

Class Newsletter

Term 1, 2023



Prep A

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to the 2023 school year! I hope you all enjoyed your break over the Christmas and New Year period and spent plenty of time together as a family. My name is Diahann Finlayson and I will be your child's teacher for 2023. This is my first year at Geebung State School. I am familiar with the school as I was working in the department as a DRT (District Relieving Teacher). Before joining the Geebung Community, I taught in various schools on the northside of Brisbane and my experience and passion is in the early years, especially Prep! I have a beautiful son who has just started Year 11. I also have a very cheeky German Shepherd as well as a cat who tolerates the dog!

We have had such a fantastic start to the year. The children are beginning to settle into the routines such as lining up, following instructions, sitting quietly and listening, being a sharing and caring Preppie, using safe hands and feet and responsibly going to the toilet in pairs. Children learn at different rates, so please remind your child of the expectations if they are having difficulty settling.

There are so many great activities and days and experiences for your child to be engaged in and we are looking forward to a great year. I am very much looking forward to working with both you and your children on this very special Prep journey! Communication is very important, so please come and see me with any pressing concerns.

At Geebung State School, we will keep you informed by sending home notes, school newsletters or emails to notify you of any events, changes or updates. Please ensure your contact details are current with the office, as the email address you have provided will be the one we will use to send emails. Often, we will email notes to you as well as send paper copies home. Please remember to check your child's bag and communication folders for notes and other communication items.

If you wish to contact me, you are welcome to email me at dfinl2@eq.edu.au. As mentioned, I am more than happy to speak with you in person, but please consider that mornings and afternoons are extremely busy, particularly in Term 1, and you will need to make an appointment if you wish to discuss something with me at length. Please **advise the office** of any absences, so it can be entered correctly.

MORNING ROUTINE REMINDER: Children are required to be lining up in two lines underneath D block each morning at the first school bell (8.45 am). There will be a 'Prep A' sign to indicate our lining up and eating area. Please assist your children with this where possible. There are coloured spots on the ground which will help them find a place to sit.

AFTERNOON ROUTINE REMINDER: Children need to be collected from **outside the Prep building** of an afternoon. If they are booked into After School Care, an OSHC educator will come and collect them from the classroom. Please ensure your child knows how they are going home in the afternoon and any changes to routine, as this assists in eliminating any confusion or anxiety at the end of the school day. Feel free to email me to inform me of any changes so I can assist your child of an afternoon.

LATE ARRIVALS/EARLY DEPARTURE: If your child arrives late or leaving early, you will need to sign your

Brain Break

Students may bring a healthy snack every day for brain break at 9:30am. Fruit and vegetables are accepted. Please pack the snack in a **separate NAMED** bag or container and cut the item up for them if they require it.

NO HAT, NO PLAY

Students are required to bring their school hat every day. Please ensure all hats are **NAMED**.

Drink Bottles

Drink bottles are essential every day of the school year. Students are allowed to leave them on a table outside the classroom door.

Bell Times

Children are to be lined up in their **eating area** when the first bell goes at 8:45am. Parents are to wait **outside the Prep room** for collection at the end of the day.

Personal Belongings

Please ensure all items are **clearly named**. If it is unnamed, we cannot guarantee its safe return!

Homework

Homework will begin in Week 5. This will give me time to get to know the students and introduce them to their new homework routine.

Outside School Hours Care

Please let me know which days and sessions your child will be attending OSHC so I can assist the staff with the transitions at pick up and drop off.

child in/out at the office **BEFORE** you come to the classroom. Please note: students CANNOT be released without an early departure slip, even if there are only a few minutes left in the school day.

PARENT HELPERS: The first term will be all about introducing routine and getting used to our new environment. In term 2, we would LOVE to have some parents come in and assist in literacy rotations. I will keep you updated with information regarding volunteering as term 2 approaches. **All volunteers MUST complete the Volunteer Induction. Please contact the office for more details as to when these sessions are being run.**

Weekly Routine

Tuesday (CHILDREN WEAR FORMAL UNIFORM)	Assembly – 2:15pm EVERY SECOND WEEK
Wednesday (CHILDREN WEAR GREEN SPORTS UNIFORM)	Music - Mrs Gibson – 11:30pm Gross Motor- Mr Stout – 10.30pm
Thursday (CHILDREN WEAR GREEN SPORTS UNIFORM)	Homework Returned to School Physical Education - Mr Stout – 11:30am
Friday	Library Drama – Mrs Gibson Health – Mrs Devine Homework Sent Home in week 5.

Yours sincerely



Diahann Finlayson
Class Teacher



Tracey Douglas
Principal



**Geebung
State School**

Each and every member of our school community,
believes that each and every child can and will achieve.