

## BURRENDAH PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Room 15 Parent Meeting

Teacher	Ms Michele Marlow Mrs Kristy Turner- Wednesday
Education Assistant –	Mrs Amanda Barr – Monday and Tuesday Mrs Melanie Strother – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Important Information	Tuesday - Library Day	Wednesday – Sport Mrs Bains
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My history – I have been a teacher for more than 25 years in the Early Childhood area, teaching Kindy and Pre-primary. I like to have fun and most of the learning is completed with the children unaware that they are learning concepts.

There are 27 children currently in our Pre-primary class. It is important for parents, guardians and staff at Pre-primary to work together to develop your child's skills and concepts. If, for example, your child has difficulty recognising numbers or letters. Please reinforce them at home, in the car when we are focussing on them in the class. Please see me if you want ideas/games to help your child.

We are currently assessing the children's basic concepts and skills. You will receive a copy of your child's results. We will be undertaking On Entry Assessment which will focus on Literacy and Numeracy skills. I will conduct the assessments and there will be a report given to parents.

This assessment will allow me to provide a program that enhances skills already learnt and to develop new concepts. We will be focussing on literacy and numeracy skills and covering the Australian Curriculum. We have commenced reinforcing the sounds of the alphabet as well as the phonological awareness skills such as syllable counting, rhyming and deleting the first sound in words.

We will commence the Lost Sam reading and comprehension program in week 5 which will include the children taking the reading sheets home to practise over the weekend.

Language Groups will begin after the long weekend in March on Mondays at 9.00 a.m. We require at least one parent helper with language groups every week and if you are interested please speak to Michele. In Term 2, I will be introducing guided reading groups every day except Wednesdays at 9.00 am. Parents will be invited to help with this program.

Reading Books will be taken home in Term 2. This will allow the children some time to develop some blending skills and a basic sight vocabulary within the classroom, which will help them when they begin to read at home. We want their journey into reading to be stress free and enjoyable. If your child is developing negative attitudes to reading please see Michele. The Lost Sam series will also develop reading skills.

Person of the day will begin next week. Each child will have a turn. Ringing the bells, being the leader and taking home the class puppet. Your child will enjoy showing the puppet to the family and will write a story and return the story and puppet back to school the next day.

#### Discipline Policy

Our school has become involved in the Positive Behaviours in Schools Program. More information will be available on our School Website and in emails and newsletters.

In our class we also use positive reinforcement focussing on appropriate behaviour. We utilize verbal praise, stickers and stamps. The children are also given beads. When they have 10 beads they can go shopping and choose a toy from our shop. They also have the opportunity to save up to 20 beads, which they can use to purchase other items.

We also use a time-out chair/mat. All children have been shown the expected behaviour when being placed in time out. Children will usually be given a warning. Children will be given clear directions on what the inappropriate behaviour is. If the children continue with the behaviour they will be placed in time out. They will be timed out for only a few minutes and they will know why they were timed out.

Severe behaviour infractions (children hurting other children or safety issues) will incur time-out without a warning. Parents will be informed in this case.

#### Portfolios and Display Books

We will be collecting samples of your child's work to show their development throughout the year. Most of the work you will see in the classroom before they are placed in their portfolio. Many pieces of work take several days to complete as the art and craft has three or four

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parts with writing attached to it. I do not usually mark children's work with ticks and crosses. Sometimes I will look at it, ask them to try the task again. When we begin writing I usually write the words above the children's phonetically so you will be able to decipher their message.

### **Vocabulary development**

It is important to extend your child's language and the number of words they understand. There are ways to help your child. Talk about objects in your child's environment. For example, look at this tree. It is a gum tree. These are the branches and sticks and twigs. Look at the bark. Touch the bark. Some trees lose their bark and it falls off. Can you see any gum or sap? What animals and insects are living in this tree? Trees are used for their wood for building houses, furniture etc.

Some children will need help to develop their vocabulary. Speech Therapists can help provide games and activities to develop your child's language.

**Comprehension** is another language skill that is crucial in your child's development. The children need to be able to answer simple questions about stories, films. Point to pictures. Retell simple and known stories. Sequence their thoughts in a logical order i.e. when making a cake – we put all the ingredients in, mix it up. Then put it in a cake tin. Next we put it in the oven where it cooks. Then we tip the cake out and wait for it to cool before we put the icing on and eat it.

Some children will need help to develop their comprehension skills. Speech Therapists can help provide games and activities to develop your child's language.

**Articulation** errors or the way we produce the sounds when speaking words can impact a child's reading and spelling progress. Some sounds are age appropriate, however, it is important to seek help as soon as possible to give your child the necessary skills to say the sounds correctly. Some children's have "slushy" speech and this needs to be corrected by Speech Therapy.

