



Whitford Catholic Primary School

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION BOOKLET



2017

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WHITFORD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL LOGO



The emblem of Whitford Catholic Primary School incorporates two aspects - waves and ocean, sand and birds, which are part of the school environment.

Each of these is God's gift of creation to us.

The **WAVES** symbolise the tossing, turning and movement of life which we all experience and is a life-long process of growing.

The **BIRDS** symbolise the Holy Spirit bringing His gifts to us all.

The **CROSS** is a symbol of our faith and of our leader - **JESUS**.

Therefore the important aspect of Faith in God and in self should permeate our whole life bringing hope, joy and peace to one another.

The symbol was designed by Dorothy Prince, a past teacher at the school, and the motto by Barry Harvie, a parent and member of the School Board in its formative years.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Whitford Catholic Primary School Kindergarten. We hope that you and your child will enjoy and benefit from the time you spend with us.

PHILOSOPHY

The Kindergarten programme aims to:

- integrate the vision of Whitford Catholic Primary School, as a growing faith community, seeking to be enlivened by Christ to live in truth, love and dignity;
- enhance personal development through a variety of stimulating activities and play, where children feel free to explore and experiment;
- build self-esteem and confidence in sharing cultural backgrounds, individual talents and needs;
- encourage the development of positive social behaviour;
- create a safe, happy and caring environment for all children including those with special needs;
- promote parental involvement and family support so we can work together as a team.

Therefore, the programme provides an environment where each child has the opportunity to develop in all areas, spiritually, emotionally, socially, intellectually, creatively and physically; at their own personal rate of development.

Kindergarten programs at WCPS are designed using both the Early Years Learning Framework and the Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines. The underlying principle of these documents is the importance of play! There are many types and characteristics of play – solitary play, parallel play, social play, physical play – and they are all vital to your child's development.

Play helps your child explore and understand the world around them. It helps your child learn social skills and builds their cognitive thinking. Play helps your child's brain development and improves their language and social skills.

Play allows your child to communicate ideas and emotions, to think, be creative and solve problems.

NATURAL PLAY-SPACES:

We are very fortunate at WCPS Kindy to have a truly unique and creative outdoor play space. Our nature-based playground offers your child the chance to be imaginative and to explore and take risks in a safe environment. There are cubby spaces to create games in, logs to balance on, rocks to build with and a musical area to explore! By providing your child with a natural playground, they learn to love nature, to be creative, to be social, to share and to communicate with their peers. Your child learns to master new skills and take safe risks – this is an important life skill for children as they grow and mature.

TERM DATES - 2017

Term 1	-	Wednesday 1 February – Friday 7 April
Term 2	-	Monday 24 April – Friday 30 June
Term 3	-	Monday 17 July – Friday 22 September
Term 4	-	Monday 9 October – Thursday 14 December

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday	- (Kindy Blue & Gold)	8.45am – 12.45pm
Tuesday	- (Kindy Gold & White)	8.45am – 2.45pm
Wednesday	- (Kindy Blue & White)	8.45am – 2.45pm
Thursday	- (Kindy Blue & Gold)	8.45am – 2.45pm
Friday	- (Kindy White)	8.45am – 12.45pm

Please note that children will attend on different days and times during Week 1's Transition Week.

DELIVERY AND COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

Please arrive as close to commencement times as you possibly can and be available to pick up your child **on time** to avoid distress to the child. Collect your child from the Kindergarten classroom. Any changes to the person collecting a child must be discussed by the parent or guardian with staff, prior to finishing times, either in writing or by telephone.

Parents are asked to park in the main car park area adjacent to the Office or tennis courts alongside the gym.

Please observe directional arrows on entry and exits from Camberwarra Drive and park **only in designated bays. AT ALL TIMES** - drive cautiously and with consideration for all others, both drivers and pedestrians.

ALL Kindergarten children **MUST** be dropped off and picked up by an **ADULT - NOT** a primary school child (i.e. big brother or sister).

SCHOOL PARENT COMMUNICATION

The majority of the communication from the school will be via email. The School Weekly Newsletter is sent home via email on Wednesday of each week. This newsletter contains items of news, coming events, community notices, etc. Please ensure at least one member of your family reads the newsletter each week. Notices are also periodically sent out to keep parents in touch with sporting, and P & F Association news. A Term Calendar is available from our website at www.whitfordcatholicps.wa.edu.au. A Kindergarten specific newsletter is sent about once per term.

Should an appointment between Parent and Teacher (and/or Principal) be required then contact should be made through the Kindergarten Teacher so that a mutually convenient time can be arranged. Parents should also avoid telephoning class teachers during school hours (unless the matter is urgent).

