



An Independent Public School

Kindergarten 2016

Learning and Growing Together



Yuluma Primary School

Address: 21 Ambrose Street, Innaloo WA 6018

Phone: 08 9244 5422 Fax: 08 9446 6195

Email: Yuluma.PS@education.wa.edu.au

Website: www.yulumaps.wa.edu.au

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Yuluma Kindergarten

The early years of schooling have a special place in the education of a young child and form a distinct and important phase of a child's school life. Providing children with an appropriate start to these crucial early years is essential for successful schooling and lifelong learning.

A child's learning is continuous from birth and involves parents, caregivers and teachers in varied environments. A child's entry into school is the beginning of a new partnership between caregivers and teachers.

Children enter school from a diverse range of social, cultural and economic backgrounds. Age, gender, ability, ethnicity and physical and emotional health are contributing factors to children's individuality and rates of development. The attitudes, skills, knowledge and attendance patterns developed in the early years of school form a substantial basis for success in later years. It is vital that during the early years all children are provided with opportunities to develop as independent learners.



Mrs Chris Wheeler



Mr Kim Pitts-Hill



Ms Sandra Barnes

TERM DATES / PUPIL FREE DAYS

| | Term | Start Date | Finish Date |
|------------|--------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Semester 1 | Term 1 | Monday, 1 st February | Friday, 8 th April |
| | Term 2 | Wednesday, 27 th April | Friday, 1 st July |
| Semester 2 | Term 3 | Tuesday, 19 th July | Friday, 23 rd September |
| | Term 4 | Tuesday, 11 th October | Thursday, 15 th December |

School Development Days 2016 (*Students Do NOT attend*)

Term 1 - Thursday, 28th January & Friday, 29th 2016
 Tuesday, 8th March, 2016

Term 2 - Tuesday, 26th April, 2016

Term 3 - Monday, 18th July, 2016

Term 4 - Monday, 10th October, 2016

Term 4 - Friday, 16th December, 2016

Public Holidays for 2016

Labour Day - Monday, 7th March

Good Friday - Friday, 25th March

Easter Monday – Monday, 28th March

ANZAC Day – Monday, 25th April

WA Day - Monday, 6th June

Queen's Birthday - Monday, 26th September

ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE

Session Times

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:45am – 2:45pm

Classroom doors will be open at 08:45am. Please ensure your child arrives promptly and is picked up on time; young children quickly become distressed if they have to wait too long. In case of an emergency, please notify the school of your alternative arrangements.

Children will not be released until a caregiver or parent arrives. Please wait for your child just outside the classroom.

Instructions regarding the discharge of a Kindergarten student to a person other than the parent or caregiver must be conveyed to the teacher in writing. The school has an obligation to ensure each child is given into the care of a responsible adult each day.

Children are not allowed to play on the playground equipment before or after school. This is a duty of care issue as staff are not available to supervise children.

Kindergarten Routine Times

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Classroom Doors Open | 8:45am |
| Class Commences | 8:45am |
| Recess | 10:30am |
| Lunch | 12:20pm |
| Class Concludes | 2:45pm |

Kindergarten Phasing In Period

In 2016 Kindergarten children will attend 5 days a fortnight.

There will be a two week phasing in period at the commencement of the school year. Week 3 onwards is the normal timetable with session times and classroom routines as mentioned above.

Information regarding the phasing in period will be given to each family.

| <i>Days of Attendance</i> | <i>Week</i> |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday | Odd Weeks |
| Tuesday and Wednesday | Even Weeks |



KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Kindergarten program develops a foundation for learning. It has a specific emphasis on play-based learning and recognises the importance of communication and language (including early literacy and numeracy), social and emotional development.

Play based learning allows children to organise and make sense of their social world as they engage actively with others. Play provides opportunities for children to learn in a supportive environment where they can ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking. Teachers plan play-based programs in which learning is deliberate, purposeful and thoughtful.

Curriculum

The W.A. Kindergarten Curriculum and the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) form the basis of the Kindergarten classroom programs. The curriculum is delivered through a variety of modes with a specific emphasis on structured play.

The Kindergarten program builds on the range of experiences with language, literacy and numeracy that children have developed while at home with their family. Positive attitudes and competencies in literacy and numeracy are essential for a child's successful learning.



Helpful Hints

Following are some helpful hints for you to follow to help your child and teachers have a smooth start to the year.

