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Caningeraba State School



Prep Information Booklet 2017

We extend a warm welcome to you, as parents of our Prep year children. We look forward to sharing many happy times with you as we work together to provide the best possible learning opportunities for your child.

We firmly believe that - *at Caningeraba we actively engage in learning to create unique life-long learners - it's not what we say, it's what we do!*

Our Prepstar Learning Values

We believe children learn best when -

- they are happy, secure and supported
- involved in enquiry-based, co-constructed, hands-on reflective activities
- expectations are high
- opportunities for problem-solving and higher level thinking are provided.

Students at Caningeraba are Actively Encouraged to -

- engage in and reflect on learning
- discover self identity
- develop independence
- acquire decision-making skills that can be applied to a variety of learning and social contexts
- accept and appreciate differences whilst *developing a sense of self and others.*

School Hours

The prep day is the equivalent of a full school day, five days per week. School begins at 8:50am concluding at 2:50pm. Your child should be at school by 8:40am, when a bell rings to indicate children move to their classrooms, to **promptly begin at 8:50am.**

Early Years Curriculum

Our Prep year is a new learning environment with exciting things to do, see, touch and experience. Your child will find friends to share with and teachers who respect them as capable and competent learners. Learning involves developing a relationship of trust. We aim to create a relaxed, secure and supportive environment where children are encouraged to investigate and explore to their individual potential.

Caningeraba Preparatory teachers will use the Australian Curriculum for the curriculum content in the key learning areas of English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography. The Early Years Curriculum Guidelines will continue to describe the contexts for learning in Prep.

The Early Years Curriculum Guidelines incorporate -

- supporting play as a context for learning
- understanding each child as an individual
- developing supportive partnerships
- providing flexible learning environments
- assisting children in exploring the world around them and the ways in which they learn.

At the beginning of the school year, self-initiated and teacher-directed activities in outdoor and indoor settings provide opportunities for teachers to be actively involved in teaching, building oral language and extending learning. As the year progresses, there is a greater emphasis on focused teaching and learning across a range of learning contexts as students continue to develop knowledge, abilities and skills for success in their ongoing schooling.



Early Years (Prep) Program at Caningeraba State School

Everything your child does within our school has a purpose for learning. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask us.

The following factors have been identified to contribute to success in learning -

- social and emotional competence with a focus on social and personal learning
- health and physical wellbeing, particularly in making healthy choices, gross and fine-motor development
- language learning and communication focusing on oral language and early literacy
- early mathematical understandings with emphasis on early numeracy
- active learning processes with a focus on thinking, investigating, imagining and responding
- positive dispositions to learning.

Open Door Policy

School starts at 8:50am, giving staff adequate time to prepare their room and attend any meetings scheduled before this time. Please do not enter the room before this time unless you have an appointment. When children come into the classroom, they are expected to be responsible for their own belongings. Please encourage your child to follow the routine outlined by the teacher.

We value your interest and participation in our school day, however please appreciate how busy our teachers are as our school day begins and ends. Each child and parent has individual concerns, however our teachers have a responsibility to all children in their class. If you have something to discuss with your prep teacher, please make an appointment at a suitably mutual time.

Travel To and From the Classroom

Please notify us personally or in writing, when anyone other than yourself will be collecting children from the school. School finishes at 2:50pm. If you know that you are going to be late, please contact the school office and notify them of your delay.

For the safety of your child, there are pedestrian crossings located outside the school grounds. Please ensure that you use the crossings and parking areas outside of the school grounds.

Please remember -

- for **the first three weeks of school** you are welcome to wait outside the Prep classroom prior to 8:50am
- from **Week 4 (Term 1)** we would like you to wait in the Tuckshop Undercover Area with your child. At the 8:40am bell all children can then proceed to their classroom
- children must be collected from the Prep classroom at 2:50pm. Children will not be allowed to leave the classroom unless someone is there to collect them.

Illness

We advise you to keep your child at home if she/he is not well. Remember that a sick child is better at home with their parents rather than at school feeling unhappy and spreading germs to other children.

Money

Please do not allow your child to bring money to school. Prep students will not be allowed to go to the Tuckshop during play breaks. We encourage parents of all children in Prep to Year 3 to buy food/drinks from the tuckshop through the order form. This curbs - waiting in cues (and perhaps not even being served in time during the break); loss of money; loans to friends; buying for friends; etc.

