# OATLEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

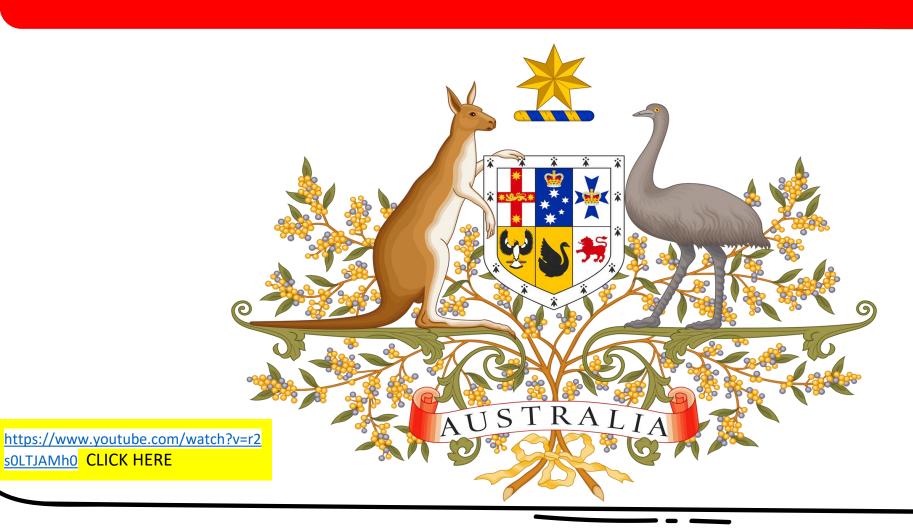
PARENT INFORMATION
SESSION 2 Getting Ready for
Kindergarten





# I am Australian - 1 Orange

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- Making a positive start
- BEST Start information and starting dates
- What to bring to school
- How to prepare your child
- Kindergarten programs
- Kindergarten students their experience
- Year 6 Leaders their experience
- Play based learning



# Mr NASH INTERVIEW







Kindergarten Students Imogen K Orange Sophia K Green Clement K Pink Hugo K Blue



# **Getting Ready for School**

A fundamental aspect of school success is your child's physical, academic and social development.

- Attend Transition Program in Term 4
- Uniform and Equipment
  - -dress/shirt/shorts/jacket/hat
  - -school shoes and socks
  - -backpack
  - -library bag
- Social Skills
  - -separating from parents
  - -taking turns and sharing
  - -talking and listening

- Fine Motor Skills
  - -drawing and colouring
  - -using scissors
  - -pasting and painting
- Independent Skills
  - -dressing and putting on shoes
    - -toileting
    - -organising belongings
- Travelling to and from school



# How can I prepare my child for school?

#### To prepare children for school you could:

- Shop for their uniform and school belongings together -
- Make sure they can manage their lunchbox and school bag.
- Plan for healthy lunches, snacks and water to drink
- Help your child learn to dress themselves, and to use the toilet on their own.
- Establish the bedtime and morning routine that they will have when they start school. It is very important that they get enough sleep.
- Relax! If you are stressed, your child may sense this and worry too.





 Children who have a positive start to school are likely to engage and experience ongoing academic and social success.

Starting school involves a big change for your child and family. It can be a time of great excitement, but also a time of potential challenge and stress.

It is normal for children to have strong feelings as they start to think about these changes. There may be the excitement of going to school as well as nervousness about what lies ahead.

## **School Readiness**

Language skills: How do they communicate? Can they follow instructions?

**Physical Well-being:** Fine and Gross Motor Skills

Motor Co-ordination: Can your child dress themselves, unwrap their lunch, use pencils and scissors?

**Concentration**: Can your child concentrate for 20 mins at a time on set tasks?

Emotional Adjustment: How does your child socialise? Do they separate easily?

How do I know if my child is ready for school?

To make a decision about school readiness, you may want to consider:

# What can I do to help prepare my child for school?

#### **Literacy:**

- -recognise own name in print
- -write their name in lowercase
- -join in rhymes, chants, songs and poems
- -parents read to child each night and ask questions

#### **Numeracy:**

- -recognise colours
- -count items 1-30
- -name simple shapes
- -copy a pattern e.g. red, blue, yellow, red, blue, yellow



# What to bring to school

#### In the school bag:

- √fruit/vegetable crunch and sip
- **√**lunch
- ✓ recess
- ✓ water bottle (can be refilled at school)
- √school hat
- √raincoat and jumper
- ✓ spare set of clothes (just in case)







# The Best Start Assessment

### **The Best Start Assessment**



Best Start is one component of a NSW Government initiative to increase literacy and numeracy learning support in the early years of schooling.

