



# Wyndham Christian College

2021

## PREP INFORMATION BOOKLET



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*The more that you read,  
The more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
The more places you'll go!*  
- Dr. Seuss

# PREPARING FOR SCHOOL

Preparation for starting Prep is for the whole family, not just the child. There are many aspects to consider in order to begin this exciting adventure successfully. However, the most important is to remain positive about the school experience.

The aim of this booklet is to provide Prep Parents and Students with an introduction to the school's programs and routines.

It is a starting point in providing information which will facilitate the smooth transition from Kinder to Prep.

Please keep this as a useful resource and feel free to contact the office if you require any further clarifications.



# TERM DATES AND PUNCTUALITY

Term One	Friday 29th January - Thursday 1st April
Term Two	Tuesday 20th April - Friday 25th June
Term Three	Wednesday 14th July - Friday 17th September
Term Four	Tuesday 5th October - Tuesday 7th December

***“All great achievements  
require time.”  
- Maya Angelou***

*Please Note: Prep Students do NOT attend school on Wednesdays for the month of February. The Prep teachers will use these Wednesdays to conduct one-on-one literacy and numeracy assessments. You will receive further information about how to book a time for these assessment sessions. Preps will begin full time schooling on Wednesday 3rd March 2021*

The Prep program is a full school day, 5 days per week following the assessment weeks in February. The school day commences at 8:45am, being punctual for both before and after the school day is very important. Arriving on time allows your child the best opportunity to settle in and build friendships with their peers, which develops your child's sense of security. We recommend arriving just after 8:25am as this is when a teacher is on yard duty and can supervise your child in the morning. If your child is to arrive before 8:25am, they will be placed into Before School Care.

School finishes at 3:10pm. The students will be escorted to the 'Pick up Zone' located at the playground in front of the Prep classrooms. It is important that the Prep teacher knows who will be responsible for collecting the children. Please notify us, personally or through seesaw, when anyone, other than yourself, will be collecting children from the school. Your child's safety is very important to us.

Should you be delayed collecting your child for any reason please telephone to let the school know, so that we can reassure your child. If you are later than 3:45pm, then your child will be enrolled into After School Care.

*Please Note: Currently our Before and After School care provider is TheirCare. Please refer to handbook for more information. This service is not available on Wednesdays in February for Preps, in order to facilitate a rest day.*

# PREP PROGRAMS

## ENGLISH

English as a core focus of the year is directed by the Letters and Sounds programme. This research based resource equips students to read by fostering children's speaking and listening skills as valuable and preparatory to learning phonic knowledge skills. Children see the relationship between reading and spelling, developing the necessary skills to use written communication.

## MATHS

At WCC we use a combination of mathematics resources in order to teach every student effectively. The use of these resources enable students to gain a solid foundation and understanding of mathematical concepts through hands on learning activities. They involve investigations where the emphasis is on students applying the skills learned to solve everyday problems.

## SCIENCE & HUMANITIES

Students are given opportunities to explore the world around them both individually and as part of collaborative teams. Our aim is to develop personal identity, manipulation of materials, understanding of changes over time and learning about living things around them. They are encouraged to ask questions and take risks in order to describe the relationship between them and the world.

## OUTDOOR LEARNING

At WCC we have a unique ability to focus on using the outdoor environment to facilitate deep links to learning. Weekly, students are able to engage with the outdoors in guided investigations to consolidate learning in multiple learning areas.

## OTHER SUBJECTS

Students will also begin taking classes in:

- Physical Education
- Art
- Performing Arts
- Music
- LOTE (Language Other Than English)
- Christian Studies
- Health
- ICT (Information and Communication Technologies)





## A PREP'S DAY

08:45 – 09:10 | Morning Activity (Assembly, Up & Go, Devotions, Worship)

