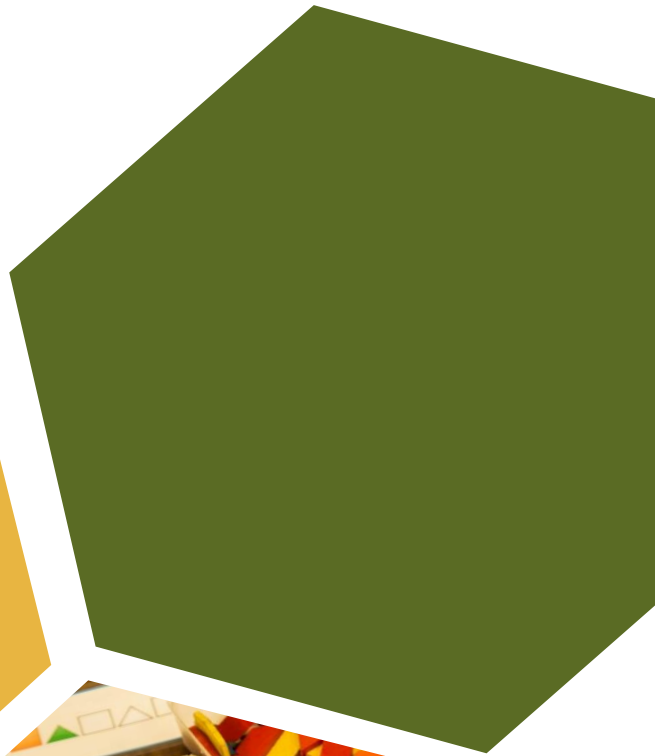




# PIARA WATERS

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR  
PRE-PRIMARY PARENTS  
2024



# Welcome to Pre-primary 2024

If you have a child in Pre-primary, this booklet provides you with additional information about the Pre-primary program.

You should also read the general Parent Handbook.

As your child's first teacher, the role you play is vital. The early years of school build on the experiences your child has at home and sets the foundation for all their future learning. There are lots of things you can do to support your child's learning.

The Department of Education's [Hello Pre-primary](#) booklet provides more information on supporting your child in this critical year of their education.



## PRE-PRIMARY CURRICULUM

The [Western Australian Pre-Primary Curriculum](#) is child-centred, and outlines what we expect students to achieve in the early years.

The Pre-primary teachers work collaboratively to prepare the programs, so the same content is taught across all groups. Our plans are led by the West Australian Curriculum and the [Early Years Learning Framework](#) and include explicit teaching lessons as well as opportunity for play based, self-directed learning.

In Western Australia, Pre-primary is the first year of full-time compulsory schooling. Pre-primary provides your child with a broad range of skills to help them understand the world. They will learn more about literacy and numeracy, and further develop their personal and social skills, critical and creative thinking, and physical wellbeing. Your child's teacher will take into account the different experiences and backgrounds of the children in their class and target programs to meet their abilities and learning needs.

## PRE-PRIMARY ATTENDANCE

The School Education Act 1999 requires all Pre-primary students to attend every day that their school is open. In the early years of school, many concepts, such as literacy and numeracy, are taught in a sequence. This means that if your child is often away from school, it can make it difficult to catch up later. Developing the habit of going to school every day is vitally important so your child does not miss out on important ideas, concepts, knowledge and skills they need for future learning.

Consistent, regular attendance at Pre-primary is very important as this practice sets your child in good stead for the rest of their life at school. It is recommended that children do not take breaks during school times, unless of course, they are too unwell to learn.



## A DAY IN PRE-PRIMARY

### Routine

Please support us in building your child's independence by encouraging them each morning to:

- Unpack their bag.
- Place their water bottle, lunch box and hat in their allocated pigeonhole.
- Find their name on the sign-in board.

### Pre-primary Session Times

Pre-primary students attend 5 full days of school each week. Classroom doors open at 8.15 am, with formal instruction starting at 8.30 am. School finishes at 2.30 pm each day.

A typical day in Pre-primary may look like this

8:15 am	Classroom doors open <i>Morning tabletop tasks</i>
8:30 am	English
9:30 am	Crunch & Sip
10:30 am	Recess - Eating
10:35 am	Recess – Outdoor Play
10:50 am	Mathematics
11:50 am	Integrated Lessons / Specialist Classes
12:50 pm	Lunch - Eating
1:00 pm	Lunch – Outdoor Play
1:20 pm	Integrated Lessons / Specialist Classes
2:20 pm	Pack Away
2:30 pm	Home time and pick up

## SPECIALIST CLASSES

In Pre-primary, the students will be attending a range of specialist classes, with specialist teachers. This will include;

- Music and/or drama (Mrs Walton or Mrs Sudhakaran)
- Technologies (Ms Avellar or Mrs Wnek)
- Health Education (Mrs Wnek)
- Science (Mrs Blackman)
- Physical Education (Mr Headland)

Each pre-primary class has a different timetable. Your classroom teacher will let you know the timetable for your child's class.