DISTRESSED CHILD

Parents, feel free to stay if your child is very distressed. Otherwise be calm, confident and reassuring. Direct your child to an activity or a staff member, say goodbye, then **PROMPTLY** leave. Be assured that your child will be supported by staff!

ROSTER

Parent help is essential for the efficient and effective operation of a Kindergarten programme. A roster will be placed on the noticeboard at the beginning of each term. We love and need your help! Mums, Dads and Grandparents are all welcome. **Roster Times:** 8.45am to 10.15am.

SCHOOL FEES

Kindergarten Fees will consist of a Tuition Fee, a Capital Development Levy and a Resource Fee. Accounts and payment options will be sent to families early in Term 1.

MONIES SENT TO SCHOOL

All monies/cheques should be sent in a School Envelope showing:

- 1. Student's name and class**
- 2. Amount of money enclosed**
- 3. Purpose for which the money is sent.**

Please ensure that the envelope is carefully sealed so that coins do not slip out.

WHAT TO BRING

School Bag – large enough for their lunch box, artwork and spare clothes. School bags are available from the Uniform Shop.

Sun Hat – wide brimmed or legionnaires hats only. **NO HAT, NO PLAY.** School hats are available from the Uniform Shop.

Morning Tea - Please pack your child's morning tea separately from their lunch, either in a plastic zip-lock or paper bag with their name on it, or a small named container. Morning tea is placed in the big tubs at the entrance to the Kindy door.

Lunch - Lunchboxes go into their named tubs inside. Kindy students are welcome to order from the Canteen on Thursdays by visiting www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au. Please note we are **NUT FREE** school so please do not send in peanut butter, Nutella or muesli bars containing nuts.

Water bottle – Water only please.

Spare clothing – As the children would feel more comfortable in their own clothing (in case they have an accident), please pack a **FULL SET** of season appropriate spare clothing (i.e. jumper, t-shirts, shorts/pants/skirt and socks, undies/knickers)

Please bring 1 box of tissues and 3 rolls of paper towels during the first week.

Please keep your child's toys and jewellery at home as they can get lost or broken.

CLOTHING

Uniforms are not compulsory in Kindy but Kindy t-shirts are available from the Office for \$12.50 each. Kindy t-shirts come in blue, green, red and pink and are one size only.

We ask that children are always sent in play clothes because many activities are messy. Paint can be removed by washing in cold water, if necessary several times, and using a laundry soap. Hot water washing will set the dye in the paint into the cloth. Please avoid clothes with buckles and buttons which are difficult for the children to get on and off by themselves. **Please remember to label all children's belongings such as clothes, school bag, lunch box, drink bottle, etc.**

For the girls – no tights/stockings please!

MEDICATION

Staff members are under no obligation to administer medicine or other forms of medical treatment. However, if a teacher wishes to assist parents by administering dosages of some medication prescribed for a child, a meeting between teacher and parent should take place to attend to the following details:

- Parents to provide written authority for the Staff Member concerned to administer the prescribed medication.
- Parents to submit in writing any requirements of the student for medication including details from the medical Practitioner of the circumstances for the appropriate use and application of the medication. The relevant document is available for completion from the School Office and also in the Kindergarten Classroom.

NOTE: *It must be recognised that there is a limit to the level of responsibility the school can provide regarding medical care and supervision. Staff Members are not expected to administer prescribed medication or treatments that require specialist training. It is the parent's responsibility to provide the school with adequate information regarding the details of their child's medical conditions that may require specific actions and/or treatment under emergency conditions.*

SICKNESS AT SCHOOL

Sudden sickness or minor accidents are normally attended to at school. Should the situation demand urgent attention parents or emergency contacts will be advised and asked to arrange prompt collection of your child. Parents are asked not to send a child to school with symptoms of an illness.

ACCIDENTS

Accidents on the playground are attended to by the supervising teacher.

Students injured in any serious manner will be attended to in a professional manner, with parents notified in accordance with the gravity and urgency of the situation and in accord with the permission authority as completed on the Application for Enrolment. It is preferred to err on the side of safety. An accident report is filled out by the supervising teacher whenever the accident is seen to be of a serious nature.

HOME SITUATIONS

Home situations have a great influence on children. Please notify the teacher of any change to the normal routine if you feel it necessary (e.g. parent in hospital).

The school is obliged and needs to keep accurate records of all pupils. Therefore any change of address, telephone number etc. needs to be notified to the School Office immediately. Parents work telephone numbers should be kept up to date. Please ensure that we have the name and address of someone other than the parent, should they be needed in case of emergency.

If your child is to be left with a friend in your absence, a contact address and telephone number should be left with the School Office. Where access of any party to a child attending school is limited in any way, contact should be made with the Principal so that appropriate measures can be taken.



**We look forward to getting to know you
and your family!!**