

# ST KEVIN'S DEE WHY

## Transition to School Session 1 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024



# Agenda



- **Welcome and prayer**
- **Parent Pack**
  - Before and after school supervision
  - Working in Partnership
  - Step into School
  - Learning Every Day Counts
  - Uniform
- **Communications**
- **Student Pack**
- **Burning questions...**
- **“Live cross” to Kinder classroom**
- **Language Survey**

# Prayer



*Lord Jesus,*

*You are with us as we commence our work.*

*Help us to understand our importance in educating our children.*

*And bless our partners, the teachers.*

*Guide us in our decisions.*

*And open our hearts in friendship to each other.*

*May we show care to those who are most in need.*

*May we welcome, especially, those who are shy and uncomfortable.*

*And may this meeting of ours result in many benefits for the children on whose behalf we gather.*

*Amen*



# Parent Pack handouts



# Supervision - OOSH



## Before and After School Care - St Kevin's Kids Club

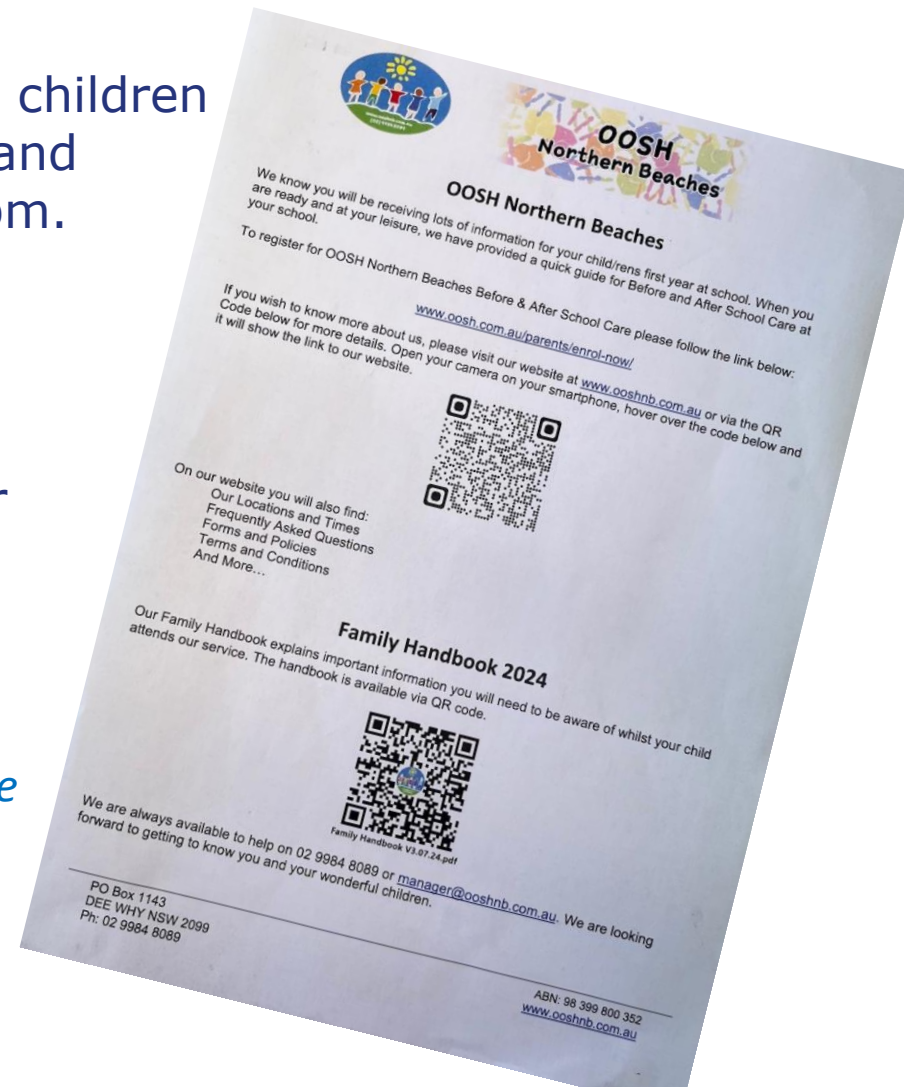
Supervision provided for registered children each morning from 7am - 8.25am and each evening from 3.15pm – 6.00pm.

The provider of this service is OOSH Northern Beaches.

