

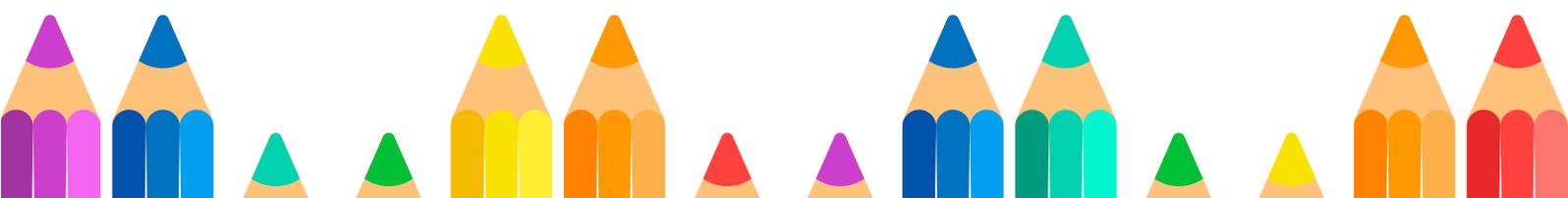


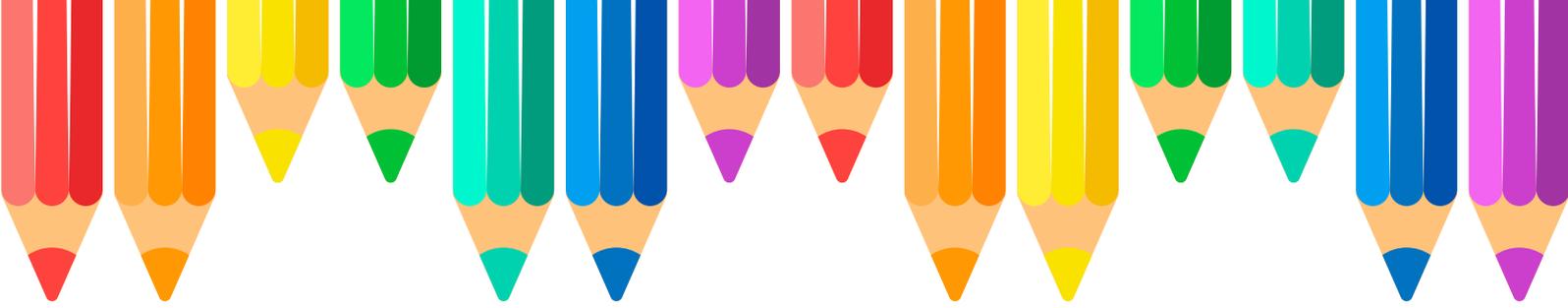
Welcome to Prep 2026

Miss Megan Wirth (Prep MW)

Miss Liz Cameron (Prep LC)

SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC SCHOOL KEW





Welcome to Sacred Heart!

We look forward to working together throughout this year. We have lots of wonderful learning opportunities and experiences planned for our terrific Prep children.

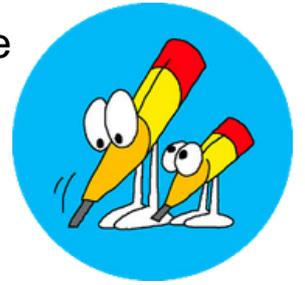
In this booklet you will find important school and curriculum information that you need to know for this year. Once you have read through the booklet, please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.



