"A light beneath our feet"

St Anthony's
Three Year Old Kindergarten Program

"Learning through play, having fun each day!"

Welcome to St Anthony's School**.** We are looking forward to working with you and your child. Our primary focus is on creating a smooth transition from home to the school environment and ensuring your child feels safe and happy in our care. The Three Year Old Kindergarten Program provides an introduction to schooling for children and their families, which aims to set the foundation for future school learning. The early years of school are such a special time where children enter the social world beyond their family. It is a time where each child will make exciting discoveries and become creative thinkers and doers!

Curriculum

Our program is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) and aims to encourage children to form new friendships and develop their emotional, social, spiritual, physical and cognitive skills in preparation for Kindergarten. The Principles, Practices and Learning Outcomes of the EYLF assist our Early Years teachers to plan, implement and evaluate all aspects of our Three Year Old Kindergarten Program including its activities, routines and experiences.

EYLF Learning Outcomes

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

Your child will engage in activities which include singing and dancing, stories and a range of sensory, play based and craft activities. Outdoor play and snack time provides opportunities for socialisation and belonging. The children are encouraged to make their own choices, foster independence and express their creativity as much as possible. The afternoon session includes quiet time, where the children can have a rest if needed.

One of the main areas of focus of our Three Year Old Kindergarten Program is for each child to acquire and develop social skills, primarily through play throughout their day. This is such an important stage of your child's life as it lays the foundation for their future social and academic performance.

Uniform

Blue Three Year Old Kindergarten T-shirts are available from the school uniform shop (please see Uniform Order Form enclosed). Please ensure you dress your child for Three Year Old Kindergarten in comfortable, practical clothing that can be easily removed for toileting. Please also bear in mind that despite our best efforts, paint can get on clothes, so no "good" clothes please.

What To Bring

For each session your child will need:

- A hat (school hat is optional).
- Healthy morning tea (in a separate container) – St Anthony's is an Allergy Aware School. Please DO NOT pack nuts or food items containing nuts.
- A drink bottle of water (labelled).
- A packed lunch (please try to choose healthy options).
- Two changes of clothing in case of accidents.
- A large school bag (big enough to carry everything home in).

Please ensure that everything is clearly labelled.

Seesaw

The main form of communication in our Three Year Old Kindergarten Program is through the use of the app Seesaw to showcase your child a work and play. This provides parents and carers with a snapshot of the activities they experience at school and will act as a digital portfolio of their happy moments and learning tasks. Seesaw for Parents is free and available for iOS devices (from the App store) and Android devices (Google Play).

Session Times: TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS from 8.40am-2.50pm.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Drop off and pick up will be at the door on the playground side of the Kindy building. Kiss and Ride will not be used for Three Year Old Kindergarten children.

When you bring your child in to the classroom in the morning, you are welcome to stay for a puzzle or story. Once your child is settled, please kiss them goodbye and gently reassure them you will be back to pick them up at home time. The children settle quickly once parents have left, and we will always ring you if there are any problems. Please try to arrive on time at the end of the day.

The early childhood years are a gift of time which enables children to experience the joy of being created and uniquely gifted by a loving God. Play is the instrument for teaching in the Three Year Old Program and learning should be open ended, spontataneous and planned. (CEWA Three Year Old Program Handbook, 2024).

We hope you and your child have an enjoyable year!