

# Kinder Weekly

Week 2, Term 1, 2018

Congratulations on surviving the first week of Kindergarten. We feel like the children are becoming very settled and we are already seeing some of the many talents your children possess. It has been wonderful meeting you all. Please remember that we are just as much here for you as we are for your child. We look forward to meeting with those of you we haven't yet. Have a fabulous week! Apologies for the lateness of this newsletter, our systems were down on Tuesday.

## Important Dates

**Ash Wednesday Prayer Service** - Due to our rest day on Wednesday, Fr Troy will be blessing the Kindergarten children with Ashes Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 9:30am at St Raphael's Church (Lowe St). Parents are very welcome to attend.

**Wednesdays for the first 3 weeks**- Please ensure you have made an appointment with Emma McAuliffe at the front office for your interview with your classroom teacher.

## First & Second Break Food

We have noticed a few different eating habits happening during our 10minute eating times at each break - all very common for beginning Kinder. Some children are eating all their food during the first break leaving nothing for second break, others are only nibbling here and there waiting ever so patiently for the play bell, while some are having a few bites and disposing of the rest in the bin. We do our very best to monitor all the students during eating time, but it can prove tricky at times. To help us to ensure they get enough at each break, please talk to your child about what is in their lunchbox and what they are going to eat for each meal of the day - munch & crunch, first break (lunch) and second break (snack). We also encourage children to leave any food they don't want or don't like in their lunchbox so that you can navigate how much they need and what they will and won't eat at school. Some strategies that have worked for families in the past are using separate lunch boxes for each break or labelling sections or snacks.

## Social Skills

Throughout Term 1 there is a large focus on social skills. It is very common for children to be unsure of the names of their peers and even the children that they play with daily. At this age children need to be taught how to appropriately socialise with one another and what it means to "be a good friend". Therefore, there is such a large focus at the beginning of the school year to teach these skills. You can assist in this process by role-playing positive interactions, as well as discussing ways to approach a group of friends to play with. Please encourage your child to speak to a teacher if they are feeling lonely on the playground.

## Book Covering

Thank you for those who have returned covered books. If you still have some at home, please return as soon as possible so we can get working.

## Weekly Sounds

Five fat fish



Girls giggling



## Teacher Emails

*Please feel free to contact us via email any time regarding non-urgent matters*

caroline.tanti@cg.catholic.edu.au  
laura.adams@cg.catholic.edu.au  
janessa.docking@cg.catholic.edu.au  
kate.wigg@cg.catholic.edu.au  
jen.ferris@cg.catholic.edu.au

## **Tip of the Week**

***What can I do to help my child learn to read?***

*Let them see you reading*

*Share books together*

*Point out the print that is all around you. Look at street signs, grocery store labels, posters, billboards*

*Make scrapbooks from photos or old magazines*

*Cook together*

*Talk to them about books and experiences*

*Encourage writing*

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## Friday Afternoon Clean Up

You may have noticed our Friday Clean Up scheduled on the For Your Fridge note sent home last week. This is a casual weekly invitation to any parents who may arrive at school early for pick up and would like to use the 15 or 20 minutes before the 3pm bell. Each Friday afternoon, all Kinder classes join together in the Music room for *Kinder Mingle* - where we sing, share talents, meditate, play games and wind down for the week. This leaves our classrooms empty and ready for a little parent magic. If you would like to give your child's classroom a once over, cloths and spray are kept under our sinks to wipe down desks and surfaces, chairs can be put up on desks ready for vacuuming, bookcases can always do with a tidy and pencils always appreciate a sharpen. Thank you in advance to those parent fairies who sneak in each week.

## Labelling

We have found and returned a few unnamed jumpers already thanks to last weeks cold snap. Just a reminder to ensure ALL items of clothing and personal belongings sent to school are clearly labelled. We are very aware of how much money is spent on these things, particularly items of clothing and would hate for you to lose anything so early in the year.

## Pick up and drop off

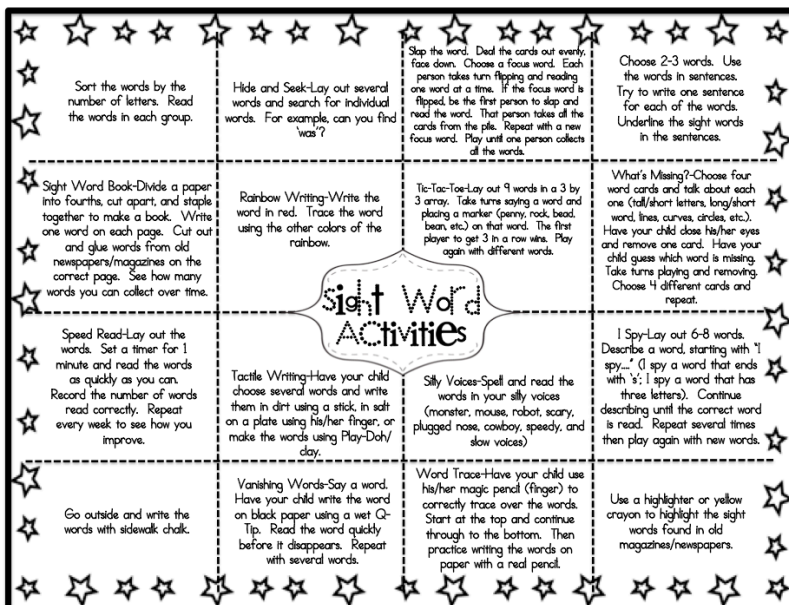
Please drop off your child and pick them up from the ASPHALT SIDE of the school. We have taught your children these routines. It is really important that your children are both dropped off and picked up from the same location to assist us in ensuring your child's safety and to avoid any unnecessary confusion for the children. If you arrive late or need to pick up your child early, please see Emma at the front office first to sign your child in or out. This is a legal requirement. Thank you for your support.

## Classroom Donations

Thank you so much for the donations we have received already. If you can donate anything, we always need tissues, hand soap pump packs, old (appropriate) magazines and baby wipes

## Sight Word Ideas

Some ideas for games and activities you can play with your child to help them learn their sight words.



Please feel free to chat with your classroom teacher about any issues to do with your child's development. However, it would be appreciated if you did not approach us while we have the children in our care. Please leave a message at the front office and we will return your calls.

Thank you,

Caroline Tanti, Laura Adams, Janessa Dockina, Kate Wiaa and Jen Ferris