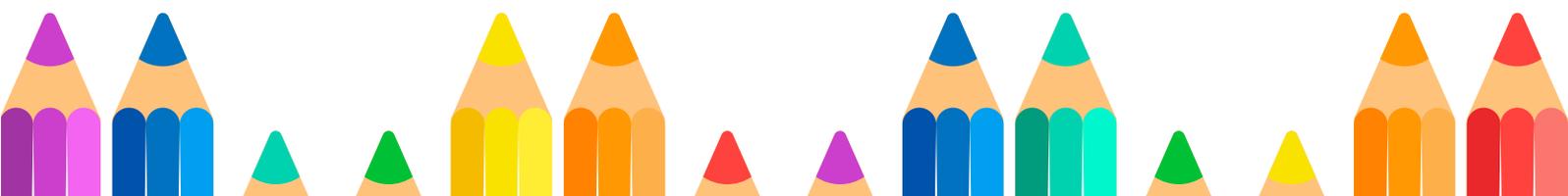


English

Sacred Heart is continuing with its Science of Reading journey this year. Prep and Year 1 students use the Little Learners Love Literacy (LLLL) program. LLLL is a structured and explicit program with engaging multisensory activities. It is carefully sequenced in seven stages to teach children the 44 sounds of the English language and the principles of the alphabetic code (that each speech sound can be represented by different groups of letters, such as the sound /i/ as in **l**, **sky**, **pie**, **ice**, **cycle**, and that a letter (or group of letters) can represent different sounds, such as the letter 'y' in **yes**, **gym**, **funny**, **sky**).



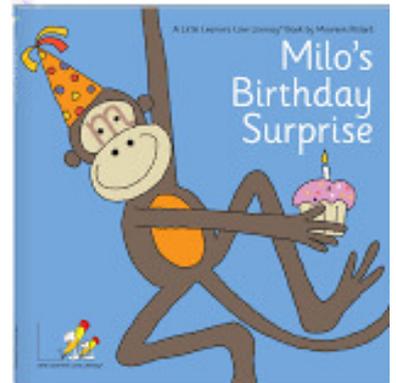
We start with teaching the simple code in Stages 1– 4. We will focus on phonics and phonemic awareness to build the strongest foundations for reading and spelling success. We will also focus on building vocabulary and oral language skills to develop equally strong foundations for comprehension and writing.



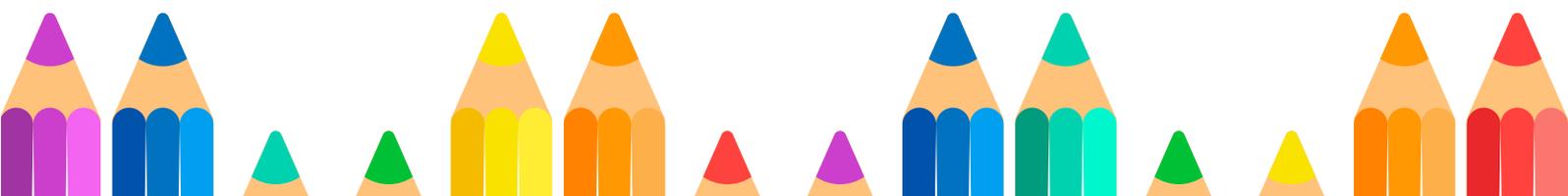
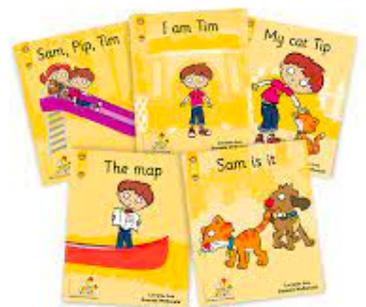