Best start: 45 min Assessment

- Teachers gather and analyse information as evidence about what children know, can do and understand in Literacy and Numeracy.
- Provides important information that supports teachers in meeting children's individual learning needs.
- Provides families with feedback on what their child can do and how they can best support their child's learning.
- Assists teachers to monitor children's learning. This is ongoing throughout the child's schooling years.



#### **Best Start**



#### Is it a test?

#### No

Best Start is **not** a test. It is the classroom teacher working with each child on literacy and numeracy tasks to gain a starting point for planning effective teaching and learning activities. The children **do not** pass or fail. There **is no** preparation required.

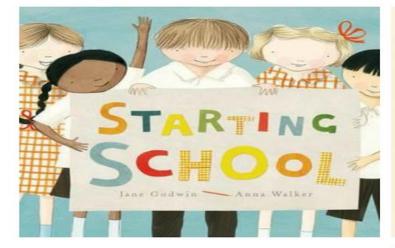
#### Week 1: Best Start Dates

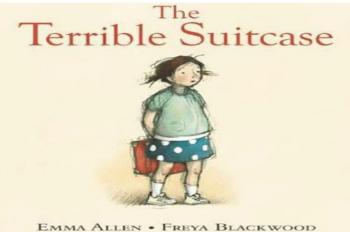
Tuesday 31st January Wednesday 1st February Thursday 2nd February

An email will be sent to you shortly. Please only select **one** suitable date and time for your child.



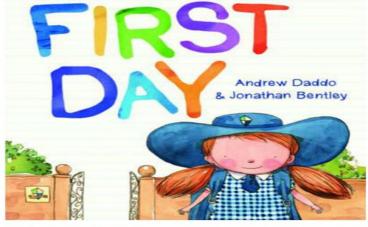
Allow 40-50 minutes for the session with your child

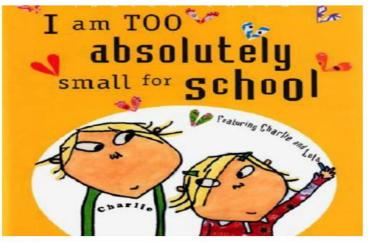




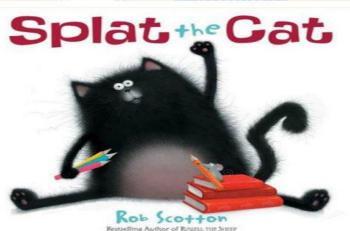


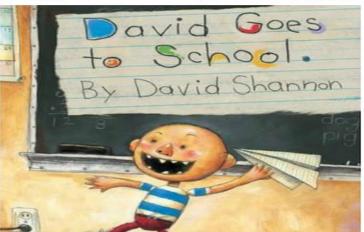












#### Working with your school

It is important for parents and teachers to work together and communicate well.

#### It can help if you:

- Let the teacher know if there is something happening at home that may be affecting your child.
- Let them know about any health problems your child may have.
- Read all the school notices and reply as soon as possible.
- Get involved in school activities, eg. reading groups etc
- Make an appointment to see the teacher if you are concerned about your child.
- Children do best at school when their parents and teachers work together to support them.

#### **School Readiness**

- Encouraging them to talk about what's worrying them.
- Letting them know that you are confident they can manage.
- Talk about big school and read stories about going to school
- · Visit OWPS with your child.
- Be positive about school and learning.
- •Provide a variety of play material water, mud, sand, paper, pens, pann, pans
- Give lots of praise children respond to positive messages
- Have lots of patience
- Be consistent



### The First Day of School

- Be calm, organised and positive.
- Meet at the sign on desk in the courtyard for their buddy to take your child to their classroom.
- If your child is upset it is better that you leave and they will settle much quicker.
- School can be exhausting so early nights, a good breakfast, healthy lunch, and snack after school



# **Kindergarten Classroom Routines**

#### **Crunch and Sip**

10:30 am for approx. 5 mins to have a snack and some water (fruit or vegetables only)

#### Recess

11:25 – 11:50 am in the playground

#### Lunch

1.30- 2.10 pm (eating time 1:20 till 1.30 pm in the classroom) Students play in the playground.

