



to Room 3 for the 2018 school year. I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable and relaxing break over the Christmas and New Year period. It has been great meeting many parents this week and I look forward to meeting other parents and caregivers over the course of the next few weeks. I am really looking forward to working with your child this year, developing routines and having a productive year. Here is some information that may help you.

Before school

Please encourage your child to play on the pavement as this is the only area where there is a teacher on duty from 8.30am. Children are able to come into the corridor to put their bags away after 8.30am. They can then go out to play until the bell rings at **8.55am**. This is when the school day begins. Children are welcome in the room to organise themselves for the day before this time only **when a teacher is present**. Children need to bring their reader bag, fruit and water bottle and put them on their tables. Please encourage them to do this for themselves.

Drink bottles

The children are welcome to keep their water bottles on their desk, if possible could you wrap the bottles in a flannel or small towel if frozen, so they do not leave wet patches on the desk. **Water only, in lesson times please**. Any juices or cordials to be kept in bags outside for recess and lunch time only. **Please ensure all bottles and lunch boxes are named.**



Spending money

I would prefer that students give their canteen spending money to me in the morning to look after. I will record the amount and hand back the money at play time. This is a safer option than keeping it in their bag or pocket.

School Uniform

It has been great seeing all children smartly dressed in school uniform, well done! **No hat - no play!** Please ensure your child has a sun safe hat (named) to wear at school every day, these will be required if the UV levels are 3 or above. Students without hats are required to stay under the blue sails at playtime. If the temperature before recess or lunchtime is measured at 36.1c or above, all children will play in their classroom under teacher supervision.



Healthy Snacks

The children will have a chance to have a fruit break at 10am each day so I encourage them to bring a healthy snack of fruit or vegies. This gives children the extra energy needed to help them focus and concentrate on their learning.



Reader Bags and Library Bags

Our reader bags carry readers, reading/communication diaries and notices. Please encourage your child to keep it in their school bag when not using it. These need to come to school each day and go home each night. Please check this bag each night for any notices.

The children will be visiting the library each week to borrow library books. To avoid our reader bags falling apart it would be great if each child could have a library bag, this can be as simple as a plastic shopping bag, to carry their library books in.

*Reading is important,
because if you can read,
you can learn anything
about everything and
everything about anything.
—Tomie dePaola*

Readers

All Junior Primary students borrow 5 readers which they keep for the week. Your child will bring their readers home each night. Please spend 5 - 10 minutes listening to your child read each night and then fill the title of the book your child read in the corresponding section of the reading diary each day.

As the year progresses I will send home further tips and ideas to help you when listening to your child read. **Reading progress is especially evident when practice at home and school is a daily routine.** I will let you know the day your child will change their reader next week. Students will also have sight words and sounds to practice. Please tick each word/sound when they get it correct, without help.



Communication

Good communication between home and school is really important for the wellbeing of your child. There are several ways that you can communicate with me.

1. Reading diary — On each page there is a space at the bottom available for you to write a note to me if needed. I may also use this if I want to jot a quick note to you. Alternatively write the note in the corresponding day of the diary. **These reading diaries need to come to school each day!** Please remind your child to show me any notes written in their diary and I will sign it and respond where necessary.
2. Pop in and see me either in the morning or after school. If I am unable to speak with you then we can make a time that is suitable.
3. E-mail—my school e-mail address is belinda.fulton398@schools.sa.edu.au
4. Telephone — ring the school on 8264 5166 and Deb can pass on a message or see if I'm available to speak to you.



Illness

If your child is not well please keep him/her at home as illnesses can spread quickly. If your child needs medication, let us know (myself or the school) so we can advise you of the process. Do not leave any medication in lunch boxes or bags. Following an absence, it is a DECD requirement that you write an explanation note in your child's Reading Diary or phone/text the school so we can complete our roll books. (Roll books are a legal document.)

Tissues The donation of a box of tissues from each family is greatly appreciated. It certainly helps to stop the spread of germs from runny noses! Thank you!

Helping in the classroom

I would love your support in the classroom in any way. Listening to reading, sight words, sounds, excursions or cooking. All adults working with students need to have a Criminal Check and have completed volunteer training. Please advise me or the office, if you wish to do our volunteer training so that it can be scheduled when we receive sufficient numbers. The school will inform you when the training will take place.

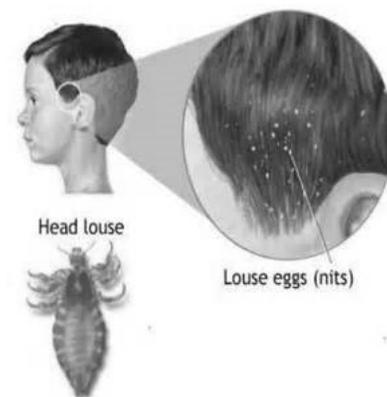
Early collection & late arrivals:

If you need to collect your child early or during the day for appointments please remember to go to the office first for a sign out slip. When you give this to me I can then record it in the roll book.

We encourage you to be at school before the bell at 8.55am, so your child does not miss the start of the day. If you do arrive after 9.00 you will need to get a late slip from the office which is then given to the teacher.

Head Lice

These annoying little critters are a fact of life anywhere there is close contact between children. I understand it can be frustrating and can be difficult to get rid of them too. Please check your child's hair weekly and keep long hair tied back. If you do find lice (live) or nits (eggs) please treat your child's hair before sending them back to school. A note to let me know is appreciated so a note can be sent home to all families. Confidentiality will be assured.



Later this week I will send home our overview for the term and at Acquaintance Night this evening, will hand out the important term dates for you to take home.

If at any time you have a concern about your child and their learning, please don't hesitate to contact me so we can discuss your concerns. It is important that the relationship between school and home is strong to support your child and their lifelong learning.

I am looking forward to an exciting, productive and successful year with your child.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Fulton