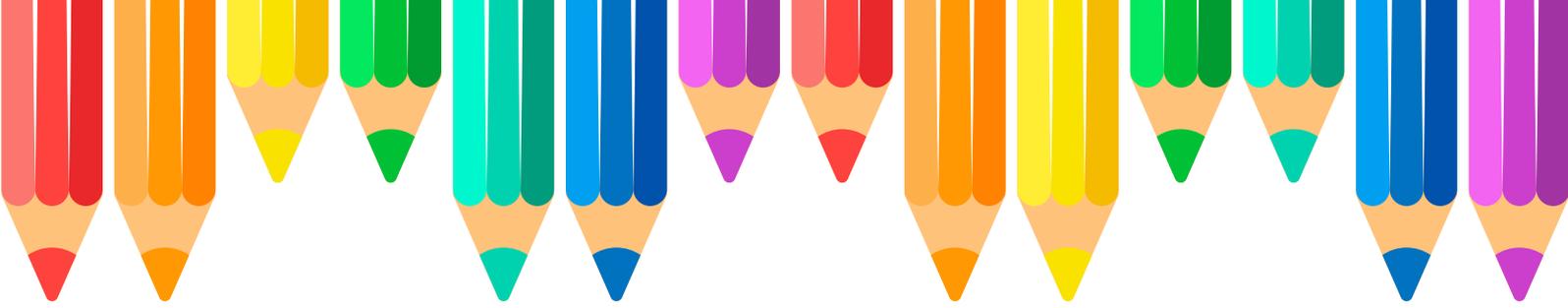
Meet Milo and friends

In the first few weeks of term, we will be learning our Stage 1 letters and sounds. We will be enjoying the '*Milo's Birthday Surprise*' storybook, meeting a new character and sound regularly. We will also learn to blend sounds to say words with the Ally Alligator puppet and segment them for spelling, as well as learning handwriting.



Decodable books Once we finish teaching Stage 1, we will start to send home Pip and Tim decodable books. These are our secret to success – our 'no tricks' books. Each story practises the sounds and letters that we have taught, so children will be able to read the books themselves by sounding out and blending (and no guessing!)





How can you support your child at home?

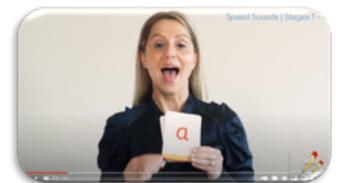
Reading to your child Read many books to your child and talk about what you just read. This is crucial for vocabulary and linguistic comprehension. Choosing a quiet time, such as bedtime, can help build an easy and fun reading routine.



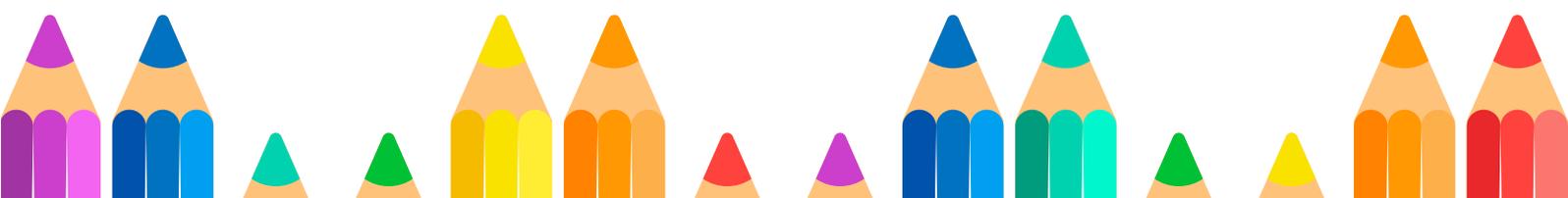
Play with sounds Read the Little Learners letter that we will soon start posting on Seesaw each week. Ask your child the questions that are included with the letter. This will support the development of phonemic awareness (helping in the ability to identify, blend, segment and manipulate speech sounds within words).



Say the sounds Say the 'pure' sounds without an 'uh' sound on the end; for example, 'lllll' rather than 'luh'. You can listen to the sounds on the Little Learners Love Literacy® YouTube channel.



Practise decoding When our decodable storybooks start to come home, encourage your child to sound out to read unknown words. Remember that this is the beginning of your child's learning to read journey and, just as when they were learning to walk, your child will need support to build confidence reading.



