

Yidarra Catholic Primary School

Parent Information Booklet 2017



3 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Programme

Dear Parents

Welcome to Pre-Kindergarten. We look forward to meeting you and your child.

At Yidarra, we believe that the early years of school are very special and we aim to provide a bridge from home to school through this positive introduction of Pre-Kindergarten. The Pre-Kindergarten learning environment will be one that nurtures, supports and develops secure relationships between teachers, students and parents. These relationships will ensure that the children feel safe and comfortable to learn and grow.

The experiences and opportunities provided will aim to develop the whole child (head, body, spirit and heart). We celebrate the uniqueness of each child and recognise that all children have had different experiences and have already established individualities. This is why we will provide a developmentally appropriate programme which encourages each child to develop at their own pace. Our programme will promote children's learning through play. Play experiences allow us to share in the child and the stage they are at, but also allow us to provide fun opportunities that nurture the child to grow to the next stage. Play in the early years is one of the most important stages in a child's life as it is the foundation for future social and academic performance. In Pre-Kindergarten our focus will be on social, emotional and language development.

Aims of a three year old education programme.

- Encourage self-help and independence in young children.
- Enhance the development of the whole child across the physical, social and emotional, language, cognitive and spiritual domains.
- Assist the children to develop a positive self-image and self-efficacy.
- Encourage parent participation in the school environment.
- Provide an aesthetically pleasing environment that encourages learning in the young child.
- Create a safe, secure and nurturing physical and human environment.
- To acknowledge, value and celebrate each child's individuality.
- Make available support to parents in relation to the child's development.
- Include flexibility in the programme that allows for individuals needs of each child.
- Provide developmentally appropriate programme for three year old children based on the current national requirements for early years.

Through each of these we promote school readiness in our children, families and school.

Overall, Pre-Kindergarten is a time when your child enters the social world beyond their family, a time for steady growth, exciting discoveries and a time to have FUN!

Pre-Kindergarten Teachers

YIDARRA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Term Dates 2017 – For Students 3 Year Old Pre-Kindy & K-6

These dates are subject to change & there will be some **Pupil Free Days** planned for Staff Development Days. These will be advertised on the Yidarra website: web.yidarra.wa.edu.au and the Yidarra Newsletters.

Term 1 - Wednesday 1 February to Friday 7 April

Term 2 - Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June

Term 3 - Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September

Term 4 - Monday 9 October to Friday 8 December



ABSENTEE PROCEDURES

Please report all absentees to the office and your child's classroom teacher.

Reporting a Full Day Absence:

Email the office **and** classroom teacher: admin@yidarra.wa.edu.au (teacher emails are available on the website: web.yidarra.wa.edu.au under 'Our School' and then 'Staff').

- Telephone prior to 8.30am: 9332 3011 (phone calls must be followed up with an email or written note)
- Written note (Absentee forms are available at the office and in classrooms if required)

Please ensure all emails and notes are dated and include your child's full name, class and reason for absence. All students' attendances must accompany notification from parents for legal requirements.

Students arriving Late & Early Departure Procedures:

Authorisation slip is required from the office prior to sending or collecting your child.

- Sign In - arriving Late to School (notify the office prior to 8.30am via email or telephone call)
- Sign Out - leaving School Grounds – appointments or illness etc.

Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds during school hours without written consent of parents.

Pre-Kindergarten Team

1 Teacher:

1 Teacher Assistant

Session

The number of sessions held during the course of the year depends on the demand for places. All sessions will be held in the Kindergarten classrooms.

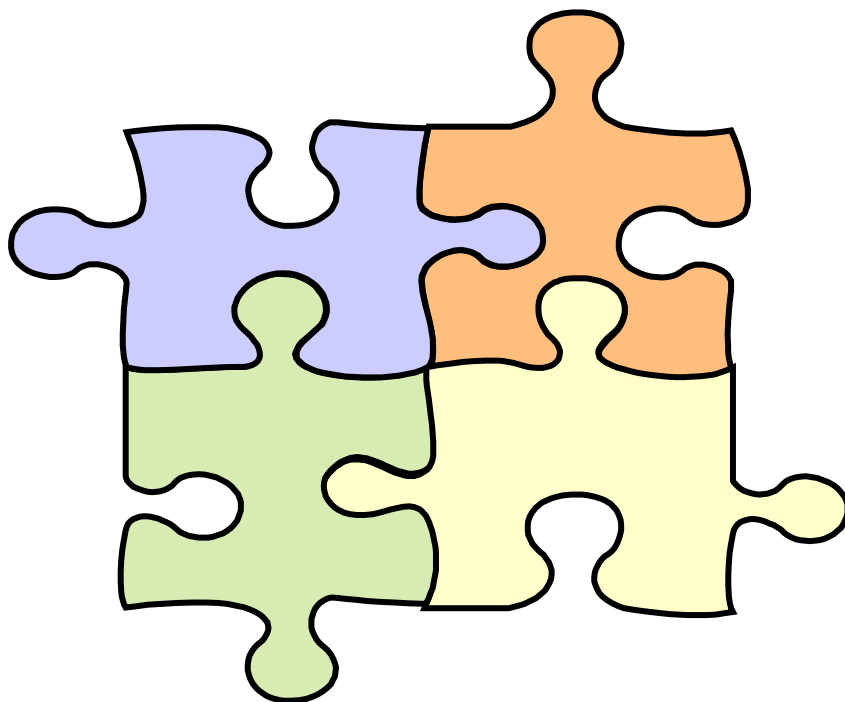
Pre-Kindy Blue: Thursday 8.55am - 2.40pm

