



KINDERGARTEN PARENT INFORMATION 2017

*Teachers for 2017: Ms Karen Duruz AP (KK), Mrs Kim Crompton (KC),
Mr Tom Stott (KT) and Miss Dayle Gamble (KG)*

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to Kindergarten at Brisbania Public School! The year ahead is a very important and exciting one in your child's life. As your child settles into our school community, we aim to guide them in their social, academic and physical development.

We are looking forward to a successful partnership with you and your child in 2017.

KEY LEARNING AREAS (KLA's)

There are six Key Learning Areas that are covered in the K-6 school curriculum. These are English, Mathematics, History and Geography, Science and Technology, Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education.

English

Our Literacy program includes experiences from the English Curriculum strands - *Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing, Writing and Representing*.

We are currently implementing the Language, Literacy and Learning (L3) program. This program is a research-based Kindergarten classroom intervention, targeting text reading and writing. Students receive explicit instruction in reading and writing strategies in small groups of three to four selected students. Students then rotate to independent individual or group tasks. This occurs in the daily Literacy two hour session.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we address all Early Stage 1 Outcomes from the NSW Mathematics Curriculum. The strands include *Number and Algebra, Data, Measurement and Geometry, Statistics and Probability*.

History and Geography

Topics for this year include:

Term 2 - My Family

Term 4 - My Place

Science and Technology

Topics for this year include:

Term 1 - On the Move

Term 2 - Weather in my World

Term 3 - Staying Alive

Term 4 - What is it made of?

Kindergarten students will also have opportunities to use the Computer Lab, as well as, daily use of iPads in their classrooms.

Creative Arts

The Arts are integrated wherever possible with other KLA's in the Kindergarten program. The students will participate in weekly visual art and craft lessons, music lessons, dance/movement and drama experiences.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PD/H/PE)

We will be introducing the school rules and values of Brisbania Public School in Term 1.

Kindergarten will participate in weekly Sport lessons. The children should **wear their sports uniform** to school on their sport day.

Other PD/H programs to be implemented this year are - Drug Education, Road Safety, Child Protection and Water Safety.

You Can Do It!

This year we are implementing a social-emotional learning program called You Can DO It! It will teach your child how to be a successful and happy school student. There are 5 foundations that are taught- Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence, Confidence and Resilience. A note will go home explaining the foundation being taught in class so you can discuss, practise and extend your child's learning of each foundation at home.

BEST START - Best Start is currently being implemented across all Kindergarten classes. Notes have been sent home explaining in detail the Best Start program.

HOME READERS - Home reading is to be completed every school night for approximately 10 minutes. A new book is issued each weekday so students read 5 different books per week. Parents read the home reader with their child and fill in the Home Reading Sheet.

Home reading books are meant to be EASY for your child. They are given the level below what they are reading at school.

APPOINTMENTS - You are welcome to make an appointment to see your child's teacher if you have any concerns. Please use the communication book to request a meeting and suitable times you are available. The class teacher or office will contact you to confirm the time.

LUNCHES - Please send lunches that your child likes! Only pack a realistic amount for your own child to eat. Remember play is very important to your child! We encourage healthy eating at school and would appreciate no soft drinks be sent. We also encourage the children to eat their own food (no sharing).

LUNCH ORDERS/CANTEEN - All lunch orders need to be placed in the basket at the beginning of the day at the canteen or completed online. Children may purchase a treat from the canteen at recess or lunch time. Please make sure their money is secure in their bag or zip up pocket.

CRUNCH AND SIP (FRUIT BREAK) - The children participate in a healthy fruit break at 10am every day with a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable (pre-cut if needed) and a drink of water.

PARENT HELPERS - Parent helpers are welcome to help with group work. Please feel that you are welcome even if you've not been a parent helper before. Children love your involvement and teachers appreciate it enormously. Please remember to sign on in the office and ensure you have completed a statutory declaration. We will send home a note very soon outlining the times we need help.

TOYS - No electronic toys at school please. Children are welcome to bring balls, skipping ropes or small cars to play with at lunch time. Please ensure they are labelled with your child's name and class.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE - School begins at 8.50am. ALL children and parents who arrive before this time are to wait on the netball court, NOT outside the classroom. If your child arrives after the bell they will need to go to the office for a late note. If you wish to pick up your child prior to home time at 2.50pm, a note must be obtained from the office by you **BEFORE** you pick your child up from their classroom. You will be required to sign your child out of the school.

