

KINDERGARTEN AND PRE PRIMARY

EDUCATION IS A JOURNEY

Children have already learnt so much by the time they arrive at school and it is important that parents and teachers are aware of each child's journey and what is to come.

You will find many features are similar in all our classrooms, based on our whole school beliefs. Staff form relationships with children and their parents, provide an inviting and safe learning environment, and plan a varied program in line with the Western Australian Curriculum.

Please refer to the Applecross Primary School Parent Information Handbook and the school website www.applecrossps.wa.edu.au for more information on the policies and procedures of the school.

You can also find useful information about Kindergarten, Pre Primary and supporting your children's education at home on this site <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/web/at-school/home>

Our friendly staff across the school are always ready to answer questions or point you in the right direction.

ARRIVING AND LEAVING

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Developing the habit of going to school regularly is essential to providing your child with access to the full curriculum. Please ensure you bring your child to the classroom on time each day. The gates into the Early Childhood will be opened before class begins (near Room 3 at 8.30am and near Room 1 at 8.35am) and closed at 3.15pm at the end of the day. Please go to the office and get a late slip if your child arrives after the siren. Notification of absence is required by notifying the school office or classroom teacher. You can write a note, use the absentee eform on the school app or call the school.

SUPERVISION

Children are not to be left unattended before school commences and must be collected promptly at the conclusion of each day. Young children become distressed if they have a long wait and the teachers and assistants also need time to prepare for the following day, clean up and attend to other duties including staff meetings. No child will be permitted to leave unaccompanied or with a person other than the legal guardian unless written permission is given, or the teacher is notified accordingly.

In case of an emergency, please notify the school or the centre so that suitable arrangements can be made for your child. The name and telephone number of an emergency contact needs to be provided in the event that parents are unable to be contacted.

PARKING

There are angled car bays along the verge in Kishorn Road opposite the Early Childhood Centre. We ask that Kindergarten and Pre-primary parents use these bays, walk children into the centre and pass the duty of care to the teacher. Please park only in the marked bays and keep driveways and loading bays clear at all times. PLEASE ENSURE CLOSE SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN AROUND CARS AT ALL TIMES.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

FOR SAFETY REASONS CHILDREN ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PLAY ON THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL!



ORGANISATION

WHAT TO BRING

Children are asked to bring the following items to school:

- Large School Bag for completed work, newsletters and belongings (a spare set of clothes is handy in case of accidents). Label clearly.
- A Hat to leave at school. Label clearly. Applecross Primary School has a NO HAT NO PLAY policy. Any sunscreen needs to be applied before arriving at school.
- The children will need a packed lunch and snack every day. Children need to bring a water bottle (contains only water) every day.
 - Follow the Healthy Food and Drink Choices in Schools advice. Lollies, cordial and "junk" foods are NOT encouraged.
 - Applecross Primary School has a Nut and Soy Minimisation Policy.
 - Choose lunch boxes, containers and drink bottles that your child can open themselves.
 - Please label lunch boxes and water bottles clearly.
- Items on the Kindergarten or Pre Primary Booklist.

WHAT TO WEAR

Uniform

The school has developed a dress code that requires all children (P-6) to wear a school uniform or to seek an exemption through the Principal. Kindy students may wear an Applecross Kindy Kid polo shirt. The Clothing Boutique is open Wednesday & Friday mornings from 8:15am to 10:15am.

Footwear

In the warmer months during outdoor activities, Kindy and Pre-primary children may remove their shoes. There are a number of benefits in doing so:

1. **Safety.** Some activities, especially climbing, are dangerous when a child is wearing shoes. It is our responsibility to ensure that a child's safety is maintained at all times. This means bare feet for gripping and climbing on bars.
2. **Freedom of movement.** Growing feet need exercise and muscle development. This cannot be achieved if feet are always confined.
3. **Sensory learning.** Children learn through their senses, especially the sense of touch. The sensation of sand between toes and grass under-foot contribute to the joys of a carefree childhood. Different sensations and textures on the feet and toes cannot be experienced while shoes are on.
4. **Independence.** Children are encouraged to be responsible for removing and looking after their own shoes, socks and belongings on arrival. Important independence skills take place at the end of the session when children learn to put their shoes on (eg. tying laces, buckles, turning socks inside out, learning the difference between left and right).