### **Listening Skills**

It is important that your child can hear properly and correctly. If you think your child's hearing is affected, please get their hearing checked. The school nurse can be accessed if we think your child's hearing or sight needs to be rechecked.

### **Writing**

We will be encouraging your child to write using Victoria Modern Cursive script. Please remind them to form the letters correctly when writing letters, cards and writing their name on pictures.

**100 Days of school.** We are counting the days of school – whilst learning about groups of ten, counting on etc. When we hit 100 days we will have a special party day and children can bring zip lock bags full of 100 objects i.e. stars, nutrigain, marbles, bolts. This is so they can see what 100 objects look like. It will also be a great counting activity for your child.

### **Parent Roster**

If you can only help for a short time, then please help us between 9.00 – 10.40 when we complete concept skills and tasks including craft. We prefer no siblings but if you are unable to organise alternative care we will accept your younger child on a 'trial' basis. If there is an issue, we will discuss this with you. Aunts, Uncles, Dads and Grandparents are most welcome.

Please keep all children including siblings away from table activities and play areas like the home corner before the session.

**Parent Meetings** can be booked to discuss your child, their progress and any issues concerning their development. We will need to arrange a time suitable for everyone. Wednesdays are good days to book appointments to discuss your child.

**News telling** will begin in Week 5. Your child has chosen which day he/she wants and I have included each week's topic. You may want to keep it on your fridge. There is a list in the glass cabinet on the verandah. If your child is away on their day, we will endeavour to give them the opportunity to tell news the next day. Occasionally we run out of time and your child may have to wait to the next day to share their news.

Our Assembly will be in Term 2.

Swimming is in Term 2.

Games and ideas from our childhood that are good to share with your child.

- 1) Fish and Snap with normal number cards, 'Spot Cards'
- 2) Old Maid
- 3) Concentration- finding the same card
- 4) Hang Man
- 5) Marbles

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- 6) Hop Scotch
- 7) Elastics
- 8) Jacks
- 9) UNO and other children's board games
- 10) Card games like 7, hearts,
- 11) Fly
- 12) The chocolate game.
- 13) Memory Game - place objects on the table - close eyes and take an object away. Child guesses the object. Remove more than one.
- 14) Cooking
- 15) Shopping
- 16) Measuring the length of objects using other objects, i.e. books, blocks, shoes
- 17) What's different - change something slightly to a toy or yourself. Ask your child to identify the differences. Roll a sleeve, take a shoe off etc.
- 18) Go on a shape, number, letter or sound walk. Talk about what you saw
- 19) Simon Says
- 20) Hum a tune to a song - get children to identify
- 21) Musical bobs, statues
- 22) Queenie Queenie who's got the ball?
- 23) Do this, Do this. \*\*Copying actions
- 24) I went to the market and I bought a..... \*\*\*Memory Games
- 25) In Grandma's suitcase there was a \*\*\*Memory Games
- 26) Bingo
- 27) Gardening
- 28) Pegging clothes
- 29) Tic Tac Toe

### WANTED

- \* dress up clothes (i.e. old dancing costumes, cowboy, princess, super heroes, confirmation dresses, suits)
- \* ice-cream containers and lids
- \* recycled cardex (Do you know someone who is in the printing business or works at a University? We would prefer to use recycled cardex for art/craft activities. The card can be printed on one side and any size particularly A3 or larger is greatly appreciated. Please see me.
- \* people who visit chiropractors or people who work at x-ray imaging places. We would like to use the paper and cardex that is in between each x-ray film. We can always use this!!!!
- \* buttons (all types and sizes)
- \* wadding, foam pieces or pillow stuffing
- \* wine corks
- \* silver patty pans /foils from minced pies, apple pies etc.
- \* pieces of soft wood for wood working (not treated or hard woods-i.e. jarrah)
- \* old calendar pictures (only child appropriate pictures please!)
- \* birthday and Christmas cards
- \* small yoghurt containers i.e. yogo or smaller
- \* balls of coloured wool
- \* broomsticks
- \* long pieces of ribbon
- \* complete and incomplete board games and pieces,
- \* other recycled materials (see staff before bringing them in). If our centre doesn't need them, I will offer the `goodies` to the other centres including pre-primary and the art room.

**The most valuable thing you can do with your child is to spend time with them and to talk to them about their day, their environment and what's changing. Increasing your child's vocabulary and discussing their ideas will encourage your child to logically express their thoughts.**

Thanking you for your support,

Michele Marlow and Kristy Turner

13<sup>th</sup> February 2019