



10 February 2021

## Meet the Teacher – Information for Kindergarten 2021

Dear Parents/Caregivers

### Our Team:

Welcome to the new school year. We have three Kindergarten classes at Surveyors Creek Public School.

Ms Hanman – Assistant Principal, KH



Miss Browne – KB



Mrs Myerscough – KFM  
Thursday and Friday



Mrs Franzke – KFM  
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday



RFF Teachers – Release from face to face teaching is provided by;

Mrs Razay – Music RFF

Mrs Uhlig – Science RFF

Mrs Bradley - KH RFF (including Science)

Mrs Burke - Library

**Weekly Activities:**

**Scripture** will be on Thursdays. If you wish to change your child's preference please indicate this in writing to the office.

**Banking** day is Tuesday.

**Sport and PE** are Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students should wear appropriate footwear on these days.

**Library** is on Fridays. Please ensure that your child has a library bag to protect books which are borrowed from the library.

**Attendance:**

Please ensure your child is punctual. School starts promptly each morning at 9:10am. Please ensure that your child is at school before this time and ready to go into the classroom with their teacher. Children are often unsettled when they arrive late and can miss out on important information and learning. Arriving late also causes disruption to the teacher and other students.

**Absences:**

Our rolls are legal documents and there are protocols for us to follow in marking them.

- The school must be given an explanation from a parent/guardian for all absences.
- If your child is late or leaves early you must obtain a slip from the office. All late arrivals and early departures are noted in our class roll and will appear as partial absences on your child's report. There must be a valid reason for partial absences, or they will be classed as an unjustified absence.
- If we do not have a reason for an absence within 7 days of a child returning to school, it will be classed as an unjustified absence.
- Extended leave requests: if the leave is for more than 5 consecutive days you will need the Principal's approval. If there is a request for leave of more than 20 days the school must be provided with an itinerary. If in doubt, ask at the office as they can answer questions and provide you with the necessary forms.

If your child is suffering from a communicable illness please keep your child home until he/she is completely recovered. This is for the wellbeing of your own child as well as ensuring the illness is not spread to other children or staff.

**Best Start Assessments:**

All kindergarten students have now completed their Best Start assessment. We will be sending the Parent Feedback Summary home shortly.

**Positive Behaviour for Learning:**

Surveyors Creek Public School is a PBL school.

1. Be safe
2. Be respectful
3. Be a learner

**Snacks and drink bottles:**

Crunch and Sip is every day – please send a small portion of fruit or vegetables. It is appreciated if it is cut up into pieces easy for the children to handle and eat.

**Recess and Lunch:**

Canteen orders are available. Lunch orders need to be delivered to the canteen prior to 9:10am on canteen days.

**News:**

News will begin in week 6 of Term 1. Each class will include this as part of their timetable and each student will be allocated a day of the week where they can share a topic or item with the class. Encourage your child to stand up straight, be still, smile and look at the audience. Practise each week and you will be amazed at how your child's confidence grows.

### **Home Reading:**

Home reading will begin in Term 2. The students will have books sent home to support their fluency in reading. Books will be changed over when students return their current book. The Magic 100 words will also be sent home at the same time. Students progress with Magic 100 words will be checked on their news day.

### **InitialLit:**

Screening assessments are being completed for the program to begin. InitialLit is an **evidence-based whole-class literacy program** providing all children with the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers. InitialLit is a three-year program, covering the first three years of school (Foundation to Year 2).

### **English:**

English is taught specifically and explicitly in a daily Literacy block of approximately 2 hours. This block of time includes modelled, guided and independent reading and writing, speaking and listening, the InitialLit program and handwriting lessons. Students practice the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills of Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity. English is also embedded across all other Key Learning Areas and includes creative writing, grammar, punctuation, handwriting and speaking and listening. Students will be engaged in quality literature throughout the year as part of the Premier's Reading Challenge.

### **Maths:**

The students will engage in a daily Mathematics block of at least 60 minutes. The students will explore mathematical concepts in dynamic groups and participate in the schoolwide 'Back to Front' mathematics program. The focus is on developing mathematical thinking through listening, doing, communicating, recording and sharing.

### **Science and Technology:**

Kindergarten will study the topic 'What's the Weather?' in term 1.

### **History/Geography:**

The students will begin term 1 with studying the History topic 'This is me – Personal and family histories'. Geography will be studied alternate terms.

### **Creative Arts:**

Kindergarten will explore colour and mixed media related to the topics being studied in other Key Learning Areas.

### **Health, Sport and P.E.:**

Kindergarten students will participate in a weekly fitness session each Tuesday and a sport session every Thursday. This term will focus on the fundamental movement skills developing gross motor skills, balancing, hand-eye coordination, dance and road safety.

Students will have Personal Development lessons based on developing positive self-esteem, recognising feelings, anti-bullying strategies, resilience and problem solving.

### **Library:**

All students will borrow on Friday. Please ensure your child has a library bag and brings it in on a Friday. Students can borrow 1 book from Kindy corner for 1 week. Bookclub forms are sent home twice a term. Orders are placed online.

### **Parent Helpers:**

Due to COVID restrictions we are unable to have parent helpers at this stage. We will send home notes as soon as we are able to have parent helpers in the classrooms.

Our school canteen is currently looking for helpers. If you are able to assist please contact the school office. All community members working as volunteers in schools are required to have a Working with Children Clearance (WWCC). Please check [www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au) for further information on WWCC.

**Homework:**

Research tells us that when parents are partners in their child's learning it makes a big difference. Homework will begin in term 2. It will include home reading and the Magic 100 words and will link to the classroom program.

**Excursions and School activities:**

Details will sent home as these activities become closer.

**Birthday Celebrations:**

We enjoy celebrating childrens' birthdays. Currently with COVID restrictions we are limited in the types of foods which can be sent in from home for these celebrations. Any food items must currently be individually packaged whilst being safe for our students with allergies. We will advise you of any changes to restrictions as they occur.

**Donations for our classrooms:**

Some students have already bought in items to be used in the classroom and we greatly appreciate the gesture. We are always in need of hand soap, tissues, paper towel, wipes, old magazines, newspapers and glue sticks. Butter containers and lids are also a great help when painting at school.

**Communication:**

If an issue arises, your first port of call is your child's teacher. In many instances a note to your child's teacher is appropriate but if you feel it necessary, please seek an appointment for a face to face meeting with your child's teacher.

Our Kindergarten classes each have a 'Seesaw' link for parents to view student work which teachers may post onto their profile and also to have access to information about their class. Each student profile is confidential and can only be viewed with a QR code or password. Your child's QR code was sent home in the first week of school. If you did not receive the paperwork please contact the school.

Yours sincerely



Ms Michele Hanman  
Assistant Principal



Mrs Kathy Browne  
Principal