc. Tell your child when you will be back e.g. “I’ll be back at home-time to pick you up.” Say goodbye, with a kiss, hug, or wave, then leave. Be firm and loving!

WHEN YOU RETURN

Maintain a predictable pick-up schedule. Try to avoid asking your child “Did you miss me?” or “I missed you”, especially for tentative children. Share your child’s enthusiasm and re-telling of their school experiences, positively. Establish goodbye routines with the teacher and classmates. “We’ll see you tomorrow morning” – then leave with your child.

DISMISSAL – GOING HOME

All parents are asked to wait outside the building. Teachers will bring each class outside to meet parents at the day’s end and will always wait with your child until they are collected.

MAKING FRIENDS

Try not to increase your child’s anxieties by constantly asking, “Who did you play with today?” Focus on the POSITIVE, wait for your child to volunteer information on “happenings” at school – allow time for children to assess the new situation. Children do not usually make “lifelong” friends until the age of around 12 years. Instead, they play with different groups of friends at different times. Ask about the work, what was enjoyable about the day, or if the day’s story was a good one. Wait for information about friendships. When your child is ready to make friends, you will be the first to know.

THE CRYING CHILD

We know how stressful it can be for parents if children are reluctant to be separated from them; however, children almost always settle into activities after the parent has left. Your child will need to understand that going to school is part of the process of growing up. There are four areas that should remain consistent to help minimise separation issues:

1. **Do not linger.** If you are having difficulty separating from your child, try not to show that you are upset, as your child will pick up your distress and reflect it.
2. **Get your child to school on time.** Being late is upsetting and can cause anxiety for children.
3. **Always ensure that you are there to collect your child after school** if he or she is expecting you. Your child must be able to spend this time away from you secure in the belief that you, or someone else he or she trusts, will be there when each day is over. If you are going to be late please contact the school so that the child is not unduly distressed.
4. **Never, unless the child is genuinely ill, let your child stay at home with you ‘just this once’.** This can teach the child that school attendance is a matter of choice, not an expectation (and legal requirement). Of course, if your child is genuinely ill, staying at home is mandatory.

General information


EMERGENCY CONTACTS

The emergency information on the Enrolment Form is very important. Up-to-date information is vital, and parents are asked to advise the school immediately without delay, of any change of telephone numbers (mobile, home, work place), emergency contact person, etc.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - 'IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY'

EVERY DAY COUNTS ...				
A day here or there doesn't seem like much but ...				
When your child misses just	that equals...	which is....	and therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is ...	This means the best your child can achieve is ...
1 day a fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks of school	Nearly 1½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	8 weeks of school	Over 2½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	16 weeks of school	Over 5 years of learning of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days a year	24 weeks of school	Over 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed ...



Students are required to attend school every day. **If your child is absent** due to illness or another reason **you need to provide an explanation for your child's absence to the school**. This is as easy as calling the office, sending a note/certificate to school, or logging the absence on COMPASS. **If a child arrives late or leaves the school during the school day, parents must go to the office and sign their child in/out.** Please do not go directly to your child's class. Children do not attend school on curriculum days and parents will be given adequate notification of these student free days via the school newsletter, Compass, and Facebook page.

PUNCTUALITY

Parents are requested to make sure that their children are punctual in arriving at school each morning. When students arrive late, they can interrupt the teaching of the lesson or miss out on important information. This can also create anxiety in your child. Teachers are on duty each school day from 8:40am. until 3:30pm. **Children cannot arrive before 8.40am.** After 3:30pm children who have not been collected will be asked to wait at the office until picked up. We recommend children arrive between 8.45am and 9.00am. It is most important that children are at school and ready to begin classes at 9:00am.

WET WEATHER

During wet weather, please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing and footwear. A lightweight **waterproof jacket is essential** to wear outside. Children remain inside their classrooms and sometimes the day after on wet days, windy days and during periods of extreme heat.

BUDDY PROGRAM

In Term One, Prep children will be assigned a Year 5 buddy. Buddies meet every fortnight during the year and do a range of activities together. During the first weeks of school, the Year 5 children check in on their buddies in the playground.