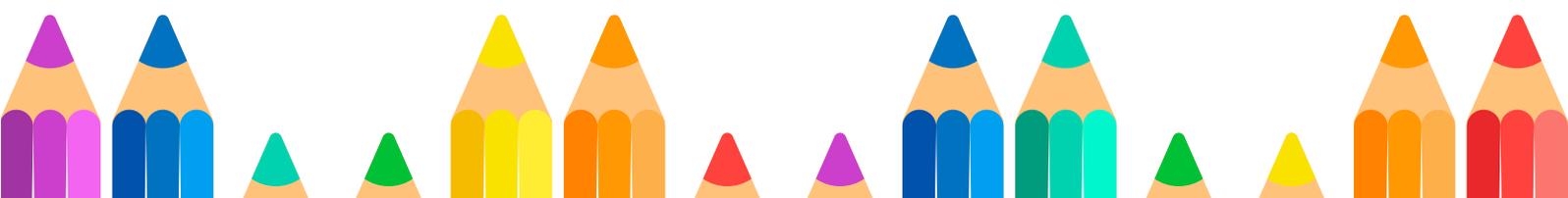


Classroom Helpers

The English program involves classroom helpers and a roster will commence in Term 2. The date of the Classroom Helper Course is **10th March at 8:45am**. Attendance is compulsory if you wish to assist in the classroom. Please note that all volunteers need a Working with Children Check, a signed 2026 Volunteer Application form and a signed 2026 MACS Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct, sent via Nforma. If you have completed the course in previous years you do not need to attend again. If you cannot attend please email Courtney Drough at cdrough@shkew.catholic.edu.au to organise an alternative time.

Seesaw

Seesaw is a student driven portfolio of learning. It empowers students to create, reflect, share and collaborate. Students and teachers add photos, videos, drawings, text, PDFs, and more to show what they know. We will be using Seesaw to document and celebrate some of your child's learning experiences in the classroom. We will upload examples of the student's work regularly to share all the wonderful learning happening in the classroom.





MATHEMATICS

In Prep, Mathematics focuses on building strong foundations and a positive attitude towards learning with numbers. Learning follows the Victorian Curriculum F–10 Version 2.0, which emphasises understanding, confidence and enjoyment of mathematics through carefully sequenced and meaningful learning experiences.

What are children learning in Maths?

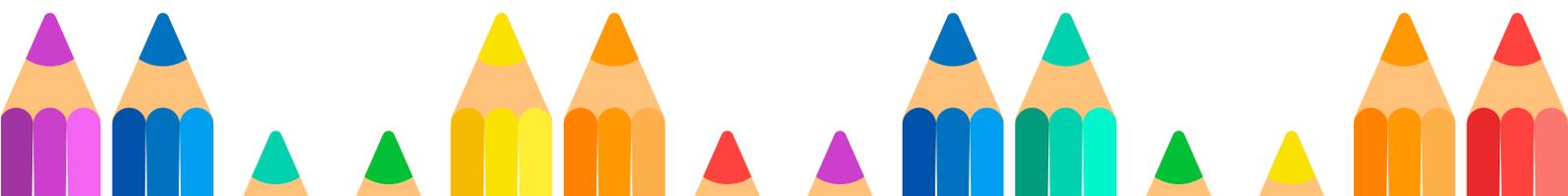
Prep Mathematics is organised into five key areas:

- Number
- Algebra
- Measurement
- Space
- Statistics (sorting and grouping information)

These areas are taught in a clear and supportive sequence, allowing children to build on their existing knowledge and develop important mathematical skills over time.

Mathematics in Term 1

In Term 1, Prep students develop early numeracy skills through explicit teaching and hands-on learning experiences, aligned with the Victorian Curriculum 2.0. Children learn to recognise, copy and create simple patterns, explore time and daily routines, and build strong counting and number knowledge from 0–10. They practise counting, matching numbers to quantities, comparing groups, and recognising small amounts without counting. Students also develop spatial awareness by describing the position of objects and themselves using everyday language. Throughout the term, maths learning is practical, engaging and designed to build confidence and understanding.





Supporting all Learners

Where possible, learning is differentiated to meet the diverse needs of all students. This may include explicit small-group instruction, targeted support, additional practice or extension opportunities, and the use of varied resources and teaching approaches, ensuring each child is supported and challenged at their point of learning.

