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EC6 Parent Information

Classroom Teacher: Mrs Mary Genovese
DOTT Teacher: Mrs Rachel Daddow
Education Assistant: Mrs Julie Chiarenza

Welcome to Kindy EC 6. My name is Mary Genovese and I am looking forward to working with you to teach your child this year. On Wednesday Mrs Daddow will be teaching the class which will free me up to meet with parents if needed. Mrs Chiarenza is the Education Assistant who supports me in the classroom.

Play- based learning

In Kindergarten our main teaching tool is play. Play can be demonstrated in a variety of ways, for example children can play in a solitary or cooperative manner. They can be involved in a structured science experiment or playing freely without adult support. It can be as subtle as playing structured, formal card games.

Children learn an enormous amount through play, as they are hands on learners. They get a chance to work on their own ideas and experiences as well as learn from other people's ideas and challenges.

We will be working with the other kindy groups and have a shared lunch time. We will be teaching some Makaton sign language. Later in the year we will learn to say Good morning and other phrases in Ukrainian/Italian and you are welcome to let me know if you would like to share your home language.

Students will be given opportunities to develop their oral language skills and pre-literacy skill development.

- Phonological awareness – The sounds of our language
- Vocabulary development
- Concepts of print

Mathematics concepts covered we will be

- One to one correspondence
- Saying the numbers in correct order to ten and then twenty
- Subitising to four
- Role play with money
- Recognising the numbers to five and then to ten
- Shape recognition
- Measurement with length, size and weight.

Social/emotional development

- Promote cooperation
- Develop respect for others and equipment
- Develop independence
- Develop a sense of responsibility

Physical development

We will be working on health and safety for example playground rules, hand washing, healthy food choices.

- Basic locomotion skills run, jump, climb and hop
- Manipulative skills-throwing, catching
- Stability skills-bending, stretching, turning, dodging
- Fine motor skills-pencil hold, muscle strength, cutting and manipulating equipment.

By playing at kindy the children are learning to develop the necessary skills needed throughout their school life. It is exciting to note that we will be using the Smart-Board and I-Pads with the children.

Communication

In EC6, we have a communication book and it is important that if your child is being picked up by someone else to include their phone number. You can still tell me but I appreciate the written information. It is important that the children are supervised by an adult before each session. Please let us know if you are late as the children can get very distressed. If you are very late and I am unable to stay you can pick them up from the front office.

Health and Safety

O'Connor is a SunSmart school and students need to have a wide brim hat. We do have sunscreen at school if you want to put it on your child otherwise you can do this at home.

The children need to wear shoes they can manage themselves. We encourage the children to keep their shoes on at all times. Make sure that your child has a spare set of clothes in their bag as needed. PLEASE LABEL all their possessions.

Our school encourages healthy eating. We are obligated to support the department with regard to this policy. We would like the children to celebrate their birthday with healthier options like small muffins, small cupcakes, a fruit slice etc. If you send in a birthday treat it will be given out at the end of the day for the children to eat with parent supervision.

We are a nut aware school. We need ALL parents/carers to be aware of the food choices they send in for fruit-time, for lunch time and for birthday time. No peanuts including mixed snack packs. Please refer to the school letter regarding allergies on the school website.

Please ensure children only have water in their bottles.

Please leave toys at home and we will let you know when Show and Tell starts.

Voluntary Contributions

These are \$15 per term or \$60 for the year. The monies can be paid at the front office. If you are having trouble just talk to the ladies in the front office or any of the Principals.

Contact details

It is in your best interest to keep your emergency contact details, medical information and any custodial agreements up to date with both the classroom teacher and the front office.

If your child needs any medication whilst at kindy you need to contact the front office with regard to the official procedure. WE CANNOT administer medication without the correct forms.

Parent involvement

We welcome parent involvement. We have parent/carer rosters available. This roster for help can start Week Four in Term One. This is a terrific way to see how your child is doing. Your younger children are welcome to come too.

If you have any special talent like playing the guitar we would appreciate you sharing this talent with us.

The school has a P&C and would love to see you at their meetings. They meet twice a term and use the school newsletter to inform the community of events and meetings. Check out the school website.

Referrals

We have access to speech, physiotherapy and occupational therapy programmes. If I have any concerns I will discuss them with you and if necessary, refer your child. There is a waiting list but the process is worth it. Can you let me know if your child has been referred to any support programmes?

Reporting to Parents/Carers

I believe in an open door policy in early childhood education. This can be achieved through informal discussions, letters, phone calls, parent help time, interviews and the school website.

TERM ONE: Parent Information Session

TERM TWO: Report and Work Sample Book

TERM THREE: Learning Journey Night

TERM FOUR: Report and Work Sample Book

I am looking forward to a wonderful year teaching your children. Remember if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to come and talk to me and I will do my best to help you.

Kind regards,

Mary Genovese and Rachel Daddow
11th February 2020