

# Welcome to St. Patrick's Parish School

**Principal:** Mrs Liz Johnston

**Assistant Principal:** Mrs Michelle Gittoes

## **2024 KINDER TEACHERS:**

KFD Mrs Fiona Davis

KCW Mrs Cindy Whitfield

KWW Mrs Kelly Wheatley / Mrs Marlo Wild



## **2024 NSW SCHOOL TERMS**

**Kinder Starts Thursday 8th February 2024** - due to Best Start Assessments

Term 1 Friday 2nd February - Friday 12th April

Term 2 Monday 29th April - Friday 5th July

Term 3 Monday 22nd July - Friday 27th September

Term 4 Monday 14th October - Thursday 19th December

Please Note: Kinder **do not attend** school on Wednesdays during February.  
Wednesdays 14th, 21st & 28th.

You will be notified of any pupil free days via our Compass app or you can see them on our website events calendar.

**Best Start Assessments will be held from Wednesday 31st January to Wednesday 7th, February.**

**These are one-hour sessions and parents are required to bring their child to their classroom. At this session parents will be asked to fill out a form. We ask that you please bring with you any documentation that may be useful for the classroom teacher. (i.e speech and OT Assessments). Bookings for Best Start are via the Compass App (our school communication system) and you will be able to access the app from 2nd January, 2024.**

*Reading Book Bag: On your child's last orientation session they will be given a gift. It is a book bag that will be used as a library bag and home reading folder. **It will need to come back to school on the first day.***

## **HOME LIST - KINDERGARTEN**

Children need to provide the following items for their own use at school next year. Please label all items clearly with your child's name and surname rather than initials. e.g. Bill Smith.

1. A drink bottle for classroom use - **WATER ONLY** - named
2. Smock (with long elasticised sleeves) - Named
3. A set of headphones for use with a school iPad - named
4. Whiteboard markers x 6 (Black Only) - not named
5. Bostik Glue sticks x 4 – not named
6. One box of tissues



**NO TEXTAS OR WIND UPS NECESSARY AS THESE WILL BE PROVIDED.**

## SOME POINTS OF INTEREST



- Children attend school from 8.50am to 3.00pm – **The children need to arrive no later than 8.40am. At 8.45am music will be played over the loudspeaker which indicates the start of the day. Please drop your child off, say goodbye and leave. This allows the children to settle quickly.**
- **Kinder children enter and exit via Smollett Street Gates. Please do not use the staff car park.**
- Please be aware that the school is unable to have birthday or celebration treats provided to classes. So we please ask that **NO** treats be sent in with your children on their birthday.
- “Show and Tell” is no longer held. Lost precious items can prove very distressing.
- It is preferred for the 1<sup>st</sup> month they do not travel by bus but, if necessary, it is important that teachers know on which bus your child travels. (Please put these details in writing.)
- **PLEASE** label everything - using both name and surname, especially lunch boxes, hats and drink bottles.  
**(Please don't use all Capital Letters)**
- All Infant School children receive free bus travel. Bus passes are available online at [transportnsw.info/school-students](http://transportnsw.info/school-students)
- Put recess and lunch in separate containers for Term One. Experiment with amounts of food.
- Practise packing and unpacking lunch boxes. Talk about the playground with children. Practise opening containers. We would appreciate it if food is packed in containers - no soft plastics if possible please.
- “Practise” using public toilets and washing hands using soap.
- When teaching children to write their own name, **only use capital letter for first letter of name.**
- Children will benefit from any familiarisation with the alphabet – both sounds & letter names.
- A basic knowledge of counting and number recognition to 10 would be helpful.

- **Read to your child daily.** Allow the children to hold the book at times.



- Children have a fruit break at 10am- a piece of raw fruit or vegetable, not fruit in juice or jelly. It is easiest in the school environment if the fruit is cut up and in a separate container.

- For the first few weeks teachers are very busy settling in children. Say “Goodbye”, Smile and Go!!!! Should you wish to communicate with teachers please send a message via Compass or make an appointment to speak with them at a later time.

- Art smocks should have long elasticised sleeves as these are more practical.

- School Bags - Large bags are preferable as Kinder folders and books are A4 size. “Play” practise packing and unpacking bags, relaying notes. School bags are available at the school clothing pool open Tuesdays 2.30 - 3.15pm during school terms.

- St. Patrick’s has a “No School Hat, No Play” policy. Hats are part of the school uniform and are also available from the school clothing pool & office. Please apply sunscreen each morning. No zinc cream please. **Please name your child’s school hat. You may even wish to have your child’s name or initials embroidered around the brim to make it easier for them to find. Hats will be left at school during Term One and Term Four.**

- Children settle in better to school life and good patterns are established when they have enough time to play before the music starts at 8.45am and the bell rings at 8.50 am for class. Please help your child unpack if necessary, then wish them a happy day and leave. This enables them to interact with their peers before the bell rings.

- Our Tuckshop operates Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The school now operates an online ordering and payment system. Instructions for this are on our website.



- If your child is absent please send an absent note via the compass app.

- If your child is going away and will be absent from school for 10 days or more you must complete an “Extended Leave Form”. These are available via our website notes page or from the school office.