Wellbeing

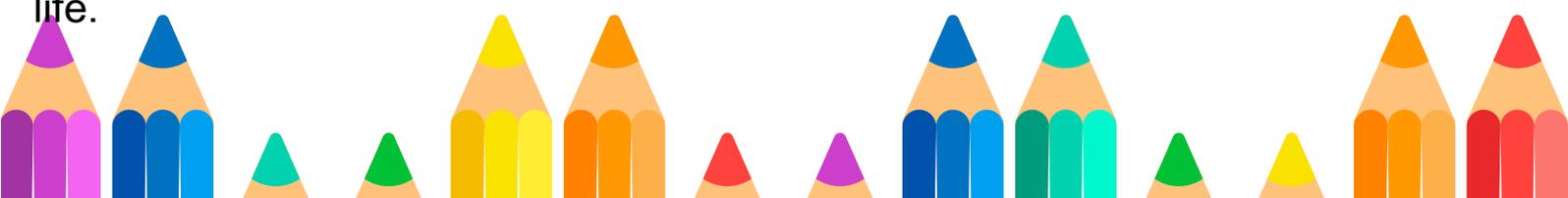
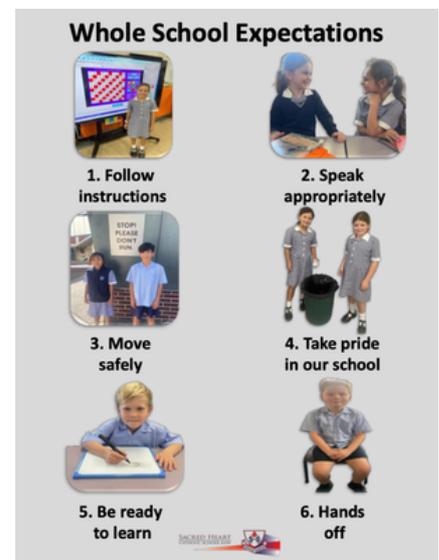
This term we will explore different positive behaviours that students can display towards their peers. We will continue to look at making good choices and the difference between ‘ant’ and ‘elephant’ sized problems.

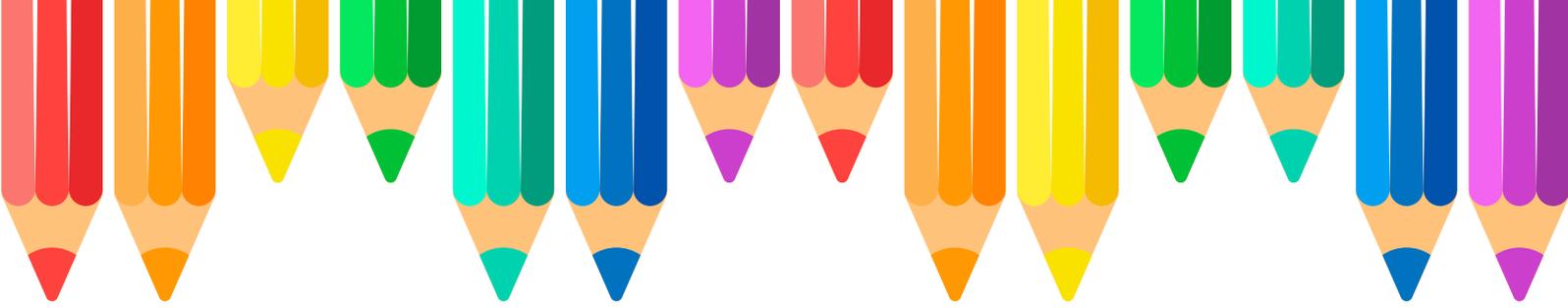
We will also be referring back to the school expectations that are in place at Sacred Heart.

