



Mrs Ahearn's Kindy Kangaroos Parent Meeting 2018 Room 6 -Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday group

Welcome to Kindy at Secret Harbour Primary School. It has been lovely to meet you and your children and I am looking forward to the year ahead. I like to run a learning program that involves play-based investigation activities designed to compliment and reinforce focus concepts and skills.

MORNING ROUTINE

Your child's name has been placed inside a pigeon hole outside the classroom and this is where they keep their lunchbox and hat. When the doors are opened at 8:35am, children can come in and place their drink bottle in the labelled trolley. Please encourage your child to organise themselves (helping as required) to promote independence in looking after personal items.

If you have arranged for another adult to collect your child at the end of the day, please record their details on the 'Alternative Pick Up' list that morning. The list is located in the classroom by the door. Alternatively, please notify the office on 95248100. I will not release students to anybody other than their next of kin, unless notified.

AFTERNOON ROUTINE

The classroom door will be opened at **2:50pm** and children will be called and released to their parent/caregiver. Please be punctual as it can be very distressing for children when parents/caregivers are late. If you need to speak to me at the end of the day, please wait until ALL children have been released to parents. This will allow me to keep watch of the children in my care and then give you my full attention when they have been collected.

All correspondence is placed in the 'take home' box found outside the classroom at the end of the day. These folders are for adults to check and empty every day. Please don't allow children (Kindy students or siblings) to remove items from the folders to avoid mixing/losing papers.

COMMUNICATION

If you have any issues or concerns relating to your child, please do not hesitate to speak with me. You can either schedule a time to speak with me if you would like time to discuss something in depth or quickly chat with me after all children are dismissed. You are also welcome to email me on erin.byrne@education.wa.edu.au

I will also be implementing SeeSaw. This is a digital portfolio of your child's work, experiences and achievements. This form of feedback allows you to see what your child is doing at school and will enable you to support their learning through discussions and extensions at home. Today you will receive a permission and information form. Once all of the forms have been returned, each parent will receive a unique and confidential QR Code. Throughout the day, I will capture photos of your child's learning and upload it to SeeSaw. I will tag your child in this photo and only you will be able to access this secure documentation.

Finally, our school prides itself on providing regular and meaningful feedback to parents on their child's development. We will be sending home a portfolio of your child's work and experiences in terms two and four.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

I use a positive reinforcement behaviour management approach in Kindy. We explicitly teach and model social skills as well as encourage and praise good manners and behaviour. We also adopt a school wide social emotional program called Highway Heroes. This program supports students to develop their social skills and to assist them in building relationships and making choices.

There are occasions when children will need guidance on how to behave appropriately. At such times they will be spoken with to try to assist in dealing with the problem and guided to help modify their choices or if necessary they may have a short period of 'quiet time'. I strongly believe that nothing should ever be a surprise, so I will always notify you if any issues have occurred.

SHOES AND CLOTHES

Please clearly label your child's clothing - especially hats, jumpers and spare clothes. It would assist us greatly if your child wears shoes with Velcro straps. We aim to develop independence in tasks such as emptying sand from shoes, so shoes without laces make this easier for them (and us!).

Please send weather appropriate and labelled spare clothes EVERYDAY, even if your child does not often have 'accidents'. Sometimes our play can get messy and children can get upset if their clothes are wet, excessively sandy etc. Starting Kindy can also be very exciting and kids can get very caught up in play and activities that they can sometimes leave it a bit late to get to the toilet.

LUNCHBOX FOOD

This year we will be having a 'shared fruit' afternoon tea as part of our Crunch & Sip program. I ask that children bring an extra piece of fruit or vegetable to be cut up and shared for afternoon tea. This is in addition to their recess fruit/vegetable snack.

At recess children are asked to eat their fruit/vegetable first and then they can choose to eat any extra snacks you pack that day. Children are also asked to eat their sandwich (or equivalent) first at lunchtime before choosing from other food options. We do ask that no nut products are included in lunchboxes such as nut spreads, fruit and nut mixes, nut bars, bliss balls made with nuts etc.

Kindy students may receive lunch orders (no slushies, ice creams or recess orders). These orders can be placed and paid for at the canteen in the undercover area. Alternatively, you can order online at www.quickcliq.com.au The Kindy students do not visit the canteen for recess or lunch.

PARENT HELP

Once the children have settled in to their new class and routines, a Parent Help roster will be placed outside the classroom for you to add your name to. Helpers will need to sign in through the office before coming in to help (so we have a list of people in the school in case of emergencies). Parent Help is a wonderful opportunity to share in your child's time at Kindy and assist with activities, so we do ask that younger siblings do not accompany you on roster.

BIRTHDAYS

We love to celebrate birthdays at Kindy. If you would like to send in a birthday treat, we would be very appreciative if you could make it cupcakes or other individual serve items to share. If you would like to hand out invitations, please see myself or Mrs Gilchrist and we can place the invitations in children's take home file.

LAUNDRY ROSTER

We have a term roster for classroom washing hanging at the front of the classroom. Your child's name has been added to a specific week and we thank you in advance for your time and assistance! We ask everyone to share the load by having a turn of washing classroom towels and returning them to Kindy on Monday of the next week.

REFERRALS

If you are approached to discuss a possible referral to a specialist service such as speech or occupational therapy or to gain permission for our school psychologist to assist me in performing observations, please don't be alarmed or upset. We strive for early intervention in the first years of schooling to eliminate and/or avoid any potential difficulties for your child. I will always discuss concerns or observations with you and ask for your input.

SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL

We strongly encourage Kindy families to get involved in the school. We have a Secret Harbour Primary School P&C committee who meet regularly and discuss ways to improve and support the school. There is also a Secret Harbour Primary School Board. This Board meets each term to discuss the priorities, directions and plans for the school. Nomination forms can be obtained from the front office.

INCURSIONS

This year we can expect incursions, which are an integral part of the teaching and learning program. These incursions and experiences should total less than \$50. You will receive information and permission slips regarding these events before they occur.

Thank you for your attendance today. If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to discuss them with me after the meeting, after school or via email.

Kind regards,

Erin Ahearn