Whitfield
STATE SCHOOL
PREP 2018
Things to Know:

- First day of school in 2018 is Monday 22nd January.
- School starts at 8.50am. It is good to arrive between 8.30am and 8.45am.
- During first term Prep students must be signed in and out of their classrooms.
- School finishes at 3pm. All students must be picked up by 3.20pm.
- Tuckshop is open every day. The easiest way to order is online www.flexischools.com.au
- School assemblies are every Friday at 11.30am in the CAWMPEF.
- School books and resources for Prep can be supplied through the school resource scheme.
- Students are required to wear closed-in shoes at school.
- Children are also required to wear a sun-safe hat to participate in play and outdoor learning.
- Preparatory students wear a red hat (years one to six wear a green hat) so that they are easily identifiable by staff.
- When students are absent from school, parents are required to explain the absence with a note or phone call.

Our school rules (Triple R) are: Respect, Resilience and Responsibility
Getting Ready for Prep

- Talk about Prep to your child, “When you are a Prep student you will…” and always be positive.
- Walk past, or drive past the school over the holidays, “That is your school.”
- **Start involving your child in selecting foods for lunch** so lunch containers don’t come home with leftovers. Practice choosing which is the healthiest food to eat first.
- Write your child’s name on their lunch and drink container
- Shoes with Velcro are great!
- Write your child’s name on their school bag and hat.
- **Start ‘Time Training’. “Time to get up”, “time to go to school”, “time to eat”**.
- **Tell your child “Your toys are for home.” Please do not bring toys to school.**
- **Explain to your child jewellery gets lost and broken. Please consider leaving it at home.**
- Make sure your child can open their school bag, lunch box and drink bottle.
- Help your child to recognise their name.
- Practise preparing (lunches, school bag and clothes) for the school day.
- Pack a set of spare clothes in your child’s school bag. Make sure your child knows where they are.
- Ensure your child knows how to use a toilet and understands toileting routines including pulling up pants inside the toilet and washing hands.

Don’t forget that first day photo
What will my child learn in the Preparatory Year?

Our school teaches the Australian Curriculum to all year levels. Your child will participate in learning in English, Maths, Science, History and Geography, Technology, the Arts, including Music, and Health and Physical Education.

Learning experiences in the preparatory year will help your child to;

😊 Take on responsibilities
😊 Respect other people
😊 Develop their physical skills
😊 Develop their oral language
😊 Use their imagination and creativity
😊 Learn how to be thinkers and problem solvers
😊 Make sensible choices about personal health and safety

Every student is capable of achieving success
What will I see my child doing?

- Investigating
- Designing
- Painting, cutting, pasting and drawing
- Playing games inside and out
- Planning
- Using computers
- Writing and copying
- Reading
- Making choices
- Singing and dancing
- Listening
- Climbing, balancing and jumping
- Sharing
- Constructing
- Measuring
- Talking with other students and teachers

Confident Children are motivated learners

Children who are confident are motivated to engage in more experiences. Confident children are more able to build positive relationships, do better at school and become happier, successful adults.

What can I do to develop confidence?

- Arrange safe and interesting spaces to explore.
- Be warm and supportive.
- Interact with children so they can see that what they do gets a response (When I laugh mummy laughs too).
- Answer children’s questions appropriately. If you don’t know the answer, find out together.
- Ask children questions to help them problem solve.
- Help your child understand that part of learning is not getting it right all the time.
- Use rewards and praise selectively. Focus on effort rather than the outcome.

The Australian Curriculum can be found on the Internet at www.australiancurriculum.edu.au
Our school accepts enrolments from international students and we regularly have visits from school study tours from overseas, enriching our school learning environment and experiences.

Our Gifted Education program of excellence attracts students from across the Cairns region. Identified students are accelerated and supported to excel in their learning.

Our Physical Education program of excellence provides talented students with additional opportunities to excel in sport with many of our sporting students receiving recognition at both regional and state level.

We offer a broad Arts program of music and drama, providing extra opportunity for the creative students.

Our teachers use proven, high-yield teaching practices such as Explicit Instruction and Learning Consolidation to maximise student learning.

The school delivers structured programs of mathematics, reading, writing and spelling; achieving high levels of literacy and numeracy learning.
Whitfield State School opened for the first time in January 1989. We currently have between 850 and 900 students enrolled. We have over 100 staff employed at the school. Since 2003, Preparatory classes have been included at Whitfield State School. Our school currently has 6 Preparatory classes. Our school colours are red, white and green. Our school’s sport houses are Gillies (red), Cook (yellow) and Kennedy (blue). A school magazine is published at the beginning of each month. The school also uses the QSchools app and has a Facebook page. Our school reports to parents through parent-teacher interviews in Terms 1 and 3 and report cards in Terms 2 and 4. The school has a Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students, based on the Code of School Behaviour.

Our school motto is “Each striving for the Peak”

Our school is committed to facilitating high quality educational outcomes for all students, in a caring, inclusive environment; preparing them through productive partnerships, for and to contribute positively to an ever changing world.

The Department of Education does not have personal accident insurance cover for students. It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury.
Principal:
Mr Ken Maclean

Deputy Principals:
Ms Helen Foulger
Miss Raquel Quadrio
Ms Prue Ruler

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