09:10 – 10:00 | Literacy Session

10:00 – 10:10 | Fruit Break

10:10 – 10:50 | Literacy Session

10:50 – 11:15 | Recess Break

11:15 – 12:05 | Numeracy Session or Specialist Session

12:05 – 12:55 | Numeracy Session or Specialist Session

12:55 – 13:05 | Lunch Eating Time

13:05 – 13:45 | Lunch Break

13:45 – 14:35 | Science/Humanities Session or Specialist Session

14:35 – 15:10 | Science/Humanities Session or Specialist Session

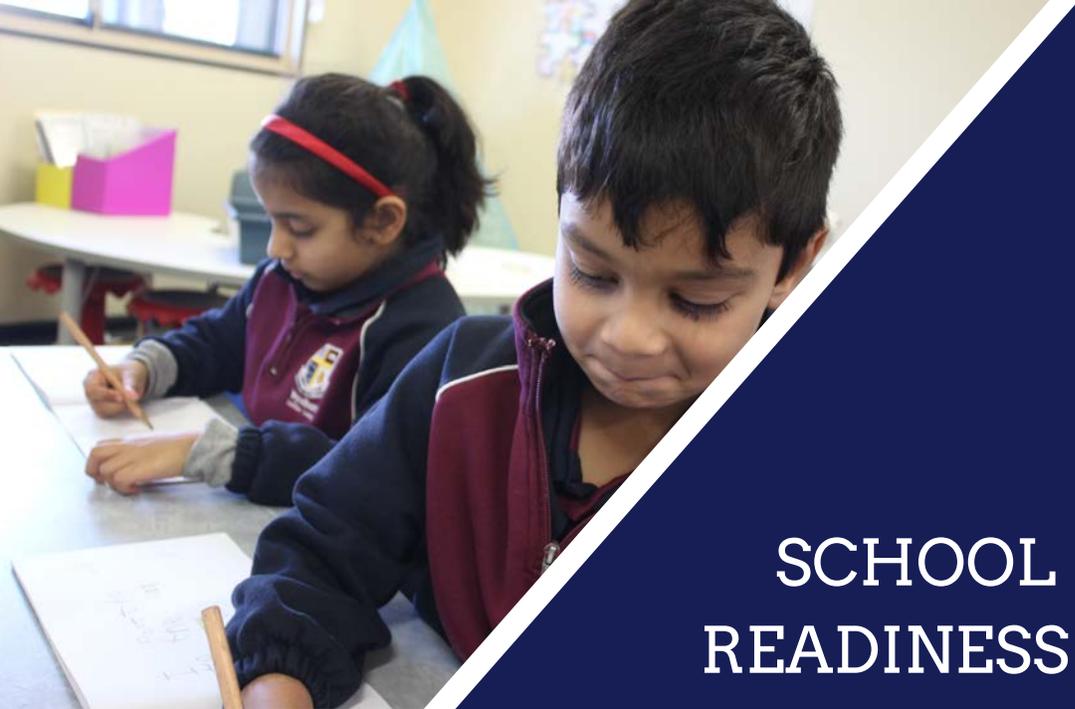
## WHAT TO BRING

A Wyndham Christian College schoolbag containing the following:

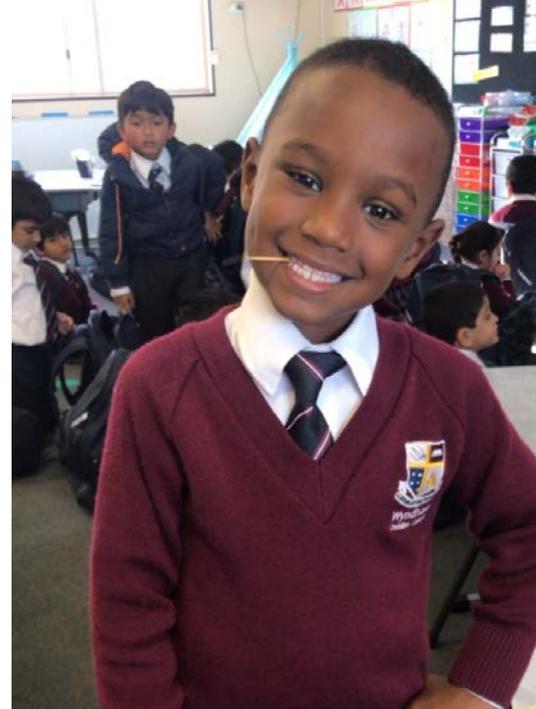
- A water bottle
- A school hat
- Lunchbox:
  - Piece of fruit (cut up if necessary)
  - Snack
  - Lunch
- Spare clothes and underwear in case of accidents (plastic bag)