OOSH team leader – Maddy Spitzer

### Discussed in session:

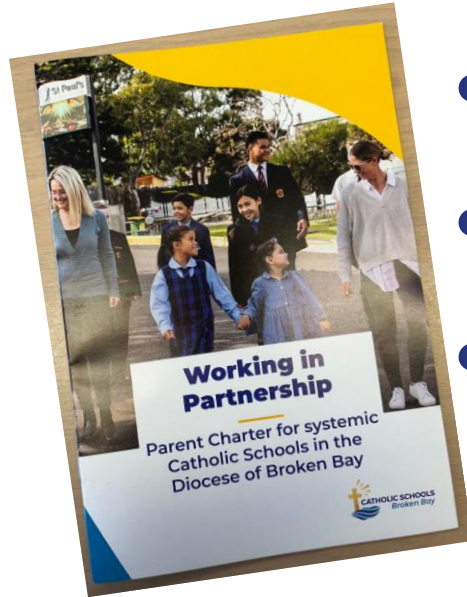
*Kinder families get preference over other grades but we recommend you still complete the paperwork as soon as you can.*



# Working in Partnership



- Parents as the first educators
- Faith, learning, wellbeing
- Communication expectations



Discussed in session:

See particularly pages 2-3 and 6-7.

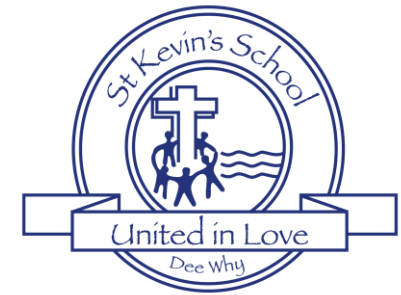
More about being engaged on next slide.

*"The evidence is consistent, positive, and convincing: **families** have a major influence on their children's **achievement**. When schools, families, and community groups **work together** to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more."*

*Beyond the Bake Sale, Anne T Henderson page 2*



# Parent Checklist



## You are 'engaged' when you:

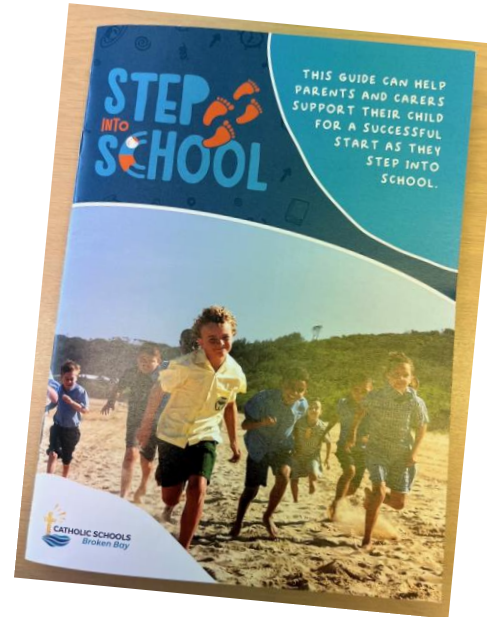
- **Talk with your child** about school
  - **Ask** what their favourite part of the day was
  - **Ask** what they are *learning*, their *friendships*, what *home learning tasks* they have
  - **Ask** how they **feel** they are doing with their learning
- **Talk positively** about school
  - **Connect** with the school when events are running. **Participate** in the life of the school community. Any help you can provide, no matter how small is valuable
  - Develop a **good working relationship** with your child's teacher/s. Call, pop in or email the office to arrange a meeting. Our teacher/s are here to **listen, talk, help**
- Are a **positive advocate** for your child's learning, social and emotional needs
  - Have **high expectations** for your child
  - **Encourage and praise qualities** such as persistence and having a go particularly when the task is challenging for your child. Focus on **effort** more than product.
  - Encourage your child by **acknowledging their successes** (which include growth and gains made, a new personal best, learning from mistakes, gaining more independence with tasks, gains in effort put into tasks)
- **Read daily** with your child
  - Read **with** them, read **to** them, and **listen** to them read. Discuss what is being read. Ask questions and get them to make predictions about the characters and story.
- Support your child's **consistent and punctual attendance** at school
- **Read school and class newsletters** and respond to notes and permission slips
- Provide opportunities to experience a range of **cultural and social experiences**
- Ensure they have a **healthy diet** and enough rest

# Step into School



- Learning at home

- Cooking
- Moving
- Gardening
- Making
- Counting
- Reading
- Writing



Discussed in session:

*The information at top of each page focuses on the learning in the activities. The checklist will be useful and we will keep our website updated with more useful transition resources.*

*More on supporting your child's learning at home on next slides.*

- Step into school checklist



# Communication



Early oral language development is one of the important precursors for success with reading and writing.