PLEASE NOTE... Thongs and Crocs are **NOT** acceptable forms of footwear.

TOYS

We ask that any toys and valuables do not come to school. Toys often break, get mislaid or lost, and often cause disruption during the day. Please ensure your child leaves their precious items at home.

BIRTHDAYS

Children like to have their birthdays celebrated at school and they provide a great opportunity for learning many social skills, such as sharing and cooperation. We are happy to have you bring cupcakes for your child to share. Please remember that Applecross Primary School has a Nut Minimisation Policy therefore please avoid cupcakes containing nuts or nut products.

Please note: Lolly bags will not be handed out in Kindy and Pre Primary. Birthday plans need to be arranged privately as this avoids unnecessary distress for children who are not invited.

PARENT SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT

As a parent you hold the key to the early years of learning and influence your child's attitude towards school. The teacher's role is to build on what has been taught at home and add the development of literacy, numeracy skills as well as other learning areas. The family of each child is always welcomed and appreciated at Applecross Primary School. It is very important that there is cooperation and communication between parents and teachers. This assists with the children's stability, enjoyment and effectiveness in the program.

PARENTS ROLE

Parents support their children's school experience by:

- Supporting healthy eating, sleeping and exercise.
- Keeping teachers informed about your child's health and wellbeing.
- Showing your child that you are interested in what they are doing at school.
- Participating, when possible, in parent help opportunities in class and school.
- We encourage you to participate in our programs and share your talents and abilities. Where possible, we will try to incorporate your strengths into our program in order to enhance the children's school experience.
- Keeping up-to-date by carefully reading any notes sent home with your child, downloading the app to receive reminders and newsletters.
- If at any time during the year you have any queries regarding your child's Pre-primary education, please feel free to contact us. For a more detailed discussion about your child's progress, an appointment can be made with your teacher for a suitable time. It is your continued support that makes the program successful and promotes a happy atmosphere.

TEACHERS ROLE

Teachers will communicate with parents about class activities in a variety of ways. At the beginning of the school year, there will be a parent/teacher meeting to discuss individual class routines and programs. During the year notes, displays and an email may be used to share regular updates.

Teachers will share individual successes and concerns by talking with parents or sending emails. Teachers have a unique insight into how children develop within a large social group. It is valuable to teachers and parents alike to understand how children may behave differently at home and school.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Your involvement in the classroom and school means a lot to your child. Parents are encouraged to help in class, and across the school with P&C and whole school events. Requests for help will be in the newsletter, app and email. Through your visits they are able to share experiences with you and engage more fully in the program. You will be able to see the work your child does, how they progress through the year and how they fit in with the group. We appreciate your help and welcome the chance to get to know you all.

Other family members (e.g. grandparents, aunts, uncles) are also welcome to help out. The school asks that a Confidential Declaration be completed by all visitors (other than parents) working with children in order to comply with Department of Education Policy. This declaration only needs to be completed once each year. Copies are available from the school office, school website, or your child's class teacher.

PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

The Parent Representative liaises between school staff and the parents of the class, also encouraging parents to build supportive relationships. A parent volunteer assists with coordinating parents for class, whole school and P&C events.

HANDWRITING

The Victorian Modern Cursive handwriting style is used throughout Applecross Primary School. Teachers model and encourage correct pencil grip and printing, beginning from the left hand side of the paper to encourage awareness that print reads from left to right. If you are modelling to your child how to write their name please avoid upper case block letters.



Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn
Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

USEFUL ITEMS FROM HOME

The classes can make use of many sundry items which would normally be disposed of in the home. We will recycle almost everything. **IF IN DOUBT DON'T THROW IT OUT - ASK US FIRST**