These include:

- 1- Follow Directions
- 2- Speak Appropriately
- 3- Move Safely
- 4- Look After Our School
- 5- Be Ready to Learn
- 6- Hands off

We will also explore the **Zones of Regulation** which is designed to teach students self regulation and emotional control. It provides students with an easy way to think and talk about how we feel on the inside and sort emotions into four coloured Zones, all of which are expected in life.





Other Important Information

Brain Food/Snack/Lunch

Brain Food is a small fruit or vegetable snack that students are able to manage in a short time. This occurs at about 9:45am each day. If you are sending in an apple, please cut it into small pieces.

Snack is eaten at approximately 10:35am with the bell going at 10:45am for outside play. Lunch is eaten at around 12:35pm each day with the outside play bell ringing at 12:55pm. Students always have ample time to eat and if needed will be given more time after playtime has ended.

At Sacred Heart we have a 'no sharing of food' policy. This is to protect those students and teachers who are allergic to different foods.

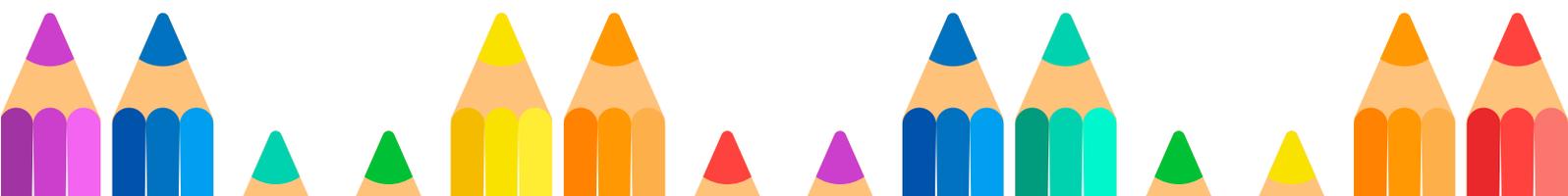


Anaphylaxis and Allergies

Sacred Heart is a 'Nut Aware' school. We would appreciate your cooperation in refraining from sending food, snacks or treats (made or packaged) that contain nuts (e.g. peanuts, cashews, peanut butter and Nutella) to school or any school gathering.

Birthday Treats

Should your child be celebrating a birthday and wish to hand out treats please send in a commercially wrapped treat to share with the class. For safety purposes, no lollipops. Please also let the teacher know in case they need to cater for a child with an allergy. We appreciate your ongoing support with this.





Absences

The school day begins at 8:45am. If your child is going to be absent for the day, please alert the school by 9:30am through email, a phone call or the Audiri app. After the roll is taken in the morning, classroom teachers will alert the office to absent children who we have not heard from and you will be contacted to verify their absence.

Drop off and Pick Up

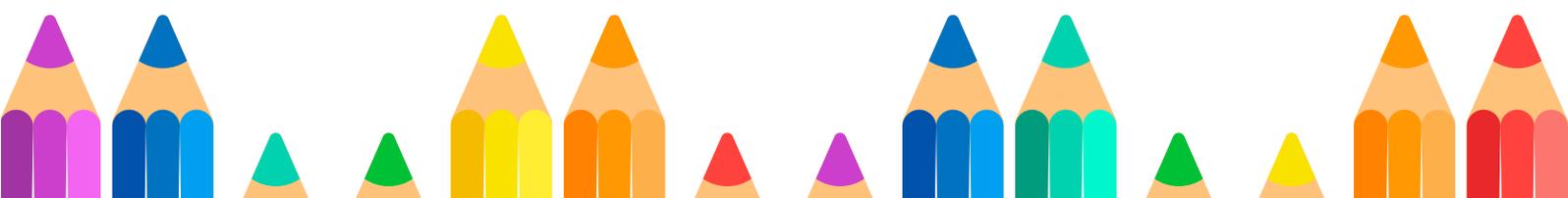
Kiss and Drop (Glenferrie Road) is a great service that we offer every morning and afternoon for pick up. Cars enter through the Glenferrie Rd entry on to the basketball courts. They wait in line with teachers assisting students into cars by opening car doors. **Parents are to stay inside the car at all times and children must be able to put on their own seatbelt.** Please do not queue up on Glenferrie Rd to enter the school grounds as this is a No Standing Zone during school hours. If your child is using Kiss and Drop in the afternoons it is helpful to write a small K&D on their hands so they remember where to go once school is dismissed.