On *Free Dress Days*, students will be asked for a gold coin donation which is collected by the teacher. Some events hosted at the school may require donation payments.

Tuckshop

The school tuckshop operates every day. Orders can be made in 2 ways, either by ordering online, (to register for online ordering go to www.flexischools.com.au click register and enter your email address. Follow the link and prompts to complete your registration), or placed directly at the tuckshop. Orders are to be written on a paper bag with name, class, order, and whether it is for first or second break. Orders are to be placed at the Tuckshop on arrival at school and will be available for students from their classroom at the start of each break.

If you would like to volunteer in our tuckshop please phone Katrina or Michelle on 5568 6339.

Sun Safety Policy

The outdoor learning environment is perfect for children to explore, and to promote body strength, balance, coordination, whilst supporting growth in thinking processes and social learning.

We are very conscious of sun safety at our school and recommend that you apply sunscreen prior to your child's arrival at school. Please ensure your child has their own hat to wear - our school wide-brimmed hat being the most appropriate for our climate. A spare hat in their school bag is advisable. We strongly adhere to the school rule - **NO SCHOOL HAT, NO PLAY. All children must wear our school hat. Caps are no longer permitted.**

Treasures from Home

Toys and trinkets from home very often become lost or broken at school, so it saves a lot of time and heartache if these are left at home. Any toys that find their way to school will be cared for until the end of the day. Staff cannot assume responsibility for any loss or breakage.

Birthdays and Other Celebrations

Everyone loves a birthday and other special celebrations, as these are wonderful ways to build understanding about each other. As a healthy-eating school we would appreciate celebratory food limited to: fruit skewers; fruit platter or muffins.

Please discuss arrangements with your child's teacher.

Communication

Messages: Please read the noticeboards outside your child's classroom regularly to keep in touch with the children's activities, items of interest and generally, what's happening at school.

Prep Newsletters: To keep you informed our Prep teachers will regularly send home newsletters with a diary of events and other interesting information only relevant to Prep children and families.

School Newsletters: Our newsletter can be accessed through the website, sent to you electronically, or a printed copy sent home with your child.

School Website: Our school website is updated weekly and can be found at www.caningerss.eq.edu.au

Sharing Information: Events in family life such as illness, new babies and visitors can be a prime source of excitement or concern for young children, and can affect their behaviour at home and/or at school. It is important for the home and school to share information that may affect children, and we would appreciate it if parents would inform us of any unusual happenings of this nature.

Please feel free to discuss any problems or queries with your teacher that you may have about your child's progress, the school or the program. It is best to arrange a meeting time that is suitable to both you and the teacher. Teachers are generally not available between 8:40 am and 2:50pm, however are happy to meet with parents before and after school.

We look forward to working with your child and yourself in building a supportive partnership!

Parents in the Prep Class

As parents, you play a vital role in the education of your children and therefore, we welcome you to become involved in our classroom. You can help by -

- participating in the Support-A-Talker program. Volunteers will be sought in Term 1 to commence by Term 2 and training given by our Speech Language Pathologist and Learning Support Teachers
- offering to share your invaluable experience, hobbies, interests or any special expertise
- collecting resources for art/ craft experiences
- doing small jobs for us at home or in the classroom (eg. cutting up materials for collage)
- discussing any problems or concerns with the teachers.

Class Requirements

All items on the Prep Year Booklist are available as a pack from our Uniform Shop. All required equipment should be brought to school on the first day.

Prior to the commencement of your child's Prep year, it is important to practice skills such as -

- packing and unpacking their own bag
- opening snack foods and drinks
- tying shoe laces.

Your child will need -

- school bag - big enough to hold a jumper, library book, lunch boxes and drink containers. Our school bag (available from the Uniform Shop) is an ideal size.
- Caningeraba school hat. Caps are no longer permitted. A spare school hat is a great idea.
- healthy lunches for first and second breaks
- *brunch munch* is a fruit or vegetable snack for mid morning
- spare set of clothes including one pair of underpants and a pair of shorts/ skirt in a named plastic bag, with each item of clothing clearly named.

Names and Labels

As young children often do not recognise their own belongings, we cannot emphasise enough the need to label absolutely everything - bags, shoes, lunch boxes, drink bottles, hats, jumpers, track pants, library bags, clothing. Please make sure your child knows where their name is written on their belongings.

