Dear Families,

Hello and welcome to the new school year. We trust that you had a restful break and that you return invigorated for the year ahead.

We have endeavoured to create a learning space that is welcoming and supportive for you and your child. Our learning space is intended to promote inquiry based learning while encouraging confidence and community building. It is important that children are provided the opportunity to learn with and alongside others in an attractive environment in which they feel safe, happy and organised. This year we will encourage your child to take responsibility for their own learning, independence and organisation. We believe that strong partnerships are central to effective learning and encourage regular communication with all.

**Teaching Days**
Toni Smedley: Monday
Amy Polglase: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

**On arriving at school**
Our class goal this year is to encourage and support Independence. Please encourage your child to put their own bag on their hook and remain in the courtyard where they will be supervised by the duty teacher from 8:30am until 8:45am. The classroom will open at 8:45am. Please support your child’s independence to organise themselves by encouraging them to bring their own message folder and drink bottle into the classroom and to commence their morning routine.

**Parental involvement**
We value parent support with our learning. If you are available to help, please come and see either of us so that we can set up a mutually agreeable time. This may be a regular or irregular commitment. Please ensure you have a valid police check.

**PE Uniform**
This term the children are having their PE lessons on Monday and Thursday. They will need to wear their full sports uniform on these days.

**Message Folder**
The message folder is used as a tool for parent/teacher communication. Each night, your child’s message folder will come home. Please check it each night for notices. It is essential that they bring their message folder to school each day. It should contain their reader, communication book and any notices for the teacher or office and can also be used to transport library books to and from school.

**Homework**
It is important that some regular practice of classroom learning be completed at home in order for skills to be consolidated. We encourage daily reading and spelling practice. We will keep you informed of our learning program and home practice expectations.

**Water**
We encourage the children to keep up their water levels during the day so please provide one drink bottle for the drinks basket in the classroom and one for their school bag. This ensures that they have access to water during indoor and outdoor learning times.
**Healthy snack**
Each morning, we will have a time for ‘healthy snack’ or ‘brain food’. Food eaten at this time assists children to keep up their energy levels during our morning learning session. Please send in a snack that isn’t too messy and can be eaten in a few minutes. It is preferred that you send ‘nude food’ (i.e. no wrappers) that has been cut or sliced for easy consumption. A list of snack ideas is attached.

**Headphones**
Please provide your child with a set of named, working headphones suitable for computer use. They will need to be kept in a labelled and suitably sized bag (such as a glad bag) in order to keep them untangled and secure. Many computer programs used by the children require the use of sound for complete involvement. We also use laptops, listening posts, and i-Pods, and headphones will enable the children to completely utilise these learning tools.

**Art Smock**
Please send in a named art smock for your child.

**Library**
Each week your child will visit the library on Friday. Children may borrow books for 2 weeks (this is flexible) to read and/or share with their family. You may wish to supply a library bag to transport books to and from school or, children may use their message folder for this purpose. Library book returns can be placed in the library book return basket in the classroom.

**Hats**
Our school policy requires your child to wear a school hat for play at recess and lunch times and for other outside activities during Terms 1 and 4. Please supply your child with sunscreen so they can reapply at recess and lunch time if needed.

**Canteen**
The canteen will be open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Further information and price lists will be sent home soon.

**Stationery**
Several items of stationery have been sent home with your child: 4 lead pencils, a packet of coloured pencils and a pair of scissors. Please ensure that these are clearly and securely named and returned to school as soon as possible.

**Communication Book**
A combined communication, spelling and reading record book will be given out soon.

We are anticipating an exciting and fun-filled year of learning.
Kind regards,
Amy Polglase & Toni Smedley

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**Things to organise:**
- Art Smock
- Library bag
- Message folder
- 2 drink bottles
- Headphones
  - Hat
  - Sunblock

Please label all of your child’s belongings!