#### A note about food:

Keep it simple and nutritious. Easy to open and manage. Nut free products.

#### Don't forget to pack Crunch&Sip® every day... Crunch&Sip® is a set time for your child to eat vegetables or fruit and drink water in the classroom.



A fact sheet of various food ideas will be poster on Class Dojo and our school website.

### **Buddies**

Kindergarten students are given a Year 5 'buddy' on their first day of school. Buddies look after the kindergarten students for the first few weeks of school.

Year 5 buddies come to the Kindergarten classrooms each recess and lunch and look after the new students in the playground.

They encourage them to play with their new Kindergrten friends, help them with their recess and lunch and are a familiar face in the playground.



# **Play Based Learning**

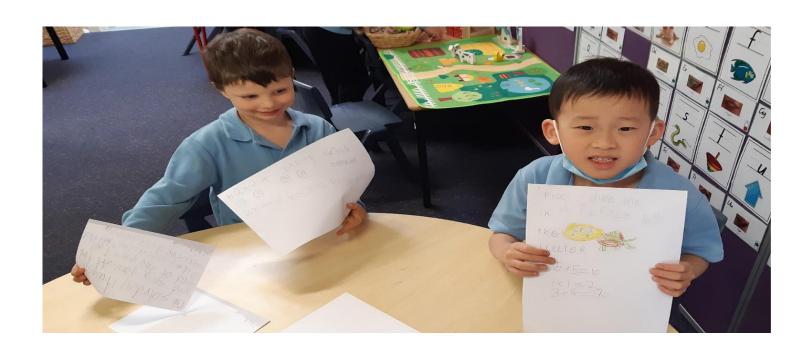


Kathy Walker Approach

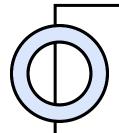


#### What is play based learning?

A play-based approach involves both child-initiated and teacher-supported learning. The teacher encourages children's learning and inquiry through interactions that aim to stretch their thinking to higher levels.