EXCURSIONS AND INCURSIONS

The children will have the opportunity of participating in incursions or excursions throughout the year. Teachers plan suitable excursions and incursions to fit with the school's education program and inquiry units. Permission notes will be sent out on Compass. Consent and payments (where required) must be given on Compass before the cut-off date to enable your child can go on a planned excursion. Unfortunately, your child will not be able to attend if these payments are not made prior to the event.

LOST PROPERTY

Please name all your child's belongings clearly and encourage your child to look after his/her things. Where appropriate, please use a permanent marker. If belongings are misplaced, please regularly check the Lost Property at each campus.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school has a compulsory school uniform policy, which aims to develop unity, pride, and a sense of identity within Epping Primary School. The wearing of either a bucket, legionnaires or wide-brimmed hat is required to be worn from the beginning of September until the end of April as we are a Sun Smart School. Uniforms are available from PSW by attending the South Morang outlet or purchasing online. A copy of the Uniform Price list and ordering details are included in your enrolment pack and on the school's website.

SAFETY IN THE PLAYGROUND

- At all recesses and lunchtimes, staff members are on duty.
- Thongs/open-toe shoes are not considered suitable footwear for school. Please ensure your child is wearing closed-toe school shoes or runners.
- Dogs are not permitted in the school grounds during school hours.
- **Children can ride bikes or scooters to school** but must walk them once through the school gate. Due to road safety laws, **children are also required to wear a helmet**. Bikes and scooters can be stored in the bike bay at each campus.



SUNSMART

We are a Sun Smart school. As a result, in **Terms One and Four**, **students will be required to wear a school hat** while playing outside. Students who do not wear a hat are required to play under designated shaded outside areas during recess and lunchtime. School hats are available for purchase from PSW, K-Mart, Best and Less or Big W.

Accidents are difficult to avoid entirely, but supervision by staff members at all times will reduce them. In the event of an accident, your child will be cared for while emergency action is taken. Wherever possible you will be contacted and consulted before medical treatment is sought. Our school is equipped to handle only minor illnesses and injuries. We do not have staff available to provide nursing care. If your child becomes ill, every effort will be made to contact you. If this is not possible, contact will be made with the emergency contact person on your child's emergency information file.

We encourage children not to bring valuables or toys to school as they may get damaged or lost.

If your child suffers from asthma, please make sure the school is aware of his/her condition. **A Student's Asthma Action Plan must be completed each year by your treating health professional.** It is important that appropriate medication is sent to the school with the child and kept in the office or his/her school bag (for older children) should it be needed.

Preps have vision, hearing and general health examinations by the Department of Education's School Nursing Program. A questionnaire will be sent home in term one for you to complete and return. This is a free service for all new Prep students.

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Communication



At Epping Primary we use Compass as a way to monitor student attendance and to communicate key information home to families.

Teachers mark the rolls electronically using Compass and parents can explain any absence using the Compass portal. Compass includes many different features, including the ability to:

- Monitor your child's attendance and enter in explanations for late arrivals or absences.
- Communicate with your child's teachers and update your family details.
- View 'My News', a news feed of school announcements, alerts, and updates.
- Pay for incursion and excursions.
- View and download student semester reports.

Log on details will be sent home in Term 4 of 2022 or early Term One of 2023. The app can be downloaded for free on your phone or other compatible device.

SEESAW

At Epping Primary School, Seesaw is one of our main links between home and school to share and celebrate student learning. Seesaw is a free app that allows family members to keep up to date with their child's learning and to receive reminders. Your classroom teacher will send home information about Seesaw in Term One.



ASSEMBLY

Each campus conducts a whole-school, student-led assembly fortnightly on Friday afternoons. All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

NEWSLETTERS

An online Newsletter is made available to families fortnightly via email subscription and our school website. Year Level Teams also send home a Newsletter outlining what the students are learning each term via Compass which can also be found on the website.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

All school newsletters, programs, class newsletters, policies, community notices and much more are made available via our school website at <https://www.eppingps.vic.edu.au/>. On our website you will also find information about upcoming events via the school calendar and links to compass. All information on our website is easily translated into different languages using the 'Translator' button on the home screen.

