



PREP  
NEWSLETTER

# Term 1



Investigation Time: Maisie and Juno choosing to practice their number formation

A very warm welcome to all our Prep families!

We are excited to be part of your child's learning journey here at Richmond Primary School.

Thank you to everyone for your efforts in ensuring a great start to the year. We are sure you'll agree that the

transition from kinder to school has been very successful and students have had a marvellous first couple of weeks.

It is a pleasure to be greeted by so many eager and enthusiastic children. They are settling into the school routine and we look forward to a special year together. Don't

hesitate to ask your class teacher any questions as we are always here to help. Please check the RPS website for class timetables.

From the Prep Team



## Dates

Important dates to put in your diary.

*\*REMEMBER: no Friday attendance in February - except for your one hour Individual Assessment appointment*

February	March	April
13 Prep Parent information night from 6-7pm	1 Preps commence full time First assembly for Prep at 3pm	5 Last day of term, 2:30pm dismissal
21 Welcome BBQ from 5:30-7:30pm	5 & 6 Parent Teacher Meetings	23 Term 2 commences
27 School photos	11 Labour Day Public Holiday	

## Morning Routine:

As Prep students have now settled in to the routines and expectations of Prep, we kindly ask that students responsibility for their own morning routine. In order for your child to build on their independence, we encourage all students to walk up the stairs without their parents and ask that you please say your goodbyes in line up or at the bottom of the stairs.

## Extra Items to Bring:

- A piece of cut fruit or vegetable each day for fruit snack
- Spare undies, shorts, socks for accidents (just in case) in a plastic bag
- Any small boxes for the box construction area

## Hats:

All students must wear a hat in Term One and Four to protect them from the sun.

Hats must be either a broad brimmed hat or legionnaire style.

Students without hats are required to stay under cover in the courtyard at playtimes. Please remember to properly name your hat as these do tend to get lost easily.

Hats can be left at school in their own tub to save hassles getting them to and from school.



Investigation Time: Claudia, Kate and Milly engaging in creative play in the Kids' Kitchen.

## Morning routines...

Whilst we can appreciate that the mornings can be a little hectic, it is extremely important that students arrive on time. Students should be lined up in the central courtyard before 9 am, ready to come inside after the bell.

It is important to allow your child to be responsible for carrying and placing their bag in their lockers and finding their fruit snack (all classes have fruit snack at 9 am). A teacher will be on yard duty before school from 8.45am therefore no child should be left unsupervised before this time.

Punctuality is important, as the day's events are often set during the first 15 minutes of the day. Late arrivals are required to get a green late pass from the office and then enter the classroom quietly without distracting the class.

## Communication...

Home/school communication is very important. Each Prep student has been given a clear Notices Folder. This folder must be well looked after and brought to school every day. Notices are sent home in this folder and it should also be used to return notices to school. All money and notices are to be returned to the classroom teacher in this folder, not to the office.

School newsletters will be sent home each Monday with the eldest child. Notices, timetables and other communications will be placed on the school website ([www.richmondps.vic.edu.au](http://www.richmondps.vic.edu.au)). Please check this site each week.

Remember that Prep teachers are available to discuss your child's needs and development. These discussions can be initiated by the teacher or the family and should be at a time to suit all concerned. Although you can approach the teachers before school, remember at this time their thoughts are with the day ahead, so either keep it brief or make a time for a longer discussion.

## Lost Property...

Please ensure all clothing and belongings are labelled clearly and legibly with your child's full name. With around 54 new little people in the area it is unavoidable that items get mislaid. Often someone has accidentally taken the wrong item home, but if it is named, it can be returned. Label EVERYTHING to avoid having to replace lost items. Lost property is located in the courtyard in the large bins. If it has a name, it can easily be returned to the owner.

## Investigation Time...

Three days per week, Prep students will have an opportunity to participate in our play-based learning program. All Preps are free to move around the three classrooms and join in activities of interest to them.

The activities available at this time are determined by both the children's interests and needs. The activities are linked with our numeracy, literacy, science and history topics for the week. Other activities will develop their physical, creative, social and personal learning. These learning centres are designed and planned by teachers to develop student collaboration, curiosity, application of prior knowledge, oral language development, fine motor skills and problem solving skills.

If you would like to know more about this program, please go to the [Prep section of the school website](#).

## Parent Helpers...

Parent helpers share a vital role with teachers to support student learning at our school. Parent helpers will begin volunteering in Term Two to allow Prep students time to settle into routines.

In the Prep classes we need helpers for Reading, PMP, Excursions and some general classroom administrative tasks. If you would like to help and you have not yet expressed your interest please see your child's class teacher or Parent Rep. A Working with Children Check is required, apply online.

**Literacy: There are plenty of opportunities for reading and writing in Prep. Lucy and James are reading some picture books and Ben and Leo are completing an alphabet puzzle.**



## Assembly:

Our whole school assembly runs every Friday afternoon from 3 pm. If the weather is fine, it is held in the courtyard; otherwise it is held in the GP room next to the courtyard.

Student of the Week, birthdays and other special achievements are celebrated at this time.

## Birthdays:

Birthdays are special occasions and we celebrate them at school with a small celebration. We are happy for parents to send cupcakes or other individual treats. Please check with your class teacher if there are any allergies of which to be aware.

If birthday party invitations are distributed at school, please ensure this is done discretely as often it is not possible to invite everyone. We appreciate your cooperation with this.