

# Kinder Orientation

Parent Information Session

2011

(for kindergarten in 2012)

# Welcome to Towradgi Public School



# Today's Program

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Information Session (Principal)
3. Before & After School Care
4. School Counsellor : (Jane Wittingham)
5. Parents and Citizens (P&C)
6. Uniform display
7. Morning Tea

# Towradgi Public School

## A great place to learn!

*Congratulations on choosing Towradgi P.S. for your child. Why is our school the right place for your child to grow and learn?*



# Our Staff

- Caring and dedicated staff deliver excellent teaching and learning programs.
- Staff work hard to deliver a curriculum that is just right for your child.
- Staff engage in ongoing training and development.
- Importantly, we have a kind and experienced kindergarten teacher who your child will just love!



# Our Students

- Our students are kind and caring.
- The playground is a nice place to be!
- Our classrooms are settled working and learning environments.



# Our school is for everyone!

- At our school we have facilities for all students, including those with disabilities.
- Students and staff at our school have a great sense of community which is evident everywhere.



# At Orientation Your Child Will:

- Meet their teacher
- Meet other students, including their senior buddy
- Experience some of the school routine
- See that school will be fun!
- Tour the school
- Ask questions
- Complete some set tasks so that the teacher can make observations to help with the transition process.





# Completing the enrolment process

**By now your enrolment is probably complete. If there is something missing or something you need to do, we will contact you.**

- If your child's family details change at any time throughout their schooling, please let us know as a matter of importance eg if your address or phone number changes, or if you want to nominate a new emergency contact person.
- court orders (if you share the custody of your child or your custody arrangements change, you will need to bring copies of the court orders to the school).



# Allergies And Medical Conditions

It's essential to tell the Principal before your child starts school if he or she has any allergies or medical conditions. You should also let the school know of any major changes to your child's health as soon as you are aware of them.



# What happens if my child is sick at school?

If your child is sick at school, they will come to the office.

They may spend some time in the sick bay and parents may be contacted.

The school acts on emergencies promptly and appropriately.



# Late arrivals and early departures

If your child comes to school late, or they need to leave early, they will need to go to the office. They need to be signed in or out and notification is given to the class teacher.

Only authorised people may pick children up from school. Please advise the school if someone new will be picking up your child.

The teacher will closely monitor the picking up of children in the early part of the year.



# School Uniform

At Towradgi, we place great pride and importance in our school uniform.

We encourage all students to wear their school uniform every day.

There is a uniform order form in your information package.

If you have any problems providing your child with correct uniform, please contact the Principal.



# Label Everything

At our school, we have a lost property bin located outside the staff room but, to save time, money and frustration, please clearly label all of your child's items – uniforms, drink bottles, pencil cases ... everything!

The easiest way to do this is to write your child's name underneath the hemline or on the tag, using a permanent fabric marker (but remember tags can be cut off). Alternatively, you can sew or iron on personalised labels.



# Pretend School Days

Practising school days can show you where your child may need a little extra help in gaining confidence about going to school.

You may also identify routines you need to change to fit in with school life.

## **Some school routines to practise together include:**

- dressing in the school uniform
- putting on school shoes (new shoes may cause blisters, ask your child to wear them in a little before school begins)
- testing school lunches (can your child open their lunch box, or open packaging such as poppers?)
- going to the toilet on their own (e.g. has your son used a urinal?)
- drinking from a bubbler.

# Make Sure Your Child Is Road / Travel Safe

Teach your child how to be safe when going to and from school.

Make sure your child knows:

- How and where to cross the road
- Where to get in and out of a car
- What the signs around the school mean
- About stranger danger

Be a good role model for children!





# Some particulars for our school

- Please enter the school using one of the two gates, either at the middle or on the northern part of the school frontage. Please do not enter through or walk along the school driveway.
- The driveway and car park area is for authorised vehicles only. To apply for authorisation, please contact the Principal.
- We encourage everyone to use the pathways when moving around the school.

# What Will My Child Learn At School?

There are 6 Key Learning Areas in primary school. They are:

- **English**  
students learn about, and learn to use written language.
- **Mathematics**  
students develop the ability to investigate and solve non-routine problems.
- **Science and Technology**  
students learn about natural and man-made environments.
- **Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)**  
this area of learning deals with peoples' interactions with one another and with their social, cultural and physical environments.

- **Personal development, health and physical education (PDHPE)** aims to develop knowledge and understanding, skills, values and attitudes that will help students to adopt active, healthy and fulfilling lifestyles.
- **Creative Arts**  
students explore and experience different art forms including dance, drama, music and visual arts.



