



## WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN 2020

Welcome to both you and your child to Fairfield Heights Public School. It is an honour and a privilege to have your child at our school. You will find our school to be a friendly and welcoming place for children and adults.

We are very happy to see our newest students handling school life so well. All students smoothly made the transition from home and pre-school to the school environment. The Kindergarten teachers have assisted this transition through the implementation of a unit of work called 'School Days'. This teaching unit provides students with opportunities to explore the classroom culture, school surroundings and to develop social skills and strategies. This unit of work also provides learning experiences in all Key Learning Areas.

The Kindergarten teachers are excited to be working with you and the students. Our role is to make sure that your child feels happy and safe at school and that your child is in a quality learning environment.

We trust that you find the following information helpful and we urge you to speak with us in regard to any questions or issues that arise throughout this very important year of your child's schooling.

## CURRICULUM

The curriculum consists of six Key Learning Areas (KLAs); English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, History and Geography, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) and Creative Arts. Teachers plan learning experiences for students to meet outcomes for each KLA as determined by the NSW Education Standards Authority syllabus documents. Students in Kindergarten work at Foundation and Early Stage 1 levels. Teachers develop students' skills and knowledge in all Key Learning Areas by using modelled, guided and independent teaching strategies.

### ENGLISH

#### *Speaking & Listening, Reading & Viewing, & Writing & Representing*

The English teaching program helps students to develop an awareness of print and how to 'crack the code' to read and write letters and words.

Students engage in a formal phonics program to learn single letter sounds and a sight word program through modelled, guided and independent reading and writing activities. These occur in whole class, small group and individual learning experiences.

Talking and listening are important skills which are developed throughout the year. Students are encouraged to speak about a range of familiar topics while broadening their vocabulary. News time is one area that focuses on this area of learning. Some ideas for talks are: photos to show, special experiences, favourite places, family outings and events.

You can support your child's learning in this KLA by reading to your child daily and talking with them about events and people of significance.

### MATHEMATICS

#### *Working Mathematically, Number, Patterns and Algebra, Measurement and Data, Space and Geometry*

The strands will have the following focus;

- Number: read, represent and write numbers 1-30, using them to count, add, subtract, and begin to multiply and divide.
- Space & Geometry: Position and 2D and 3D will be explored.
- Measurement: compare and describe length, mass, volume, area and time.
- Patterns & Algebra: recognise, create, continue and describe repeating patterns.
- Data: Using pictures or objects to represent a graph and begin to interpret simple graphs.

You can support your child's learning in this KLA by discussing maths in the context of everyday living.

## CREATIVE ARTS

### *Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance*

Students learn to appreciate art by viewing artists' work and experimenting with different media, such as paint, clay, crayon, pencil, pastels and collage materials to make art. They also develop cutting, pasting and folding skills in art and craft activities. Students are encouraged to communicate creatively through experiences with drama, music and dance.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Living World, Material World, Physical World, Earth and Space

In Science and Technology students will be learning about the process of Design and Make and Investigation. Learning experiences are provided within the units of work based on weather, living things, push and pull and materials. Students also work with computer and digital technology using classroom computers and ipads.

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PDHPE)

### *Fundamental Movement and Physical Activity, Healthy Choices, Self and Relationships*

As part of Personal Development students will look at 'Interpersonal Relationships', such as friendships and social skills necessary to get along with others in the playground and in the classroom, how to express feelings and special people and things. The Physical Education strand includes games and fitness activities.

## HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

### *Change and Continuity, Cultures, Environments, Social Systems and Structures*

Students will gain understandings about change and continuity, cultures, environments, and social systems and structures.

Students will have the opportunity to learn about people and the environments with which they interact.

Learning experiences are provided within the units of work *School Days and This Is Me*.





## SCHOOL ORGANISATION

### SCHOOL DISCIPLINE CODE

Be proud of our school.  
Be happy and safe at school.  
Be an active, cooperative learner.  
Be respectful of people, property and our school.  
Be in the correct place at the correct time.

### INCURSIONS AND EXCURSIONS

Kindergarten students have the opportunity to participate in special activities offered at school and delivered by other organisations called incursions. Excursions arranged throughout the year will also enrich the students' learning experiences.