Pre-Kindy Green: Thursday 8.55am - 2.40pm

When the classroom doors open at the beginning of the session, please help your child to:

- Hang their bag on a hook outside.
- Put on their name badge.
- Place their drink bottle on the drink table.
- Proceed with indoor activities until the pack-away music is played.
- After this, please settle your child on the mat and say a big goodbye.

At the start of each session we ask that a parent or accompanying adult shares an activity.



Recess

Please provide a healthy snack. We ask that you pack fruit, cheese and/or crackers. If your child has their fruit sliced at home please do the same for Pre-Kindy too.



Lunch Time

Please provide a healthy and nutritious lunch.

We ask you to refrain from sending popcorn, fruit juice and foods containing nuts (as we are a nut aware school).

Clothing

We ask that you dress your child for Pre-Kindy in comfortable clothing and appropriate footwear. This allows them to easily participate in all indoor and outdoor activities. Please do not send your child in clothes which will cause difficulty for the child when toileting. For this reason please avoid belts, overalls and pants with buttons and zips.

It is also advisable that a spare set of clothes and underwear is kept in your child's bag. A hat is also necessary as the school has a '**no hat no play**' policy. During the summer months please apply sunscreen onto your child before coming to Pre-Kindy.

Birthdays

We would love to celebrate your child's special day. If you would like to bring in something to share with the children please send in something that can be easily distributed and that **DOES NOT CONTAIN NUTS**. ***Please check with the teacher if other food items need to be avoided.***

Work Trolley

A work trolley will be placed outside the Pre-Kindy doors. This trolley will contain your child's work and any relevant notes. Please check under your child's name and collect all their beautiful creations from Pre-Kindy.

Parent/Teacher Communication

If you have any concerns about your child's progress please make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher. There are many things in your child's life that can affect how they are feeling, so if there is anything that the teachers should be aware of please let us know at the beginning of the session.

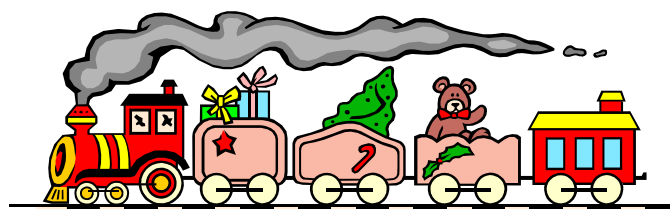
If your child is to be picked up by someone other than yourself, could you please write this down on our pick-up book under the correct date. If it is to be an ongoing arrangement could you please provide a letter stating whom your child is to be picked up by and when.

Hints to make your child's transition easier

- Talk to your child about their day.
- Build child's confidence when separated from you.
- Keep negative feelings to yourself.
- Always greet them in a positive way at the end of their day.
- As difficult as it may be, avoid prolonged goodbyes. Should you have any concerns about an uneasy separation, please feel free to phone us to confirm that your child has settled and is happy.
- We will call you if your child does not settle down and together we will work out a plan for the next session.

What to Bring

1. Named fabric shopping bag.
2. Named spare clothes including underwear and shoes.
3. Named separate containers for recess and lunch.
4. Named water bottle.
5. Named hat.
6. Named pillow (pillow pet or cushion).





"Play Today"



You say you love your children,
And are concerned they learn today?
So am I; that's why I'm providing
A variety of kinds of play.

You're asking me the value
Of blocks and other such play?
Your children are solving problems.
They will use that skill everyday.

You're asking what's the value
Of having your children play?
Your daughter's creating a tower.
She may be a builder someday.

You're saying you don't want your son
To play in that "sissy" way?
He's learning to cuddle a doll.
He may be a father someday.

You're questioning the learning centers;
They just look like useless play?
Your children are making choices;
They'll be on their own someday.

You're worried your children aren't learning,
and later they'll pay?
They're learning a pattern for learning,
For they will be learners always.

---Leila P. Fagg---





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**Yidarra
3 Year Old
Pre-Kindergarten
Programme**