PLEASE NOTE:

IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT ALL CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS (INCLUDING CLOTHING) ARE NAMED WITH A PERMANENT MARKER



# SCHOOL READINESS



## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

In Prep we encourage independence. You can assist by developing your child's ability to:

- Prepare for the school day together. Assist them to pack their own school bag and allow your child (with assistance at first) to put items in the appropriate places on arrival at school.
- Put their own toys, pencils and clothes away
- Care for their personal belongings
- Dress and undress themselves, including putting on and taking off jumpers, art smocks and shoes (if they can't tie shoelaces we suggest shoes with velcro straps)
- Blow their own nose
- Identify snack from lunch
- Listen carefully to instructions for games and cleaning up requirements
- Use and flush the toilet independently, it is important for boys to be shown how to use a urinal
- Use taps to wash their hands, including the use of soap, and to understand good hygiene

JESUS SAID, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME,  
AND DO NOT HINDER THEM,  
FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN  
BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE."  
MATTHEW 19:14





# SCHOOL READINESS

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Your child's social and emotional development is a vital part of their transition into school life. You can assist by giving your child opportunities to:

- Play co-operatively with other children
- Share and take turns
- Communicate clearly to peers and adults
- Respect the property of others
- Use self-control and patience
- Be separated from you for periods of time e.g. going to a friend's or relative's house for a 'play date' and assuring them you will be back later
- Arrange playtimes with families whose children also attend WCC

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

You can assist your child's physical development by encouraging them to:

- Use playground equipment safely
- Zip and unzip and pack and unpack their bag
- Open and close their lunch box and use their drink bottle
- Unwrap their own food and peel fruit e.g. mandarins
- Improve their hand eye coordination through activities such as painting, drawing, using scissors, colouring, building blocks and throwing, catching, bouncing and rolling different sized balls



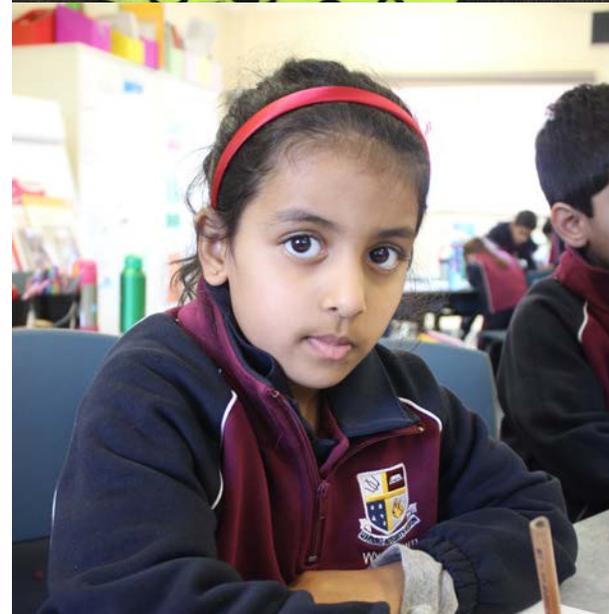
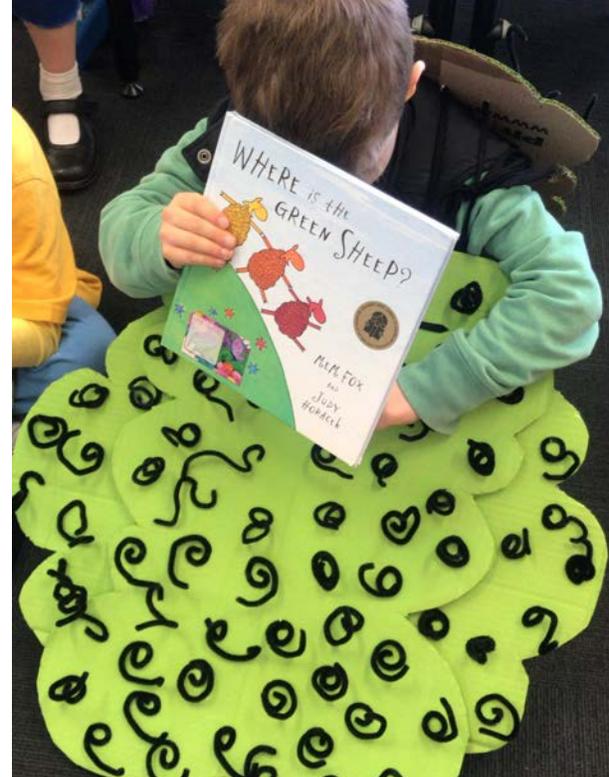
## SCHOOL READINESS

### INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

All children learn and develop at different rates and commence school with varied knowledge and levels of ability. We encourage you to:

- Read regularly to your child and let them see you read for enjoyment
- Provide your child with a rich background of nursery rhymes, stories and songs
- Ask your child to count simple things e.g. How many plates are on the table?
- To increase vocabulary, play games such as 'I Spy'
- Talk about the alphabet and the sounds that the letters make
- Write the letters of the alphabet and begin to write their own name
- Provide jigsaw puzzles

*"For the Lord gives  
wisdom; from his mouth  
comes knowledge and  
understanding"  
Proverbs 2:6*





# THE FIRST DAY

Date: Friday 29th January 2021

*Your child's first day will be an exciting one, an anxious one or maybe a little bit of both. The more positive and excited you are in front of your child, the more positive they will be towards this transition.*

## GETTING SETTLED

We encourage you to arrive a few minutes early and go straight to the external door of your child's classroom where you can take your child's bag to the classroom and put it in the appropriate place. The teachers will meet you and your child and help you settle your child at an activity. There will be a wide range of activities set out to engage your child's interest.

## SAYING GOODBYE

After the children have settled in, it will be time for mums and dads to go to the auditorium for the whole school assembly. Some children are quite happy to wave goodbye, while for others it can be a difficult moment. It is quite normal to have a few tears and some reluctance for the first few days until the children begin to feel more secure in their new environment. The preps will join the whole school at the assembly, where they will sit with their class. After assembly the teacher will take the children back to the classroom. Please do not follow your child back to the classroom. We encourage you to say goodbye in a cheerful manner. If you feel like you are going to cry, please try and wait until you are out of sight of your child as your emotions may evoke the same emotion in your child. If your child begins to cry, give some positive reinforcement and then leave quickly. The teacher will comfort your child and have him/her settled within minutes. This is a good time to meet the other parents, toddlers and babies are welcome.

## HOME TIME

It is important to have discussed pick up arrangements with your child. Please collect your child promptly when school finishes at 3:10pm or ensure they are aware of alternative options. This helps to give them a feeling of security. Please wait in the 'Pick up Zone' We appreciate your patience with dismissal in the first few weeks. This takes some time, as we like to ensure all children are collected safely. Students will not be dismissed until their parent is located.



# COMMUNICATION

## EMAIL

All important school notices are sent home via email and Compass.

## FACE TO FACE

Should you need to talk to your classroom teacher it is advised that you book a time to speak with them. Conversations at the classroom should be used to communicate necessary messages quickly. Formal Parent-Teacher Interviews are held once a Semester.

## SEESAW

Day to day activities and communication will take place over Seesaw.

Each student will be given a unique seesaw QR code. This gives you access to view what they do in the classroom. Seesaw also allows you to share what you see with family around the world!

## NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter is published every fortnight. Be sure to check it for useful dates and special student achievements.

**START CHILDREN  
OFF ON THE WAY THEY SHOULD GO,  
AND EVEN WHEN THEY ARE OLD THEY  
WILL NOT TURN FROM IT.  
PROVERBS 22:6**

# IMPORTANT DATES

First Day of Prep:  
Friday 29th January 2021

Preps attend school on Wednesdays from:  
Wednesday 3rd March 2021

## CONTACT DETAILS

### PREP TEACHERS

Shenaea Kahu  
Prep Cluster Leader  
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Natasha James  
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Frances Geilan  
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### HEAD OF CAMPUS

Jennifer Trodden  
[jennifer.trodden@wyndhamcc.vic.edu.au](mailto:jennifer.trodden@wyndhamcc.vic.edu.au)



*Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart  
and with all your soul  
and with all your mind  
and with all your strength.*

*The second is this:  
'Love your neighbour as yourself.'  
There is no commandment  
greater than these.  
Mark 12:30-31*

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