

Information For Parents

School: Bringelly Public School
1205 The Northern Road
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BRINGELLY NSW 2556

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Class: Kindergarten

Grade: Kindergarten

Stage: Early Stage 1

Teacher: Mrs Margot Hillhouse

Gymnastics: 'Bounce' Program on Mondays

Library Day: Thursday (Must have a library bag to borrow)

Sport Day: Friday (Mornings in Terms 1 & 4, afternoons in Terms 2 & 3)

Assembly: Fridays - In Weeks 3, 6 and 9 at 12.45pm. (See Newsletter)

Classroom Rules: Raise your hand and wait to speak.

Listen to your teacher.

Keep your hands and feet to yourself.

Work quietly.

Share and take turns.

Be kind to others.

Always try your best.

Reward System: Students are given **star cards** for good behaviour. These are kept at school in a small bag or envelope. When they receive 10 star cards they are traded in for a merit award. Merit awards can also be given out at assembly. These will need to be kept in a safe place at home. When a student has collected 10 merit awards they need to be brought to school and handed in to Mrs Billingham. She will sign and date the back of the awards and return them to you. At the next assembly the student will receive a **bronze badge** award. Silver, gold and diamond badges can also be achieved in the same manner.

Equipment Required: Book Pack

School Hat - no hat no play

School Uniform including warm jacket or jumper

Raincoat with hood - no umbrellas

Girls with long hair need to have it tied back neatly, in a pony-tail, plait or braid. Navy blue or red hair accessories are allowed.

Water bottle with twist top or pop-up lid for classroom use.

Students can have cordial or juice at lunchtimes.

Lunch box

Large back-pack type school bag. (The students need to be able to fit in a raincoat, a warm jacket, a lunch box, a drink bottle, news item, home reader and homework book, etc).

Soap and Tissues: It would be appreciated if each family could supply one box of tissues and a bottle of liquid hand soap for daily use in our classroom.

Equipment Practise: Before the school year begins please have your child practise packing and unpacking their school bag and also opening and closing their lunch box. It's a good idea to have a few picnics at home because gladwrap can be very tricky and cause a few upsets to small children. Practising putting on and taking off a school jumper and a raincoat is also very useful. They also need to learn to pull out the sleeves so they are ready to be put on again. Your assistance in these matters would be greatly appreciated and helps build independence and confidence in your child.

Homework: Once we have settled into the school year homework will consist of some worksheets. These will be handed out on a Monday and will be expected to be returned to school on Friday. They will need to be completed in coloured pencil and glued into their homework books. Reading for homework will be introduced once we have mastered some sounds and sight words. I will let you know the process for this and some suggestions for effective practise at

home once we have introduced our readers. To encourage good habits from the beginning students who complete and hand their homework in on time will receive a stamp and sticker for their efforts. A record is kept of this and students who do this every week for the whole term will receive a certificate and a chocolate or small treat as a reward. Homework will not be given in the first and last week of each term.

Parent Helpers: If you would like to assist in the classroom by sharpening pencils, or with guided reading groups or our home reading, or with sport please let me know. It would be very much appreciated. Reading activities will probably not begin until Term 2.

Communication: If your child is absent a note needs to be sent in on the day your child returns to school. If your child comes to school late they need to go to the office and get a late note before they can enter the classroom. These are recorded as partial absences and need to be explained. If you have any problems or concerns please write me a note. If you need an appointment to see me, please contact the office and we will agree on a suitable time for the meeting.

Payment of Money: Money or permission notes for whole school activities are received directly in the office. This is to ensure they do not go missing. You can pay yourself (we now have EFTPOS facilities) or simply put your money and note in an envelope and write your child's name, class and reason on the front. The envelope can be dropped into the box at the front of the office before school. You will receive a receipt for all transactions once they have been processed.

Expectations: Each child is expected to attend school every day that they are well so that they learn and progress. Please have your child at school before the bell goes at 8:55am. It is preferable for your child to have enough time for them to put their bag in the bag room, go to the toilet before school and some time to socialise with their friends in the morning. This allows them time to settle before school.

Lessons begin at 9 o'clock and mornings are spent doing literacy. Even missing 10 minutes in the morning means that your child is missing 10 minutes of valuable learning time. If your child is late they need to follow procedures for late arrivals. If your child is sick please take them to the doctor, if required, and keep them at home until they are well. They will need a note explaining their absence on their return to school. It is mandatory to keep a record of every child's attendance. This has been prescribed by the Department of Education and the class roll is a legal document, kept for several years.

Please ensure that your child goes to bed at a reasonable hour and has a good night's sleep. Children do not learn well when they are too tired. A good, healthy breakfast is essential. Lunchtime is at 11:15 am and small children can be very hungry by this time. If this is the case your child will need to eat a bigger breakfast. Children are encouraged to regularly drink water, eat a sandwich and fruit at lunch time and have a healthy snack at recess or "Little Lunch" as we sometimes call it. Please explain these breaks to your child. In the past some children have tried to eat everything in their lunch box at lunch time and then have nothing to eat at recess and become very upset. In the lunch time break we have 15 minutes eating time and then students can purchase from the canteen when it is open or straight to the big playground to play. Recess is at 1:25 and lasts for 20 minutes. The students play under the COLA at this time. The school day finishes at 2:45pm. Please collect your child at the school gate.

In The Classroom: I am trying to foster a spirit of caring, co-operation, patience, being neat and tidy and cleaning up a mess if we make one. Sharing, taking turns and looking after one another are also qualities that we will consider to be important in our room.

I look forward to teaching Kindergarten in 2011 and thank you for your assistance in helping your child to learn.

Mrs Margot Hillhouse