

# The Cackling Cockatoos Class Newsletter - PMTCD

Welcome to preschool, our class is called **The Cackling Cockatoos**.

We have had a great start to the term and the children are settling into the routines of preschool. We are getting to know each other and learning each other's names through games and stories. We are establishing expectations for staying safe and happy at preschool, including discussions about what this means.

This letter is to give you some information about what is happening day-to-day in the preschool, and to let you know about a few special events that are happening during the term.

## **Routines and Expectations**

Our **daily routine** is designed to give students an opportunity to explore both indoor and outdoor learning experiences, as well as some whole group activities. A detailed daily routine is displayed near our notice board. Our learning program is also displayed in the classroom - please feel free to have a look and we welcome feedback.

## **Class library borrowing will be available from week 5.**

Library borrowing day will be on Tuesdays. Teachers will help children to select a book between 9:30 - 10am on Tuesdays. Please ensure your child brings their library bag on these days.

We will use the school library as children become more settled at preschool and become familiar with the borrowing process. To prepare your child for library borrowing, please ensure they have a library bag with them as this will be a requirement for borrowing from the school library.

## **Integrated Inquiry**

Our Integrated Inquiry this term is focused on exploring the concept of identity through the topic '**All About Me**'. Students will be learning about themselves, their families and their culture through a range of activities and experiences. At the moment we are focusing on getting to know each other and how we all belong in our new Harrison Preschool environment. We are learning our names, our likes and dislikes and making displays about our birthdays and our emotions.

In a few weeks we will begin exploring the five senses and how they help us to understand the world around us. Later in the term we will be looking at our families and learning about our home cultures and languages. As part of this learning we ask for pre-schoolers to please **bring in a photograph of their family** (no larger than half an A4 page please). We are hoping to organise something special to celebrate the amazing diversity in our class that will coincide with Harmony Day.

Later in the term we will be participating in an incursion related to our Integrated Inquiry focus. The performance is designed for pre-schoolers and encourages children to learn about and develop key social and emotional skills, including resilience, empathy and sharing.

*Notes with more information about both these events will be coming home soon.*

## Curriculum

Please refer to the attached sheet for information about the curriculum we follow at Harrison Preschool.

## General Information

### Drop Off and Pick Up

Preschool hours are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Preschool students **cannot** be dropped off in the preschool playground - an adult is required to wait with them. An adult is also required to pick your child up from the classroom at the end of each day.

## Notes

Notes about special events, including excursions/incursions and assembly performances, will be placed in your child's tray. Please check your child's tray every day that you come to preschool and take any notes or artworks home. We also put **daily notices** on the board outside the classroom each day. Please read it carefully so you do not miss any information.

## Labelling

Please remember to label all your child's belongings, including food containers and drink bottles and especially shoes, socks and hats.

## Sun Smart

If you have not already done so, please remember to hand in your \$3 contribution to use the preschool sunscreen. Please support us in keeping your child sun-safe by applying sunscreen at home or when you arrive at preschool each morning.

## Food at Preschool

- Harrison School is an *allergy friendly* school - please do not send your child to school with any nuts or nut products, including peanut butter, Nutella, hazelnut chocolates, etc.
- We encourage healthy habits at preschool. Please support us in this by supplying your child with a piece of fruit or vegetables to eat at morning tea. Refer to the posters in displayed outside the classroom for some healthy lunchbox ideas.
- **Lunch orders** are available to order either online or through the canteen. Please let us know on the day if your child has a lunch order. Your child will still require fruit and a snack for morning tea.

## Communication

We look forward to a fun year of learning with The Cackling Cockatoos. If you have any questions, concerns or feedback please don't hesitate to speak with us before or after school or to email [Catherine.Duke@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Catherine.Duke@ed.act.edu.au)

Kind Regards,

Cathy Duke, Deb Gordon and Ruby Nolan