## DAILY CLASSROOM NOTICES

Important notices will be placed on the whiteboard outside the classroom, along with our daily message. This information is also shared with families via Connect to ensure all parents and carers have access to it.

## HOME READING IN PRE-PRIMARY

The focus in Pre-primary is developing vocabulary and comprehension.

Term 1 & 2: Shared Story Book Program - one story book is sent home each week.

- Parents are asked to read to the child and ask the questions provided.
- Repeat this process each evening for the week.

Term 2-4: Decodable Readers or short sentences devised by the teacher.

- Readers are introduced for those students who can blend sounds to read words.
- One book will be sent home each week with information for parents to support their child.

## LOST PROPERTY

The lost property box will be kept in your child's classroom. Please check it if you find any belongings missing. You might also like to check the K-6 lost property bins near the school flag poles.

## PRE-PRIMARY DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

### Drop-off

- If you and your child arrive at school between 8:00 am and 8:15 am, wait with your child under the flag poles near the School Library until 8:15 am.
- Bring your child to the classroom at 8:15 am.
- If you arrive late in the morning (after 8:30 am) or need to collect your child during the school day, you must sign them in or out from the front office.

### Pick-up

- At the end of the day (2:30 pm), the classroom teacher or education assistant will stand at the door and call students one at a time when the person collecting them is sighted. Kindergarten students must be collected from their class by a known adult or older sibling.
- Students need to be collected at 2:30 pm. Teachers often have staff meetings or parent meetings that they need to attend, and staff are not able to provide supervision after 2:30 pm.
- If someone different is picking up your child, please advise their teacher using the **Classroom Communication Book** located by the classroom door or by contacting the front office. We are not able to release your child to someone else without your consent.

## PERSONAL ITEMS (BOOKLIST)

Students need to bring their booklist items to school on their first day, or as soon as possible after enrolment. Please do not label the items with your child's name, as items are shared.

## CRUNCH AND SIP

Please provide your child with a pre-sliced piece of fruit or vegetable in a small container to enjoy during Crunch and Sip time.



## LUNCH AND RECESS FOOD

- The students are given 5 minutes to eat their recess and 10 minutes to eat their lunch. Please provide them with a snack for recess and something more substantial for their lunch.
- Pack food your child enjoys and is relatively quick and easy to eat. Don't pack too much food as often young children don't understand they do not have to eat everything in their lunchbox.
- Please remind your child to independently bring lunch boxes into the classroom and place them into their allocated pigeonhole when they arrive in the morning.

## PARENT HELP

Parent Help begins in Term 2. This is to allow your child time to settle into the routine first. A roster will be placed outside the classroom at the commencement of each term for you to select an appropriate date to join us. Staff will put a list of parent help tasks with the roster.

We also have a playdough roster from Term 1 that we ask parents to sign up for to make playdough for us. Playdough is an excellent opportunity for children to strengthen their fine motor skills, so it is made available for students to use throughout the year.

## ON ENTRY ASSESSMENT

During Term 1, all Pre-primary children in WA take part in an assessment for literacy and numeracy. There is no pass or fail. Teachers collect information on children's skills in language, reading, writing, counting and numbers. This helps them plan lessons and tailor learning for each child, extending children who perform well and supporting those who may need more assistance.

At the completion of the assessment, parents receive an information sheet, summarising the skills and understandings your child demonstrated during the assessment and suggesting ways you can support your child's learning at home.

## ADVICE FOR PARENTS

- Engage in conversation with your child about their learning.
- Connect with your child's learning on Seesaw.
- Encourage independence and allow your child to unpack their belongings and carry their own bag.
- Read notice boards outside your child's classroom.
- Read the weekly [parent update](#) on Connect and the school website.
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher on matters concerning your child's development.
- Notify the teacher of any changes in the usual routine within the home. Some changes may affect your child's social and emotional well-being at school.
- Drop your child off between 8:15 and 8:30 am and pick them up at 2:30 pm; you must be on time for pick up.
- Notify the teacher if your child is receiving any therapies outside of school, e.g., speech or occupational therapy and provide copies of any reports.
- Notify the office of any changes in emergency contact information or medical updates.



## WHAT TO BRING TO SCHOOL EACH DAY

- A hat (wide brim school hat).
- A labelled water bottle - only water in water bottles.
- A labelled school bag.
- Crunch and sip (cut up fruit or veg) please put in a separate container from recess and lunch.
- Recess and lunch.
- A spare change of clothes and plastic bag, accidents can still happen in Pre-primary.
- Homework folder -this folder is used for homework and notes that need to be sent home.  
Please bring this folder to school each day.