School ends at 2.50pm from Monday 20th February. Please meet us down on the netball court.

ABSENCES - Please provide a written note to the class teacher the day your child returns following an absence or use the Skoolbag app. If your child is going to be away (holiday, medical reason) please inform the class teacher in writing. Please do not write notes for absences in the Communication Book. They need to be written on a separate piece of paper.

ASSEMBLIES - Whole School Assembly is every Monday morning after recess in the COLA.
 - Kindergarten Assembly is every second Friday afternoon starting at 2:20pm in the school hall.

BUDDIES - Every child should have a Year 5 buddy. Buddies will be helping us with reading and participating in school events such as the Kindergarten Teddy Bear's Picnic and Easter Hat Parade.

BIRTHDAYS - Children are allowed to bring in birthday cakes or treats to share with their class. Please **DO NOT** send whole cakes that need to be cut up. Cupcakes or iceblocks are ideal. **Please inform your class teacher in writing if your child is not allowed to eat certain types of food.** Please make sure there is enough for each child. (KK - 20, KC - 20, KG -20 and KT -21).

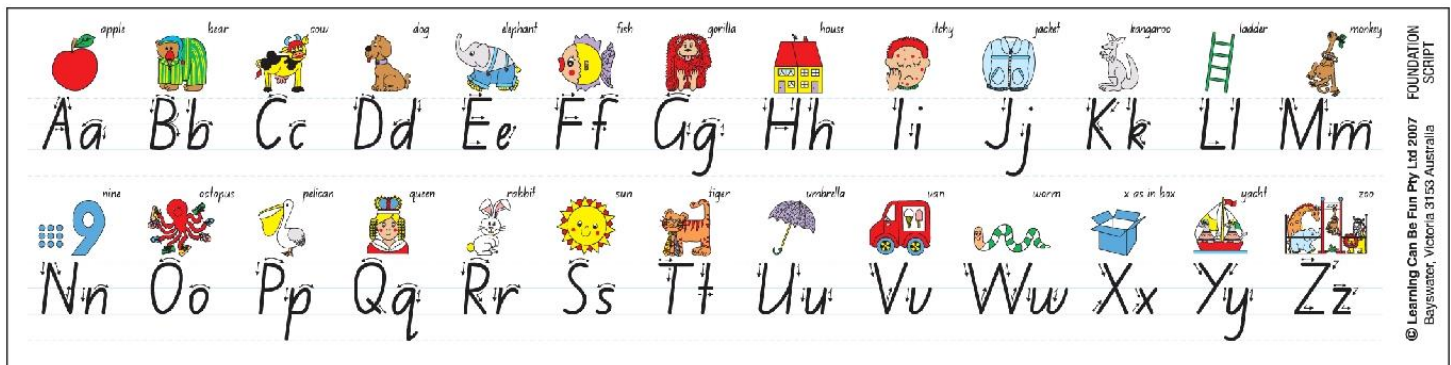
LABEL EVERYTHING! - Name and class. Check frequently for wear.

ACCIDENTS - Accidents do happen in Kindergarten. Please include in your child's bag a change of underwear and socks packed in a plastic bag.

Activities you can encourage at home to help your child at school:

- Home Reading and Homework
- Fundamental Movement Skills - Skipping, running, jumping, balancing, throwing, and catching.
- Fine Motor activities - cutting, pasting, play dough/plasticine, beading, drawing, painting, colouring in, tracing, writing.
- Talking and Listening Skills - Using correct language with correct pronunciation of words, listening to and talking about stories, talking about objects and experiences.
- Social Skills - sharing toys/household items, play days with children from your child's class, board games (taking turns and winning/losing), team sports.

How we write at school:



Pencil Grip

Encourage your child to hold his/her pencil in a way that allows their hand and fingers to move freely and easily when writing or drawing. General guidelines for a good pencil grip include:

- the pencil is held in a stable position between the thumb, index and middle fingers
- the ring and little fingers are bent and rest comfortably on the table
- the index finger and thumb form an open space
- the wrist is bent back slightly and the forearm is resting on the table
- the pencil is held about 1-2 cm from the tip.

Keeping in Touch

- The School website-<http://www.brisbania-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>
- Via Facebook page-<https://www.facebook.com/brisbania>
- Skoolbag App-get free on your smartphone from iTunes or google play store

We look forward to a wonderful partnership with you at Brisbania Public School for many years to come!
The Kindergarten Team ☺