Out of School Hours Care - MACSEYE

Please inform us if your child is attending Aftercare in the afternoons so we can direct them to the right place.

Sunscreen

Sunscreen is available for use in the classroom. **We strongly recommend applying sunscreen before school in the warmer months** and students will be encouraged to reapply at lunchtime. Please be aware that teachers are not allowed to apply sunscreen to students. They must be able to do this themselves. The sunscreen available at school is pictured. Feel free to send in your child's own sunscreen to keep in the classroom.





Communication

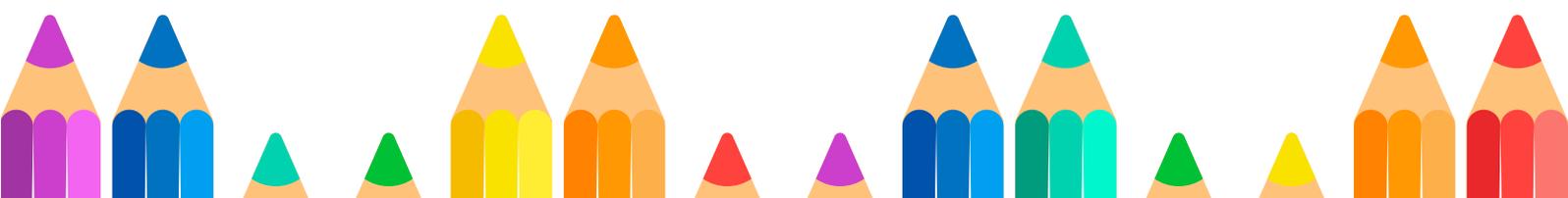
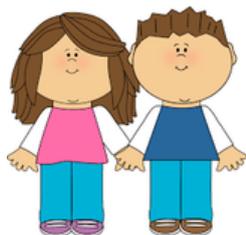
One of the ways we communicate with parents is through the use of the school pouch. We use these to share important notes, readers and reading record books. We encourage these to come in everyday and for you to check these every night. These can be purchased at Bob Stewart if you do not have one yet.



If you have any need to contact us throughout the term we would love to hear from you via a note in the pouch, or an email to admin@shkew.catholic.edu.au that Caroline Reid will forward and we will respond to as soon as possible.

Friendships

The Prep students are starting to make lots of wonderful connections with their peers. We are noticing lots of lovely friendships starting to blossom within the classroom environment. Friendships can take time as the students settle into their new environment. The playground can be a particularly difficult place for the Preps as the size and large crowds can be quite overwhelming. We are encouraging students to line up with friends before they go outside and to ask for help if they don't have anyone to play with. It is normal for Prep students to want to play with their siblings or older friends at school. This usually only happens as they are settling in and adjusting to their new environment. Soon, we will begin allocating Mondays for students to play with their siblings or Year 5/6 Buddy and then on the other days they will need to play with their Prep friends.





Subject Teacher Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Performing Arts Mrs Mulhall	Sport Mr O'Shea	Sport Miss Wirth and Miss Cameron
		Mandarin Mrs Chen	Visual Art Mrs Burnes	Library

Library

Prep MW and Prep LC will visit the library on alternating Fridays. Before borrowing begins, students will create their own library bags, which they will use to safely take books to and from school. Once library borrowing commences, students may borrow books for up to two weeks. Books will need to be returned before new books can be borrowed. We look forward to supporting students to develop responsibility and a love of reading through our regular library visits.





We are looking forward to an amazing year in Prep and are excited to work alongside you for the first year of your child's school journey. Please always feel free to contact us so we can assist you with any concerns or questions.

Kind regards,
Megan and Liz