Please do not label: pencils, glue and small equipment from book list. *This equipment is used as a shared resource.*

Do label: clipboard, display folder, scrapbooks, art smock, library bag.

Commencement of School Year

When you and your child arrive at school on the first day there will be class lists displayed in the tuckshop undercover area. The class lists will have: student names, class teacher name and location of the class. There will be Administrative staff in the area to assist you and your child.

Our class lists will be drawn up according to information you as parents provide, along with any preschool information forwarded to us. This information is vital, as we would like to accommodate friendship groups and have our classes as 'balanced' as possible. We do reserve the right to make some adjustments to classes if the need arises.

What to Wear

Prep students wear our school uniform available from the School Uniform Shop. It is school policy that hats, jumpers, track pants, head bands **must be of school colours.**

Please buy shoes with Velcro until your child can tie their own shoe laces. Untied shoes are a safety hazard. Please begin teaching your child to develop responsibility for taking shoes and socks on and off.



Caningeraba State School Uniform and Dress Code

Girl's Uniform	Boy's Uniform		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All-black polishable leather lace-up school shoes or lace up sport shoes with appropriate arch support (Prep to Year 2 students may wear velcro) Plain white socks Caningeraba bucket hat with house colour Caningeraba checked dress Caningeraba striped shirt with royal blue coloured shorts, skirt or skorts with logo Caningeraba school jumper/jacket or plain jumper of a royal blue colour Hair ties – blue, white Leggings/tights – plain (no lace) and navy blue in colour. <p style="text-align: center;">Canvas shoes, skate shoes and slip on shoes are not permitted. Caps are no longer permitted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All-black polishable leather lace-up school shoes or lace up sport shoes with appropriate arch support (Prep to Year 2 students may wear velcro) Plain white socks Caningeraba bucket hat with house colour Caningeraba striped shirt with royal blue coloured shorts Caningeraba school jumper/jacket or plain jumper of a royal blue colour. <p style="text-align: center;">Canvas shoes, skate shoes and slip on shoes are not permitted. Caps are no longer permitted.</p>		
House Colours On Sports Day			
BANKSIA – RED	EUCALYPT – GREEN	BLUEGUM – BLUE	ACACIA - YELLOW
Hair and Make Up			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hair is to be of a neat and tidy appearance and to be of natural toning. Long hair is to be tied back and is not to cover the face. Extreme hairstyles (e.g. mohawks, shaved sections or tracks, extreme colours, rat's tails etc) are not permitted. Make up is not permitted. (This includes nail polish, eyeliner, tinted moisturiser, foundation etc.) Fake tattoos are not to be visible. 			
Jewellery			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watches are permitted. A maximum of two plain studs or sleepers per ear are permitted. Hoop and costume earrings, necklaces, bracelets and rings are not permitted. Facial piercings and other visible body piercings are not permitted. 			

N.B. The P&C Association has ratified the decision that caps will no longer be permitted as we move towards accreditation as a Sun Smart School.

A decision was also made in 2015 to include skorts with the Caningeraba logo as part of the Uniform Dress Code.

Information Covered in our Caningeraba Enrolment Pack:

- Absences
- Excursions
- Illness and Medications
- Uniforms
- School Rules

School Calendar

2017	
School Resumes - Term 1	Monday 23 January
Australia Day Holiday	Thursday 26 January
Term 1 Concludes	Friday 31 March
Term 1 Holidays	Monday 3 April to Thursday 13 April
Easter Public Holidays	Good Friday 14 April, Easter Monday 17 April
School Resumes - Term 2	Tuesday 18 April
ANZAC Day Holiday	Tuesday 25 April
Labour Day Public Holiday	Monday 1 May
Term 2 Concludes	Friday 23 June
Term 2 Holidays	Monday 26 June to Friday 7 July
School Resumes - Term 3	Monday 10 July
Gold Coast Show Public Holiday	Friday 25 August
Term 3 Concludes	Friday 15 September
Term 3 Holidays	Monday 18 September to Friday 29 September
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	Monday 2 October
School Resumes - Term 4	Tuesday 3 October
Student Free Day	Monday 16 October
School Year Concludes	Friday 8 December

We hope you will have an enjoyable and rewarding year with us. We also look forward to working closely with you to ensure the best possible start in education for your child.

We are looking forward to sharing a happy and productive year.

Welcome to Caningeraba!