



# MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE



**Principal: Belinda Andrews**

## Preschool Term Two, 2022

### Gudamang, Guginya, Buru and Walga Preschool Classes

Dear families,

Welcome back to preschool! We hope that you have had a wonderful holiday and are excited for another term in Preschool. It has been wonderful to see the children again and hear all their exciting holiday stories.

This term we will be supporting the children in developing a sense of 'being' at preschool. We will achieve this by being in the moment as we play and learn together. We will continue to build upon and maintain relationships with others and enjoy play-based and interest-based learning experiences in small groups and as a whole class. We will assist the children to develop their sense of wellbeing by exploring emotions and and develop strategies to build self-confidence, communication skills and regulation through provocations, investigations, explicit teaching, differentiated activities and whole group discussions.

#### Seesaw and Program

Our learning program will continue to be posted to Seesaw for families to read and contribute comments. We appreciate feedback and encourage families to share their thoughts and ideas with us. Teachers will continue to provide group and individual learning stories, reflections photographs and videos that represent each child's journey at preschool. Detailed class programs providing information about the planned investigations and experiences are regularly posted onto Seesaw. If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please use the 'inbox' section of this App to send a private message.

#### Walk on Country and sustainability

We will continue exploring our local environment with an Indigenous lens through our *Walk on Country* Program. This term we will develop an individualised Acknowledgement of Country for each class to demonstrate and pay our respects towards the land and the traditional custodians. The program also explores sustainability through an Indigenous perspective by developing relations with the flora and fauna and caring for the land, and its animals. With the children, we will continue to develop our garden beds and build learning experiences which explore vegetation and composting which enriches our soil and supports the insects and animals present in our playground.

#### Library

With the anticipated easing of COVID restrictions this term, we are hoping to commence our visits to the library each week. Children will have the opportunity to engage with a variety of literature including fiction to non-fiction. Teachers will run explicit library lessons, learning how to select a book of interest, borrowing books and early reading behaviours. Library day and times will be advised via Seesaw when we know more about the easing of restrictions. In the meantime, please prepare a library bag for you child. This can simply a calico bag. Please clearly label the library bag with your child's name and class.

## **Kenny Koala**

Kenny Koala will be visiting the preschool to teach the children about road safety. The program explores the ways in which children can remain safe on the road. All classes will have the opportunity to engage in activities and discussions with Constable Kenny about the purpose of a seatbelt, how to cross a road safely and the steps involved to cross a road safely. Constable Kenny will also explore 'making a good decision' when walking or riding a bike, scooters, or skateboards near a busy road.

## **Winter is coming**

Please ensure your child brings a warm coat to preschool each day. Outside investigations happen every day in all weather conditions. As a SunSmart accredited school, on 1 June we no longer need to wear our hats during outdoor activities. Your child's hat will be washed by the preschool staff and stored until 1 August, when the whole school community will again wear their hat for the remainder of the year.

## **Sun safety**

Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child each morning before preschool starts. We will supervise and assist children to reapply sunscreen between 11:30am and 12pm.

## **Healthy Eating and Allergies**

Macgregor Primary School encourages healthy eating. At preschool we ask all children to bring at least one piece of fresh fruit (or some vegetables) to eat at fruit break. Each child also needs to bring a water bottle each day, filled with water only.

During our Fresh Tastes program this term, the children will learn to identify a range of healthy foods that help our bodies to GO, GLOW and GROW.

Several students at preschool this year have allergies. We are an allergy aware school and ask that children do not bring the following products: **nuts, kiwi fruit, seafood (fish, prawns and tuna)**. Your support with this request will assist with creating a safe and healthy environment for all.

We have discovered that the children are very kind and like to share their food. Unfortunately, we have to discourage the sharing of food due to allergies and consideration of the varied cultural backgrounds of the children. The exception to this is the sharing of cupcakes with the whole group for special celebrations such as a birthday. Following COVID protocols, if families wish to bring cupcakes for a special celebration, please ensure the cupcakes are commercially baked and wrapped.

## **Belongings**

Please make sure all your child's belongings are labelled. Drink bottles, lunch bags, lunch boxes, forks, spoons, school bags, shoes, spare clothing etc. There are a few children with the same items and we like to be able to return any lost items to the correct owner.

## **Wellbeing @ Macgregor (W@M)/ Preschool Equipment**

You may have seen posters around the school that describe Macgregor's expectations for positive 'getting along' behaviours in different areas. These posters are part of our *Wellbeing at Macgregor* framework, also known as **W@M**. At preschool we introduce the four 'Superheroes' (called Safe, Respectful, Responsible and Learner) to teach about learning behaviours at Macgregor. As part of our W@M framework (Wellbeing at Macgregor), we encourage all children to care for their own, and each other's belongings. In addition, we develop routines and agreements at preschool regarding caring for the indoor and outdoor preschool equipment. If you would like further information about our wellbeing program, please ask, we are happy to answer your questions.

## **Wet Weather Gear and Spare Clothes**

At Macgregor Preschool we run an 'all weather' program, meaning we continue to explore our outdoor environment even when it's cold and damp so please pack clothing appropriate to the weather forecast. We also request that each child has a change of weather appropriate spare clothes in their school bag every day.

### **Playground Supervision**

At preschool we have duty of care for your children from 8:45am to 2:45pm. We ask that families stay with their child before preschool begins and then verbally 'hand over' the care of their child at the gate. The children can then be collected at 2:45pm. Due to COVID-19 safety protocols, we ask that families arrive at **8:45am** and at **2:45pm**. We will 'hand over' your child at the preschool gates. Thank you for your understanding during these tricky times.

The gate as the preschool gates is locked 9:00am – 2:45pm. If you need to collect your child/ren early, please call the primary school on 61421600 (front office) to advise that your child is leaving early and needs to be signed out. The office staff will call the Preschool to advise the teachers to ready your child for collection.

### **Student Reports and Parent-Teacher Interviews**

Families will receive a student report outlining their child's progress in week 9. There will also be an opportunity to book an interview to discuss your child in weeks 9 and 10, information about this process will be sent out closer to the dates.

Kind regards,

*Kylie Macdonald, Jessica Simpkins, Lyndsey Orchard, Heather Watt, Fozia Tabassam, Cecilia Wong and Jo Pearce*

[kylie.macdonald@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:kylie.macdonald@ed.act.edu.au) [jessica.simpkins@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:jessica.simpkins@ed.act.edu.au) [lyndsey.orchard@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:lyndsey.orchard@ed.act.edu.au)  
[joanne.pearce@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:joanne.pearce@ed.act.edu.au)