



Mallala Primary School

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development



Mallala Preschool Newsletter

Week 1, Term 1, 2016

Welcome to Preschool for 2016 and all the fun and learning that this year holds!

We hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year and that your child is ready for a busy year at Preschool!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Mallala Preschool Team to you. My name is Melissa Sinkinson and I am the preschool teacher here at Mallala. We are lucky to have three lovely SSOs that work in our preschool. Peta who you may know from our playgroup, works in our preschool on Monday, Tuesday and every second Thursday. You will also see Rebekah in our preschool from time to time. Please come and introduce yourself to us and we look forward to getting to know you and your children.

Preschool sessions times for 2016:
Monday 8.45-3.15pm
Tuesday 8.45-3.15pm
Thursday 8.45-3.15 pm during even weeks of term (Please see list of Thursday dates at the top of following page).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate in coming to see us.
Melissa and Preschool Team

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
1	Mon 1st Feb	First Day of Preschool for 2016
2	Tues 9th Feb	Pancake Tuesday
3	Tues 16 th Feb	Governing Council Meeting
3	Tues 16 th Feb	CAFHS Health Checks
3	Thurs 18th Feb	Preschool Parent-Teacher Interviews
4	Mon 22nd Feb	Preschool Parent-Teacher Interviews
4	Tues 23rd Feb	Clean up schools day
4	Thurs 24th Feb	Preschool Parent-Teacher Interviews
7	Mon 14 th March	Adelaide Cup- No Preschool
8	Mon 21st March	Harmony Day- Wear something orange
8	Tues 22 nd March	Governing Council Meeting
9	Mon 28 th March	Easter Monday- No Preschool
11	Tues 12th April	Last Day of Term 1

Items labelled:

To help us return any lost items, please ensure that all items are named with your child's first name so that we can return all lost items quickly.

Donation of goods:

We require the donation of any boxes no larger than shoe box size for our making table. Please do not include toilet rolls for hygiene reasons.

Term Dates For 2016

Term 1: 1 Feb - 15 April

Term 3: 25 July- 30 Sept

Term 2: 2 May - 8 July

Term 4: 17 Oct - 16 Dec



Important Information:

Morning Routines:

To help children get ready for their day at Preschool, we have formed a list of things to be done on arrival. In time, children will arrive and begin completing these 'jobs' without assistance, but may require some guidance to begin with.

1. Bag on a hook outside.
2. Place lunch into the lunch basket.
3. Place morning and afternoon snack into your tray along with hat.
4. Drink bottle into the drink bottle crate.
5. Choose an indoor activity.



Family Photos:

To help create a sense of belonging for children at preschool, we are asking each family to bring in a family photo in a frame to be displayed at Preschool.

By having family photos at preschool, we find that many children in a time where they are feeling unsure, look for their family photo and find comfort in having the photo there.

Library Borrowing:

The preschool will be visiting the school library each Monday morning (Starting week 2) to listen to a story and borrow a book. Preschool children will be supported by educators to choose a book and can only borrow a new book once the previous book has been returned. Please remember to send a library bag to Preschool with your child.

Preschool Parent-teacher Interviews:

During week 3 (Thursday 18th February) and week 4 (Monday 22nd and Thursday 24th February) this term, we will be holding parent-teacher interviews. This is a great chance for parents to ask any questions they may have about preschool so far and for me to get to know you! I have a small questionnaire that I will be going through with each family around goals they have for their child at preschool this year. I will be booking in times during week 2 and look forward to meeting you all!

Sun Protection at Preschool:

To help support us, please ensure children have sun cream applied before each session, have a sun appropriate hat each preschool session and are wearing sun appropriate clothing. This includes keeping sleeveless tops to a minimum. Children are supported by educators to apply sun cream after lunch in readiness for outside play in the afternoon.

Snacks:

During each morning and afternoon, we break for our 10-15minute snack time. This little healthy snack and drink re-energizes us for the next part of our learning. Please remember to send two healthy snacks each preschool day with your child. Ideas include: a piece of fruit (small handful of strawberries, banana, apple, pre-cut up



kiwi fruit or peach) or vegetable (pre-cut up carrot sticks, celery or cucumber) or dried fruit is also a great alternative. Other ideas include cheese and plain crackers. It is a good idea to try the types of foods you will be sending for your child at home beforehand to avoid disappointment.

Nut Aware Preschool:

Mallala Preschool is a nut aware Preschool. From time to time, we have children at our Preschool who have a severe allergy to nuts and nut products. For these children, contact with these products can cause a potentially life threatening reaction. We are therefore seeking your assistance, in minimizing the risk of exposure of these children, to these products, within the Preschool.

We are asking that you avoid giving your child nut based products or products containing nuts whilst they are at Preschool. This includes peanut butter, nutella and other nut based sandwich spreads. Any child of Preschool age should not, for safety reasons, eat peanuts or other nuts, so we ask that these are not sent to Preschool either.

Spare Clothes:

Please remember to send a spare set of clothes with your child (including underwear and socks) every time they come to preschool- with the warmer weather we will be having lots of fun with water. Please **NAME** all items of clothing including those that your child comes to preschool wearing as these are the ones that get mixed up when they get taken off!



Up to date details:

If you have changed any details over the holidays such as phone numbers or addresses, could you please let Melissa know **this week** so the correct information can be recorded if we need to contact you in an emergency.

Donation of Play Dough Ingredients:

At preschool, play dough is a popular activity choice and we are asking for donations of the following ingredients: plain flour, cooking salt, cream of tartar and cooking oil. Any help would be much appreciated as this is such an important learning area. Through playing with play dough, children learn concepts of shape, sizes, length and height. They also express feelings by squeezing and pounding and use imagination and creativity through their play with play dough.



Communication:

At preschool, we use a variety of modes to keep you informed. These include: preschool newsletters, school newsletters, conversations in person and by phone. All paper handouts are distributed through pigeon holes. Please check your child's pigeon hole for newsletters and mail at each session. The Preschool newsletter is also accessible on the Skoolbag phone app.