



St Anthony's Kindergarten Information 2017

'A light beneath our feet'

Early Years Learning Framework Outcomes

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD DO AT KINDERGARTEN? In a word **PLAY!**

Exploratory play, dramatic play, creative play, manipulative play, language play, constructive play, physically active play, co-operative play...

...with blocks, paint, glue, play dough, water, sand, jigsaws, story books, dress-ups, games, balls, cubbies, swings, climbing frames, beams, slides and many other materials and pieces of equipment.

The numerous types of play provide the children with opportunities for:

- Speaking and communicating
- Listening, observing, exploring
- Manipulating and discovering
- Achieving success
- Relating to the environment
- Sharing and trusting self and others
- Developing creativity and imagination
- Co-operating and socialising

Out of which grows the child's:

- Knowledge and understanding
- Conceptual development
- Personal development
- Sense of self and self esteem
- Attitudes, appreciations and values
- Skills and abilities
- Self expression and independence
- Fine and gross motor control
- ***Love of learning***

Learning Domains:



Kindergarten Program

The aim of our Kindergarten is to encourage all children to develop socially, physically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually in a safe and happy environment. The Kindergarten program is structured so that learning experiences link to each child's individual level of development and interest. At Kindy, the children learn primarily through **PLAY** and **IMMERSION**. Our 2017 Kindergarten days are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Hats

The school has a "No hat – no play" policy. Please try to encourage your child to be responsible for checking if there is a hat in his/her bag each morning. It may be worthwhile leaving a spare school hat at the bottom of the bag for emergencies.

Fruit Box

Children are asked to bring their own fruit each day in a small container. This is to be **clearly marked** with your child's name and placed in the basket provided for your child to eat at recess. Other healthy foods such as cheese cubes or vegetable sticks may be included. No sugary snacks please.

Healthy Lunch

We ask that packed lunches only contain the amount of food that the children would normally eat for lunch. One round of sandwiches is probably sufficient for most children. Please note that cakes, chocolates, chips, biscuits and lollies are not considered part of a healthy lunch. If your child is still hungry after eating their sandwiches, an extra piece of fruit or yoghurt could be included. **No foods containing any sort of nuts are permitted at St Anthony's as we are an Allergy Aware School.**

Birthdays

Birthdays are special to all children, so we like to celebrate their special day. On their birthday, each child is welcome to bring cupcakes, biscuits, chocolates or other small treats to share with the class. There will be a maximum of 30 children in each class. (Please remember to make treats NUT FREE). If you do not want your child to receive these treats, please inform the class teacher in writing and provide an alternative treat.

Car Park

Please exercise caution when driving in the school grounds. The car park can get very busy during the afternoon pickup period. Kindergarten children will need to be picked up from their classroom.

Health

For the sake of your child and the health of others *please do not send children to school if they are sick*. Children who have runny noses or persistent coughs should remain at home until well.

Drink Bottle

Each day the children will need to bring a drink bottle containing **water**. As the children will be encouraged to drink water as often as possible throughout the day, please check that your child is able to open his/her drink bottle easily and close it securely. Children will be able to refill their water bottle as necessary throughout the day.

Uniform

Kindergarten children need to wear a red Kindergarten shirt with black school shorts in summer. School hats are also compulsory. In winter children will need a blue school tracksuit. This uniform will help your child to differentiate between the routine of a Kindergarten day compared to that of a non-Kindergarten day. **All clothing that children are likely to remove during the day (eg. shoes, socks, jackets, hats, etc) should be clearly labelled.** Please ensure that a change of clothes, suitable to the season, is kept in your child's school bag at all times. Children need to be able to take off and put on their own footwear so no lace up shoes unless your child can do up their own shoelaces please.

Parent Roster

To allow us time to settle the children into a routine, a parent roster will begin in week six of Term One. If you are able to help out on any given day, please add your name to the roster, which will be located near the classroom door. We ask that you only sign up **once** initially so that everyone has an equal chance to attend on a day that suits them. If you are able to fill another vacancy on the roster later in the term, we welcome you to do so.

Confidentiality

All children develop at different rates and have different strengths and weaknesses. When on roster, you will observe the many varying abilities within the Kindergarten group. Please do not discuss these observations outside the classroom. If you have any concerns about what you have observed while on roster, please see the classroom teacher. Likewise, if you have any concerns about your own child's development or experiences at Kindy, please make a time to discuss these directly with the teacher.

Arrival

The Kindergarten doors will be opened at **9:00 am** and class begins at **9:10am**. Please utilise the first ten minutes to do a puzzle or read a story with your child. Children should not be brought to class before 9:00 am as they cannot be adequately supervised while staff are preparing for the session. Please wait on the verandah with your child until the doors are opened. Children are NOT to play on playground equipment before or after school.

Parent Communication Book

If another person (besides the child's parent) is picking your child up from Kindy, please record this in the Special Arrangement Book. Staff members will refer to this book when releasing children at the end of the day. If your circumstances change during the day and you are unable to pick up your child as planned, please telephone the school office and leave details of the new arrangements.

Adventure Book

Throughout the year each child will have a turn to bring their class character home for a couple of nights. These classroom 'mascots' have had many exciting adventures in the past, however they also love spending quiet weekends at home with the Kindergarten children and their families. When your special visitor comes to stay, it will have its own bag containing a journal. Each family is asked to contribute **one page** to this journal, and at the next Kindy session the journal entry will be read to the class.

Prayer Bag

Each child will also have a turn to take home the prayer bag for a couple of nights. The bag contains prayer cards, Rosary Beads, a candle and a journal. Please note that for safety reasons no matches or lighters will be included with the candle. Children will be encouraged to create their own prayer setting at home where they can 'talk to God' with their family. Please contribute to the prayer journal by including a prayer, a picture or a short description of your child's experience with the prayer bag.

Parent – Teacher Interviews

During the first three weeks of the school year, we would like to meet with each child's parent/s for a brief parent-teacher interview. These interviews will be conducted in the afternoons as Kindergarten sessions finish at 2:00pm. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss any information about your child that you think may be significant to his/her development or experiences at Kindy. Any information discussed will be treated as confidential. At the start of the year, an interview timetable will be posted near the door. Please select a suitable timeslot for your interview. If, for any reason, you are unable to attend during the times given, please see your child's teacher to make alternative arrangements.

Library

Children will require a school library bag (as per uniform order form) for book borrowing from the school library.

Sport

Children will participate in a 40 minute sport lesson with Mrs Shakespeare each week to develop gross motor skills.

Please keep this information handy so you can refer to it from time to time throughout the year, as there is a lot to remember.

KINDERGARTEN TIMES:

Weeks 1-3 9:00am -2:00pm

Week 4 onwards 9:00am to 2:40pm