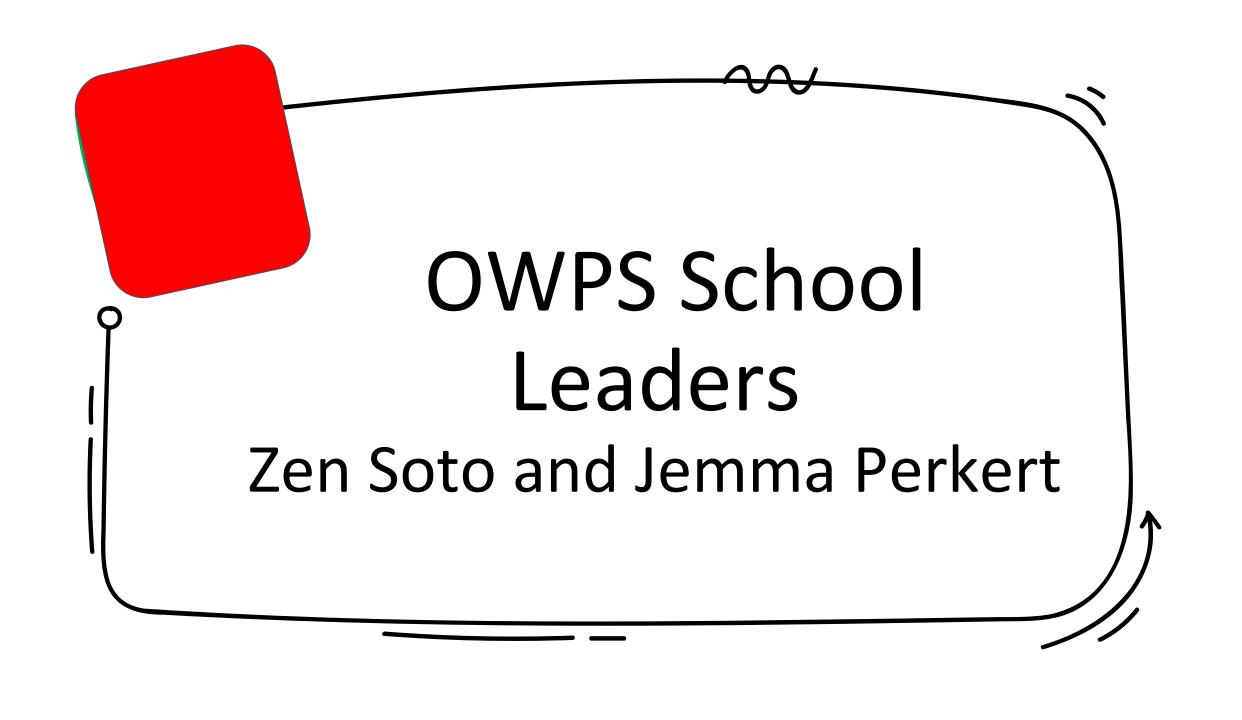
# Support Programs

**EAL/D Program** supports students who have been identified as having a language background other than English. At OWPS we provide language support to EAL/D students, so that they can fully participate in school and reach their full potential.

**LaST Teacher** provides support for students who need extra assistance with Literacy and numeracy skill development across the whole school.

**School Psychologist** works with children on an individual or small group basis to meet the needs of specific needs.

**Peaceful Kids** is a mindfulness and positive psychology - based program to lessen anxiety and stress, and increase resilience in children.

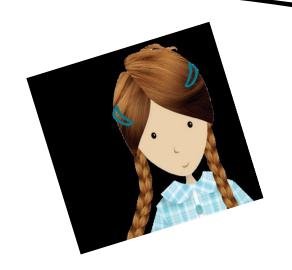


# Why is regular attendance important?

Kindergarten and the Early Years of school is the time when we lay the foundations of our learning for the future.



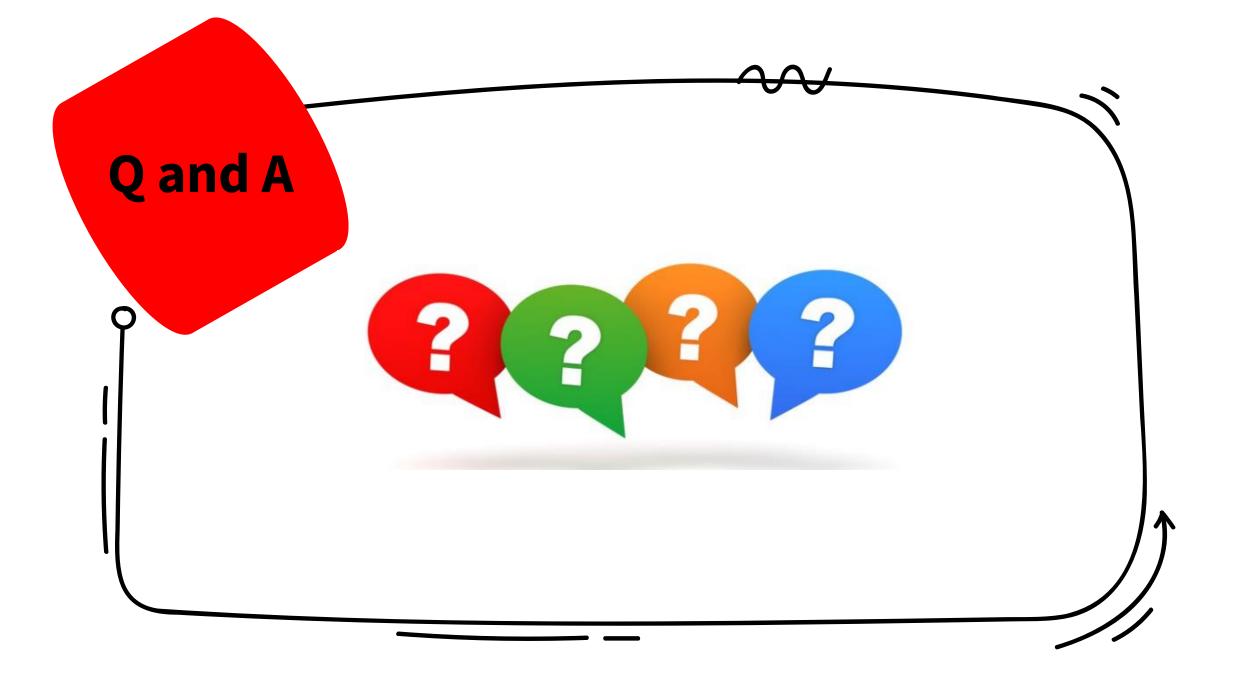




https://education.nsw.gov.au/pparentsarents-and-carers/a-z--guide







THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!