### LIBRARY

Please ensure your child has a clean library bag so he or she can establish regular borrowing habits and a positive attitude to learning. Library borrowing and literature lessons will take place weekly. Children have been advised of their borrowing days. The library also opens before school every day when parents are welcome to visit with their children.

### MONEY MATTERS

Money for excursions and activities needs to be sent to school in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class, amount and purpose of payment. Lunch orders are to be placed at the canteen between 8.45 and 9.00am. Students can make small purchases from the canteen during recess and lunch.

### BIRTHDAYS

We acknowledge and value the celebration of your child's birthday at school. It would be greatly appreciated if you could:

- please speak with your child's teacher prior to bringing any cakes as some of our students have allergies (no nuts or nut products).
- bring individual cupcakes or muffins at **12:40pm** so that they can be distributed by the teachers at lunch time.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Full school uniform is to be worn every day. This includes a school hat. The school follows the "No Hat, No Play" policy.
- Student belongings are to be clearly labelled.
- Please ensure your child has a healthy recess, lunch and drink each day.

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance is important. Students are expected to arrive at school punctually as valuable teaching and learning takes place in the first part of the school day. If students arrive late to school or are picked up before home time, a slip must be collected from the office and given to the classroom teacher.

### SCRIPTURE

Scripture classes occur each Thursday for Roman Catholic, Anglican and Islamic students. Students not attending the available scripture classes will be supervised by classroom teachers.



## HOMework

Kindergarten students will be given homework commencing Week 6 of Term 1. Initially this will involve a phonics (letter sound) activity and a handwriting activity. As students develop confidence and skills we slowly increase the level and amount of homework. Homework will include a home reader and students will receive a new reading book on Monday and Wednesdays. Parents and caregivers are asked to encourage their child to complete homework nightly and return it to school on the days requested by their classroom teacher.

## RFF (RELEASE FROM FACE-FACE TEACHING)

During the year the children will be working with the RFF teachers on a series of integrated units. We are looking forward to seeing some very exciting classroom displays of children's work. Kindergarten RFF will be on Mondays 12.20pm – 3.15pm. The RFF teachers are as follows:

KS – Mrs Maggs

KC– Mrs M Zanon

KQ – Ms Seyis

KR – Mrs M Kalsina

KT – Mrs Choukchouk

KZ – Mrs Kuzet

## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Each child in Kindergarten will be given the opportunity to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Classroom teachers will use the Premier's Reading Challenge book list as part of a class based literature program.

## LITERACY

Each Kindergarten class will work with a learning support officer in reading. This allows the classroom teacher to provide both enrichment and support for identified students. This program is aimed at specific needs and may be delivered as part of a whole class, small group or individual instruction. Our learning support officers are as follows:

KC – Mrs Marurai

KS– Mrs De Filippis

KQ – Mrs Peacock

KR – Mrs Kalsina

KT – Mrs Ly

KZ – Mrs Mariani

## BEST START

This year each Kindergarten child has taken part in Best Start. The purpose of the Best Start Assessment process is to provide information for Kindergarten teachers to:

- Build on each student's current knowledge and experiences in literacy and numeracy.
- Develop quality teaching and learning programs that support students in achieving Early Stage 1 outcomes.

Each student will bring home a progress report in Term One based on the Best Start progressions in literacy and numeracy.

## GRADE ROUTINES

### ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Students in Kindergarten are working towards Early Stage One outcomes. Teachers develop children's skills and knowledge in all key learning areas by using modelled, guided and independent teaching strategies. Children will receive a report on their progress in Term Two and Term Four. Parents have the opportunity to have a formal interview with their child's teacher during Term Two or at any other mutually convenient time.

### SPORT

Kindergarten Sport is on Tuesday afternoons. Please ensure your child is wearing our sports uniform and comfortable sports shoes. This term we will be focusing on gross motor skills, fitness and movement.

### TOYS AND VALUABLE ITEMS

Children need to leave toys and valuable possessions at home. Lost or damaged items cannot be replaced.

### KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS

Mrs Ramirez  
Rel Assistant Principal

KC – Mrs Colmer  
KS - Ms Shlemon  
KT – Mrs Thompson

KZ – Mrs Zanon/Mrs Ly  
KR – Mrs Ramirez / Mrs Kalsina  
KQ– Ms Kieu