# Learning in Stages

- Early Stage 1 (kindergarten)
- Stage 1 (years 1 & 2)
- Stage 2 (years 3 & 4)
- Stage 3 (years 5 & 6)
- Stage 4 (years 7 & 8)
- Stage 5 (years 9 & 10)
- Stage 6 (years 11 & 12)

# Meeting others

- Towards the end of this year you will receive an invitation to our famous Christmas Play.
- Early next year you will be invited to a welcome BBQ where you can meet the staff and other parents.
- If you would like to talk to other parents prior to starting school next year, contact the Principal and we will put you in contact with one of our wonderful parents.

# When Does School Start?

- The first day for kindergarten students is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012.
- Kindergarten students finish their school day at the same time as all other students – 2:55pm.



# The Best Start Assessment

You may have heard of the Best Start Assessment. All kindergarten students in NSW government schools will complete the Best Start Assessment in 2012. Best Start is a way of benchmarking children when they start school.

Your child will be involved in the assessment between Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. We will organise a time for your child's assessment before the end of this year. There is no need to prepare for this assessment which will take about 40 minutes to complete.

# School Days Folder

Today, all parents will receive a special folder for their child. This folder is titled 'School A to Z Organiser' and will become a source to record and store your child's school memories and important information. Each year, there will be extra things to add to your folder. Please keep this in a safe place at home.



# Library

- All students visit the school library each week.
- At this time, students may borrow and exchange books and engage in a library activity with the teacher librarian, Mrs Hancock.
- Each student should have a library bag to protect their books. A voucher for a free library bag can be found in your information packs.



# Reporting to Parents

- Written reports will be sent home to parents twice each year (end of terms 2 & 4).
- Parent/teacher interviews/conferences will be held for all students at the end of term 1 but parents are welcome to make an appointment to discuss their child's performance/progress at any time throughout the year. Your child's teacher may contact you to initiate such a meeting if there is a particular need.

# Other Communication

- Newsletters are sent home every fortnight (odd weeks) with the oldest student in the family.
- Keep an eye on the school sign at the front of the school for upcoming events.
- You will get a term calendar each term with important events/activities listed.

# Lunch Orders & Canteen

- Our lunch orders are filled daily by Anna's Deli. Lunch orders are dropped at the office before school and lunches are delivered to the students at lunchtime.
- Our stage 3 students (Yr 5&6) operate a student run snack canteen at lunchtime. A menu will be sent home at the start of 2012. It is also available on our website.



# School Bags & What to Pack

- Make sure the school bag is not too big or heavy.
- In kindergarten, children need their lunch (which they can open themselves), a drink in a drink bottle, a school hat, a raincoat (in bad weather) and a change of underwear (just in case).



# Healthy Foods

- At Towradgi, we encourage healthy eating. We strongly encourage the eating of fruit at 'fruito' time (afternoon break).



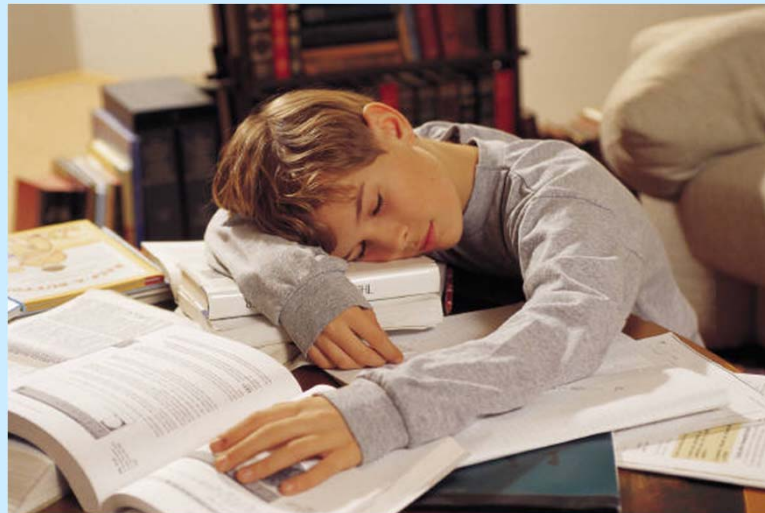
# Breakfast

- A healthy breakfast is essential for maximum learning potential! Please make sure your child eats a healthy breakfast each school day.



# Sleep

- Just as important as good food is adequate sleep. Your child will be very tired at the end of the school day and will need a good rest to recharge the batteries for the next day.





# School Info Packs

- Have a look through your information pack which is filled with great information to help with the transition of your child to ‘Big School’.
- If there’s anything else you need or want to know before starting next year, please don’t hesitate to contact us here at school.

# Some Final Thoughts

- Be involved in your child's learning
- Be enthusiastic about school and learning
- Support the school and your child's teacher
- Keep teaching your child at home
- Encourage your child in their schooling and social interactions
- Communicate with your school and teachers