



MACGREGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

LINKED BY LEARNING... EXPERIENCE, EXPRESSION & EXCELLENCE



Principal: Belinda Andrews

Preschool Term One, 2022

Gudang, Guginya, Buru and Walga Preschool Classes

At Macgregor Primary School's Preschool unit, we view all children as unique, creative, capable and competent learners. We recognise that children learn through play, can make decisions to inform their own learning and have differing needs, interests, backgrounds and abilities.

This term we will be supporting the children in developing a sense of 'belonging' at preschool. We will achieve this by offering experiences that support each child in forming positive relationships with their peers and educators. Together we will explore the concepts of friendship, inclusivity and individuality through quality children's literature. We will assist the children in developing their self-confidence and communication skills through provocations, investigations, explicit teaching, differentiated activities and whole group discussions.

Our teaching and learning this term will explore four essential questions:

- *What do we do at preschool?*
- *What groups do I belong to?*
- *How can I be a good friend?*
- *How can I solve problems?*

An exciting part of preschool is discovering and celebrating each other's differences. We encourage the children to share their special memories, thoughts and family traditions with us and look forward to families participating with ideas and artifacts for this exploration throughout the year.

Our learning program will 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. Our preschool will be using the *Seesaw* Online App to showcase your child's learning. Teachers will provide group and individual learning stories, reflections photographs and videos that represent each child's journey at preschool.

Walk on Country

We will be exploring our local environment with an Indigenous lens through our *Walk on Country* Program. This involves exploring our environment and making connections to the land and its flora and fauna. We begin the walk with an Acknowledgement of Country for the traditional custodians of the land that we walk and learn upon.

Library

Due to COVID protocols, Preschool will not be visiting the school library or borrowing books to take home. However, there will be many opportunities for the children to be immersed in literature and foster a love of reading. These opportunities include but are not limited to, time spent engaging in stories during explicit teaching, group times and individual and small group interests. Classroom reading corners will be updated regularly by classroom teachers with books from the school library.

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. As a Sunsmart school, we also teach the children to wear their Sunsmart hats and we model Sunsmart behaviours.

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.

We are an allergy aware school with several students having allergies to the following products: **nuts, kiwi fruit, seafood (fish, prawns and tuna)**. We ask that children do not bring these foods to school, to 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 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.

School Hats

This year we have provided each student with a hat to keep at preschool. The hats are named, will stay at preschool and be washed by staff at the end of each school term.

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 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 to introduce the four 'Super Heroes' (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.

Volunteering at Preschool

At preschool we value the wonderful contribution of families to our program. Unfortunately, due to current COVID restrictions we cannot have parent helpers in the classrooms. We will update you when these health guidelines change.

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.

The National Quality Standard

We take pride in valuing each new and unique preschool community and we will be asking for your contribution to the creation of our *2022 Preschool Philosophy*. Throughout the year we will also seek assistance with our program and in the ongoing development of our learning spaces. If you have expertise, time, materials or knowledge to support our teaching and learning, please let us know.

Kind regards,

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

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