Curriculum and Specialists

ENGLISH

English covers three areas:

- Reading and Viewing
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Our school has reading workshops which are small groups which focus on teaching students to use specific strategies to support and develop their reading through comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. Our school also incorporates the Little Learners Love Literacy program in all P-2 classrooms. Little Learners Love Literacy is a sequential, explicit program that focuses on phonemic awareness, the alphabetic code (phonics), vocabulary and linking the teaching of reading, spelling and writing. We also incorporate daily Heggerty Phonological Awareness skills to further support our students' reading development.

Writing has reading workshops where focus groups are taught the craft of writing. Students apply the skills they have learnt in small group teaching to write different text types throughout the year. We use the Little Learner's Love Literacy program to develop phonic knowledge.

Speaking and listening is incorporated into all areas of the curriculum and specific tasks are developed to assess students' speaking and listening skills.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics also has different learning areas:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

The most important concept in Prep is to learn the numbers 0 - 20 and ensure that all students are comfortable with counting, saying, making, writing, drawing and manipulating these numbers.

SEL - Social Emotional Learning

This program is taught by the classroom teachers and focuses on various wellbeing topics such as gratitude, getting along, persistence, confidence, mindfulness, personal organisation and resilience.

VISUAL ARTS

The Art program covers many aspects of Visual Arts including painting, drawing and craftwork. The school has a bi-annual Art Show to exhibit student work.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)

At Epping Primary School, we are proud to offer our students a STEM Program. STEM uses a Project Based Learning approach to integrate skills and content from the areas of Science, Technology (Design and Digital), Engineering, and Maths.

During STEM lessons, students will be guided to participate in hands-on activities designed to awaken curiosity and encourage persistence. There is a strong focus on developing higher order

thinking skills (21st Century Learning) by emphasising collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity, brainstorming, research, and problem solving.

ITALIAN

Children participate in weekly Italian sessions where they learn greetings, counting and the alphabet as well as singing songs and listening to well-known stories in Italian. Students celebrate all things Italian during our Italian Day.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

During Physical Education lessons, the children will experience sequential programs in the areas of movement, dance, fitness, swimming, games and skills, and gymnastics. Throughout their primary years the children will also have the opportunity to participate in athletics, inter-school sporting games, cross country and a variety of other sporting events.

LIBRARY

Each campus at Epping Primary School has a library and each classroom visits the library weekly. During these sessions, students can borrow up to three books at a time. A library bag is compulsory when borrowing books from the library. One book may be borrowed at a time by preps and as children develop greater responsibility, they will be allowed to borrow three books at one time. The borrowing period is one week. Books may be returned any day; there is a library tub in each classroom for these returns.

PMP

The Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) is a movement-based program which helps younger students improve their eye/hand and eye/foot coordination, fitness, balance, locomotion, and eye-tracking skills. Preps participate in PMP sessions fortnightly with their classroom teachers.

SWIMMING

High Street: Students from P-4 participate in swimming lessons at the YMCA Epping. Preps swim once per week in Term Four. Information will be sent home about this program in Term Three via Compass.

Greenbrook: All students from P-6 participate in swimming lessons at the YMCA Epping in Term Four. Information will be sent home about this program in Term Two via Compass.

Celebrations and Special Events

100 DAYS OF PREP

The children will celebrate, in Term 3, their 100th day of learning in Prep! This is a great celebration, and we will send more information out closer to the event. Usually, students are encouraged to dress up as a 100-year-old person, as you can see in the picture below. We also run many different activities based around the number 100.



PREP BREAKFAST

In Term Four, the students have the opportunity to experience a Prep breakfast as part of the school's camping program. Students arrive early at school in their pyjamas and get to eat a special breakfast with their peers and teachers. They then get changed into their school uniform at school and remain at school for the rest of the day.

PARENT HELPERS

Parents can offer to help classrooms and the school in various ways. This can be in helping in the library, laminating, and photocopying, gardening and lunch-time clubs, listening to students read or supporting small learning groups in classrooms.

If you are interested in becoming a parent helper, please let your child's teacher know. Training will be provided and an up-to-date Volunteer Working With Children Check must be provided to the school.