INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF NEW KINDER CHILDREN

Things to practise before coming to school:

* Holding a pencil properly.
* Writing their first name.
* Recognising their own name.
* Using scissors.
* Tying shoe laces.
* Doing up buttons.
* Knowing how to ask if they may go to the toilet.
* Toilet Hygiene.
* Following simple instructions.
* Knowing what food is for little lunch (recess) and what food is for big lunch.
* Knowing if they will go on the walker’s line or on a bus, and which bus is theirs.

HINTS ABOUT SCHOOL BAGS

It is a good idea to put a small key ring type figure on your child’s bag near the zipper for easy recognition (25 blue bags all look the same). Try to ensure your child’s bag will hold a lunchbox, a drink bottle, a jumper, a raincoat, a library bag and book.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE FIRST DAY

* Introduce your child to their teacher.
* Inform the teacher who will collect your child.
* Take your child to the class lines.
* At the conclusion of the morning assembly, say goodbye and leave.
* If your child becomes upset try to reassure them or give them to the teacher, the quicker you leave the quicker they will calm down and get into a classroom routine.
* When you come to collect your child - SMILE - they’ve survived their first day at school.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS

Parents are always looking for ways of helping their children do well at school. Here are a few hints that can be guaranteed to get results.

* Help the child feel good about themselves and about learning. Encourage every effort. Try to praise rather than to blame.
* Read to them from the earliest age. There is no better way to create a desire to read. This should be a daily occurrence.
* Give presents of simply written and well-illustrated books on a whole range of topics - both fiction and non-fiction.
* Encourage the children to write regularly in a variety of ways - letters, diaries, factual accounts, imaginative stories etc.
* With the younger ones especially, try to cultivate a sense of number, size, length, height, width, volume, area, weight and time in everyday life. Join with them in estimating, counting, calculating, etc.
* Take time to discuss everyday happenings. Encourage questions and show how answers can be found.
* Regularly give them one of the most precious gifts you can – YOUR TIME.