

PICNIC POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL



'Strive to Excel'

Welcomes you to

Early Stage 1

2021

Early Stage 1 Classes

KINDERGARTEN CAPSICUM
KINDERGARTEN KALE

Mrs Austin
Miss Romeo

KINDERGARTEN CACTUS

Mrs Weissel

Other Support Staff Working With Students

Release From Face To Face (RFF)

These teachers provide each teacher time to allow for planning, preparation and evaluation of educational programs. The students learn ICT & STEM skills with Mrs Chatterton and Mr Narris.

Capsicum	ICT Tuesday - STEM Thursday	Cactus	ICT Thursday - STEM Wednesday
Kale	ICT Wednesday - STEM Tuesday		

STEM

Mr Narris will be guiding students through lessons in G Block to challenge and equip them with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical (STEM) skills to solve authentic problems in the world around them. Students will become more competent in their ability to design and engineer creative solutions through engaging in collaborative teams and applying their understandings in Mathematics, Science and Technology.

Learning and Support Teacher & English as Additional Language or Dialect (EALD)

Students with identified needs in learning areas or English development are given intensive assistance with Mrs Black & Mrs Clarke. Small groups and individual students benefit from carefully structured tuition. The focus may be on communication skills, reading or written language and grammar.

School Counsellor

Mr Frank Virgara has qualifications and experience in both education and psychology and attends the school 2½ days per fortnight. He works with students to help learning, concentration, behaviour and social skills and also offers support to parents. Appointments are organised through the Learning Support Team and in consultation with the class teacher and the Principal.

Library - All Kindy - Thursday

This year, teachers will be taking their own classes to the library to develop reading, research and information skills. Children will learn how to find useful material and books that will aid them in research work or a book that they will enjoy reading for leisure. The library will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday at lunchtime; the children may borrow, browse or research.

Key Learning Areas (KLAs)

To provide students with a broad and balanced education from Early Stage 1 to Stage 3, the curriculum is defined in terms of 6 Key Learning Areas. A wide variety of activities will have the children working alone, in pairs, as small groups or as a whole class.

English

A variety of activities using 'big books' and a wide range of high quality literature usually centred around the letter/sound of the week or a theme.

Mathematics

Practical activities develop each child's knowledge, concepts, experiences and problem solving techniques.

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) / History / Geography

Exploratory units directly related to the child's environment such as: My Family, Remembering the Past, People Live in Places, Special People/Special Places are studied/explored.

Science and Technology

The emphasis is on investigating and practical problem solving. We explore units such as What Is It Made Of, Moving Things, The Weather in My World, Needs Of Living Things.

Creative Arts

The Creative Arts syllabus provides opportunities for students to learn to work within each of the art forms of Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

Topics covered encourage an understanding and valuing of oneself and others and promote physical activity on a regular basis. Gymnastics will be delivered by Gymnastrix Term 4. A Gross Motor Skills program is delivered by SISA in Term 3.

- Sport will be every Tuesday - students must wear their sports uniform and joggers.

About Learning in Kindergarten

This is an important year for your child. It is a time when they develop concepts about themselves as learners and attitudes to schooling which form the basis for all their future education.

Children come to school at their own levels of development in the physical, emotional, social and intellectual areas. The Kindergarten program provides the children with a wide variety of opportunities for the development of each of these aspects.

In The Beginning

The children are introduced to routines as part of an ongoing process which will familiarise them with their new environment. They will participate in a wide variety of developmental play activities, both teacher and child directed, which meet and extend interests and abilities.

Assessment - How Am I Going?

Teachers continually monitor the progress of their children on an individual and largely informal basis. Some structured testing is carried out throughout the year - these results, together with continual assessment observations, form the basis of reports to parents.

Homework

Homework in Kindergarten is on an informal basis, however, children will be bringing home books and sight words to read regularly with you. One of the most important gifts you can give your child is a love of reading.

Attendance

Please forward an explanation note promptly within 3 days of returning to school to cover all absences of your child from school. All students are expected to aim for 100% attendance.

Handy Information

- Please send any notes and accompanying money back to school in an envelope marked with your child's name, class, purpose and amount enclosed to the office.
- Label **EVERYTHING** that your child is likely to take off or lose. Lost property will be handed back to the owner when labelled.
- Toys are not allowed unless they are part of news. They are kept in the classroom until home time to avoid damage or loss.
- *Kalori*, our school newsletter, updates all the 'news'. This comes home fortnightly via email and can also be found on the school website.
- No hat - play under the shelter - **All** terms.
- Birthdays – (optional) wrapped lollies in a bag rather than cake due to COVID-19.
- Spare undies in case of little accidents.

Excursions

These exciting events provide planned opportunities to extend the classroom program. On occasions parents may be invited to accompany a group if additional supervision is warranted.

Buddy Classes

The Kindergarten classes will be participating in a 'buddy' program with primary students. The children gain in confidence as they work together in both the classroom and playground environments.

Capsicum buddies with **Gwianga** **Kale** buddies with **Lilly Pilly** **Cactus** buddies with **Sarsaparilla**

Arriving and Departing

Arrive between 8:30am – 9:00am. Go to main playground where teacher supervision is provided. Classrooms are closed until 8:30am bell, and after that bags can be hung by the students.

No child or parent is to stay in the K - 2 playground when the 9:00am bell rings. At this stage all parents must drop off and pick up from the gates.

Please be vigilant in observing road signage around our school.

Parent Participation

Teachers, students and parents working together towards the achievement of goals is the best recipe for success. We value your participation in the learning process.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's progress, please don't hesitate to drop us a line or phone the school office for an appointment, or send us a note. **Please phone the school on 9773 7817 or email picnicpt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.**

A Final Word

Kindergarten is a year full of new experiences, a year of rapid development in personal, social, academic and physical skills. All children are encouraged to be responsible for their own actions and to show caring attitudes towards others.

We feel privileged to be working with you and your child as first steps are taken on the learning journey in 'Big School'.