

Bethany Lutheran Primary School



Get Set For Prep

Preparing your child for Prep and the Australian Curriculum is very important. We have put together a list of a few simple ideas that you could think about doing now in preparation for school. Starting school is an enjoyable, positive experience where children have the opportunity to make new friends and experience new things. Preparing for school also leads to good short and long term outcomes for your child.

- ☺ Begin to teach your child to write their name using the correct formation (including correct upper and lower case lettering) and holding their pencil correctly. Refer to the alphabet sheet attached so you know how letters are formed correctly.
- ☺ Make everyday things an exploration of language - ask the child questions, listen carefully to their answers, encourage your child to ask why and listen carefully to your response.
- ☺ Read to your child and use books as a pleasurable daily shared activity. See the attached sheet on reading story books with your child.
- ☺ Allow your child to regularly use scissors to cut along straight and curved lines on a page, and cut out circled pictures from magazines with support from an adult.
- ☺ Give your child access to felt pens, pencils and crayons and a supply of paper to draw and write on... Show your child how to draw a person with realistic features and other things that interest them. Encourage them to write familiar word names from their environment when they show interest.
- ☺ Provide opportunities to play with play dough, plasticine, small Lego, pegs, threading, puzzles and manipulative games to develop your child's fine motor muscles in their hands, fingers, wrists. Cook, bake and prepare food together.
- ☺ Talk about basic maths concepts- numbers, counting, shapes, colours, patterns, size and opposites
- ☺ Encourage your child to participate in a variety of outdoor activities such as climbing, ball activities, skipping, running, stomping, jumping, hopping, playing at the park.
- ☺ Help your child to successfully manage basic self help tasks such as feeding, dressing, toileting, putting on shoes and socks, unwrapping foods, opening a drink bottle and putting belongings away
- ☺ Teach your child about good manners e.g. saying please, thank you, excuse me and I'm sorry.
- ☺ Encourage your child to mix with other children in different supervised activities so they learn to socialize with their peers, take turns, share, pack up and follow rules.
- ☺ Talk to your child about how to make friends, what to do when they meet new children and people at school, how to ask for help when they need it and how to deal with peer situations.
- ☺ Help them learn to follow simple instructions. Ask them to do tasks that will help you at home, such as getting food out of the fridge, setting the table, putting things away, tidying up.
- ☺ Play family board games and games of chance where children can learn to lose gracefully, develop concentration, language and co-operative skills.
- ☺ Make your child aware of rules and reasons for having them. For example holding your hand when you cross the road, staying beside you when shopping.
- ☺ Use positive verbal phrases regularly to help build your child's self esteem such as: "I can see you are being helpful, kind, responsible, and sensible."
- ☺ Enjoy the time you spend with your child. They are precious gifts from God.