*Discussed in session:*

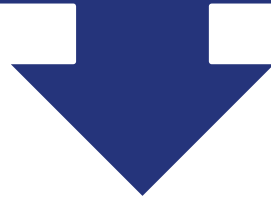
*This includes what they are saying and how they are saying as well as supporting their vocabulary development.*



# Speech



When children commence school, their speech should be easily understood by everyone.



They may have some trouble with:

's' and 'z' when their front teeth fall out

'r' and 'l' in consonant clusters e.g. "scwatch"

Saying multisyllable words e.g. "pumpkin"

If you have any concerns about your child's speech, please see a Speech Pathologist before commencing school.

Discussed in session:

*If you are unsure, talk to your child's pre-school teachers first!*

# Literacy



Literacy is the skills of reading, writing and spelling. It is essential for everyday activities such as communicating, learning and working.



Literacy begins at preschool and includes:

- Hear and make rhyming words
- Count syllables in words e.g. pic/nic
- Make phrases with the same initial sound e.g. big, brown bear
- "Read" books and know the different parts (e.g. cover, words etc)
- Recognise some graphemes (letters) and know some phonemes (sounds).

# How can you prepare your child for literacy at school?



Read to your children a range of books.



Ask them questions about what you have read together.



Play rhyming games.



Look for words in the environment.



Play I spy with initial sounds.



Count the number of words in a sentence when reading a book with your child.



Clap syllables in words.



# How can you prepare your child for numeracy at school?



Model

Model counting to 20.



Count

Count items in the environment e.g. dogs or cars.



Practice

Practice rocket ship countdown from 10.



Play

Play simple board games with dice to help with recognising the dot patterns instantly.



Sing

Sing songs involving maths e.g. "There were 10 in the bed".



Notice

Notice patterns in nature e.g. beehive, petals on a flower.



Model

If sharing food, snacks, lollies, etc - model sharing them equally or fairly.

# How can you prepare your child socially for school?



Organise play dates.



Teach them to take turns and share.



Model listening skills.



Build their skills in following directions.



Use open-ended questions to encourage them to give more information e.g. Tell me about...



Model correct verb tenses.

# And don't forget...



We have identified that your child requires further practise with the following skills:

- skipping ([helpful instructional video](#))
- star jumps ([helpful instructional video](#))
- recognising rhyming words ([helpful instructional video](#))
- name reversal (use provided laminated name sheet)
- listening to stories
- counting ([helpful instructional video](#))
- cutting and gluing
- counting using one-to-one correspondence ([helpful instructional video](#))
- subitising (instantly recognising) numbers ([helpful instructional video](#))
- number recognition ([helpful instructional video](#))

Practicing these skills over the next three months will assist your child in having a successful transition to kindergarten. Please use the above instructional videos to assist you in helping your child achieve success in any of the skills

## Discussed in session:

*All families received specific information on how to support your child from our Observation morning in August. Keep working on these skills with your child!*

*Additional observations through St Kevin's staff visiting some children at pre-school is a normal part of getting ready for Kindergarten and ensures we are able to best support your child from Day 1 of Kinder.*

