



# Welcome to Pre-Primary

2024

With the school year just around the corner, we extend a warm welcome to you and your family, as your child takes their first steps into Pre-Primary at St Mary's. We are thrilled to embark on this exciting journey of growth, learning, and discovery together.

## Pre-Primary days and times

Pre-Primary runs from Monday to Friday, starting at 8:25am and concluding at 2:50pm. Regular attendance during these hours is compulsory for all students.

## What to bring

- School bag, including: **hat, water bottle, lunchbox with food for recess and lunch, 'crunch n sip', spare underwear/clothes**
- Any other personal items such as specialised sunscreen, medications and plans, etc

Please support your child's health and development by sending them to school with healthy, nutritious food. Foods that we would like to see in Pre-Primary include: Fresh fruits and vegetables, dips, yoghurt, cheese, pikelets, crackers, sandwiches or wraps, leftovers or homemade meals. Please do not send your child to school with chocolate or lollies. Drink bottles with **water only** should also be sent to school each day.

Crunch and Sip is a set break time during our morning session, where children eat fresh fruit or vegetables and drink water in the classroom. Please also be informed that we are an **Allergy Aware** school and discourage students from bringing nuts to school (this includes Peanut Butter and Nutella).

## Preparing your child

To ensure a smooth transition into Pre-Primary, talk to your child about the positive aspects of their new adventure - making friends, playing, having fun, and learning amazing things. Initially, spending a bit of time in the room during drop-off is encouraged. Let your child know about these routines in advance, assuring them that you will return at the end of the day.

## What to wear

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, students will need to wear their full sports uniform: blue shorts, school sport polo shirt, school socks and black sneakers. On Tuesday and Thursday, they can wear their coloured faction shirts.

Students' hair should always be neat and tidy. Hair that touches the collar or longer must be tied back. Long fringes must be clipped back off the face - boys and girls. Students may wear either a blue, navy or hair colour hair ties, a single blue ribbon or narrow scrunchie. At no time can students shave their head, or part of their head with a blade less than a number two.

Please make sure all items of clothing (including shoes and socks) are clearly marked with your child's name. A spare pair of underwear, and possibly socks and shorts, should be kept in your child's bag at all time in the case of accidents.

## Arriving at Pre-Primary

Classroom doors open at 8:25am, with a staff member welcoming you and your child. Parents are responsible for their child until handed over to a member of staff. Older siblings are not permitted to bring students to the classroom and we ask that children do not play on the playground before or after school. In order to help your child develop their sense of independence, we ask that you direct your child to complete the following steps in the mornings:

- Hang school bag on hook outside the classroom door
- Place 'Crunch 'n Sip' container, water bottle, lunch box, and hat in your child's designated pigeonhole inside the classroom. (Labelled spare clothes can remain in school bags)
- Apply sun cream if you have not already done so
- Go to the toilet if required, and wash hands
- On the first day, find your child's name badge and attach it to their uniform

Parents and carers are welcome to spend some time with the children inside the classroom, engaging in reading or fine motor activities (other areas are not to be played with in the mornings). At 8:35am, a bell signals the start of the day, and parents are kindly requested to remind their child of who is picking them up and say goodbye to their child promptly. We are able to assist with children who are experiencing separation anxiety and will always call you if they do not settle quickly or if there are any concerns.

## Departing Pre-Primary

Pre-Primary concludes at 2.50pm. Please ensure you are on time and wait outside the appropriate classroom until your child is handed over to you. If arrangements have been made for another person to collect your child from class, please place their name on the 'Non-Parent/Guardian Pick Up Roster', to inform the staff of these arrangements. Under no circumstances is an older sibling or child permitted to collect a Pre-Primary student from class. It can be distressing for children when parents are late, but we know this may happen from time to time. If your child is not picked up before 3:00pm they will be taken to the Office for collection. If your child is to go on a bus after school, please let the office know as soon as possible via email.

## A final note

If your child has any medical requirements, please inform the school via email, complete all medical forms, and return them to your child's teacher promptly.

Written authorisation via the School Office is required, if there is a need to administer medications such as antibiotics or Ventolin.

Throughout the school year, we look forward to creating a supportive partnership with you, as parents and caregivers, to ensure the best possible experience for your child. For a more detailed introduction to our program and to address any queries you may have, we invite you to join us at the upcoming **Parent Information Session scheduled for Wednesday, 7th February.**

Once again, we extend a warm welcome to you and your family, and we look forward to sharing the joy and growth that Pre-Primary promises to bring!

Kind regards,  
Miss Deasy, Mrs Miller, Mrs Jelliman,  
Mrs Newman & Mrs Kingswood.