# Learning Every Day Counts - Attendance

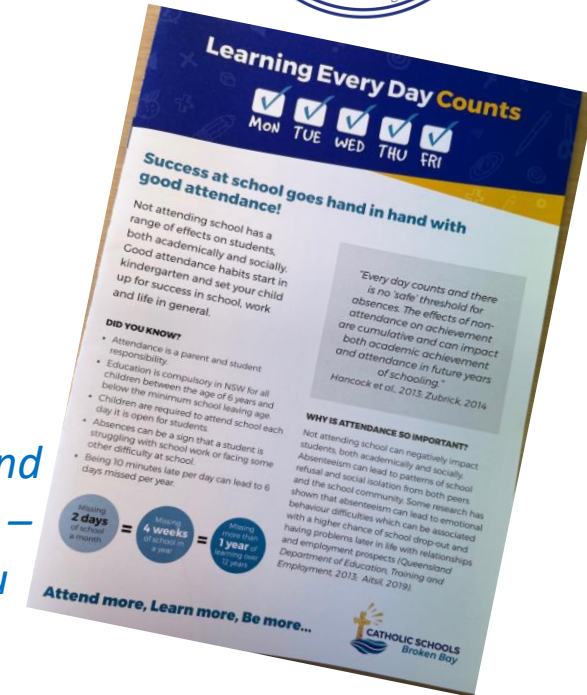


*"Every day counts and there is **no 'safe' threshold** for absences. The effects of non-attendance are **cumulative** and can impact both academic achievement and attendance in future years of schooling."*

*Hancock et al., 2013; Zubrick, 2014*

*Discussed in session:*

*Great resources in this document particularly around resilience and emotional regulation. Best to be honest and clear with your child – that you will see them again at the end of the school day and you are looking forward to them telling you all about their day.*

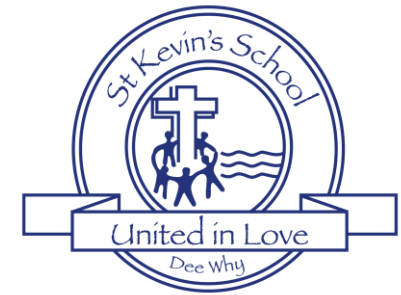


**The single most important  
thing you can do is to ensure  
your child attends school  
EVERY DAY**



# Attendance

## Set the expectation early



- Good attendance starts with families making school a priority
- Absences add up quickly



- Set good patterns from Kindergarten
- But remember, it's never too late to start improving attendance

### Discussed in session:

*Getting your child to school between 8.25 and 8.45am is ideal – the children have a bit of time to settle and play with friends before heading into class.*

*The morning session is key learning time, so every minute late adds up over time to lost learning time that can't be recaptured.*

# Attendance



## Expect challenges

- It's not unusual for children to resist coming to school at times
- Recognising the problem and addressing it early helps
- Be firm

## Work with us – together

- When problems arise, let us know
- We all want your child to be happy and engaged, and to reach their full potential!

# Uniform



## Cowan and Lewis



<https://cowanlewis.com.au/product-category/st-kevins/>

# Communications



- **School office**
  - If you need any assistance or guidance please contact us on 7256 2117 or **[skdy@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:skdy@dbb.catholic.edu.au)**
  - Andy (Mrs Poole) or Michelle (Mrs Molyneux) will be able to point you in the right direction.
- **Compass**
  - Is our main way of communicating with families. Can use app on phone or webpage.
  - Keep up to date with what's happening by reading these messages.
- **Around the Grounds newsletter**
  - Published every second Thursday – link sent via Compass and on website.
- **Email**
  - Teachers will respond to emails within 48 hours. Please always contact the school office via phone or email for more urgent communications.
- **Parent Meetings**
  - Teachers are visible and present at the end of each school day for a brief chat. If there is a matter of concern, please make an appointment for a parent teacher meeting.
  - Class learning time is important for all students and should not be interrupted.
- **Social media**
  - Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @stkevinsdeewhy



# Student Pack handouts



*Wear the t-shirts as often as you want!*

## Discussed in session:

*Start practising and building routines and independence – support the children to know what to do, to take responsibility and ownership for tasks/ chores/ etc and to feel successful when they are able to complete these tasks.*

*The activity book has lots of things to reinforce – letter formation, counting activities, fine motor skills, etc. Playing with the magnets, practising tying shoelaces are also good ongoing activities for the children to do.*

# Student Pack handouts



## ST KEVIN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to Kindergarten



## A SPECIAL SLEEPOVER!

Discussed in session:

*We hope you all enjoy the story of the special sleepover when the toys stayed at school!*

*It is also aimed to help the children get comfortable with the different parts of the school before they start next year.*



# Any burning questions?

*Can also email them to  
**[skdy@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:skdy@dbb.catholic.edu.au)** for our  
next session!*

# Before you leave today:

please complete

## **New Enrolments Language Survey**

*(even if you already have children at St Kevin's – form has been updated)*



New Enrolments Language Survey  
- Dee Why, St Kevin's Catholic  
Primary School



*And here is the  
Cowan and Lewis weblink  
for uniforms if you need it.*





# Social Media



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for photos and updates on school activities



**@stkevinsdeewhy**