- Morning tea is at 10:30am so a substantial breakfast is important.
- Help children to recognise their printed name. Print in lower case letters (e.g. Susan not SUSAN)
- Help children learn how to undo and do up shoe laces and how to put on shoes and socks. Better still, send children in slip-on or velcro fastening shoes.
- Help children learn how to do up buckles and sandals.
- Teach children how to use a tissue.
- Teach children to attend to their own toileting needs – if they are not already doing so.
- Practise separation. This is very important, especially at the beginning of the school year, as we do not want to cause too much distress to your child. Remember, once you have said goodbye **it is best to leave straight away** as your child then becomes focussed on the class activities.
- Ensure that your child attends regularly and arrives on time.
- Take an interest in the work your child brings home.
- Listen to what your child has to say.
- Talk together.
- Read as often as you can to your child.
- Do not criticise the teacher, school or friends within hearing distance of your child. Please express your concerns to the teacher in private.
- Please practise opening and closing back packs and lunch box containers.

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

If your child is unwell, please do not send your child to school as we do not have adequate facilities to care for them. All children should be well enough to participate in both indoor and outdoor programs. The school does not have a school nurse on-site. It would be appreciated if parents advise the teacher of any illnesses or future absences where your child will not be attending school. If your child will not be attending school you may also text our SMS Absence on 0418 949 529.

Kindergarten is a non-compulsory year of schooling, however there is an expectation that all children enrolled in Kindergarten will attend each session. Patterns of attendance are established early and form the foundation for primary attendance. Although activities are play based, regular attendance is critical to provide your child with the best opportunities for future success and engagement in education.

WHAT TO BRING

Please provide your child each day with:

Large Bag or Backpack

Your child will need a large bag to fit work, notes, lunch box, water bottle and spare clothes. All items must be clearly labelled, as well as the bag with your child's name. Bags will be placed on the bench outside the classroom. Please ensure your child can open and close their bag.

Morning Tea and Lunch

We promote healthy eating and encourage all children to bring along to school a healthy morning tea and lunch. Foods such as lollies, chips and soft drink are strongly discouraged. When children are full time, lunch will need to be provided. Canteen orders are available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Due to an increasing number of children with allergies and associated products which are often quick and severe (Anaphylaxis), Yuluma Primary School is an 'Allergy Aware Zone'. Please ensure that your child does not bring nuts or nut based bread toppings such as Nutella and Peanut Paste to school. Should your child have an allergy to any products, please inform the teacher at the commencement of school.

Change of Clothes

A change of clothes including underwear to be placed in a named plastic bag and inside their school bag.

Hats

The school has a NO HAT, NO PLAY IN THE SUN POLICY. This means that children's outdoor activities will be confined to shaded areas if no hat is available. Hats are required for outdoor play all year round. It is also a good idea to apply 4 hour sunscreen on your child before coming to school for the day. If more sunscreen is to be applied throughout the day, please supply and label it with your child's name.

A broad brimmed hat (No Caps) can be purchased through the Yuluma Uniform Shop.

Shoes

Shoes that can be easily taken on and off by your child.

Toys and Jewellery

Please leave toys at home. The wearing of jewellery is discouraged with the exception of sleepers, studs, watches and medic alert bracelets. This is for safety reasons.

Booklist Requirements

A Booklist will be provided to each child with their requirements for the school year. Please ensure your child has these items on the commencement of school.

CLOTHING

Children are encouraged to wear the school uniform, although it is not compulsory in Kindergarten. Our Yuluma P&C Uniform Shop is open on Tuesday Mornings from 8:30am – 9.00am and Thursdays from 2:45pm – 3:15pm to purchase a uniform for your child.

Kindergarten children will paint and as such may get some on their clothes. Please see below for instructions on cleaning:

Washing Instructions for Reeves Liquicryl Paints

Should this material be spilt on clothing, please observe the following cleaning instructions as stated by the suppliers, Winson and Newton.

- * Soak garment overnight in cold water.
- * Rub stained area with laundry bar soap.
- * Wash as normal in the washing machine.

IMPORTANT: Please note that under no circumstances should hot water be used to remove the paint as this will result in permanent stain.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parent Interviews

Parent interviews may be requested at any time during the year to discuss your child's progress or any concerns you may have while your child is at Kindergarten.

Parents are welcome to contact the Principal or Kindergarten teacher over any matters they wish to discuss, remembering however, that during the session times, the teacher's first responsibility is to the child. Therefore, the Principal and the teacher may be contacted by appointment through the front office staff.

Classroom Help

Parents, friends and relations are encouraged and welcome to join their child in educational activities during the year. A roster will be displayed in the classroom where you may like to nominate a time. If you have any special talents or interests that you would like to share with the children, please let us know. Children love learning and your child would be especially happy for you to share your talent. All parents assisting in the classroom must sign the appropriate confidentiality forms available at the office prior to volunteering.

Younger brothers and sisters are welcome when parents / caregivers are on roster, but remain your responsibility.

BIRTHDAYS

We are more than happy to and will always try to celebrate children's birthdays, even if they have a birthday that occurs over the school holidays.

Historically, birthdays are celebrated with cakes which are to be shared by all the children as a celebration. Cup cakes are preferred over cakes as they are easier to serve. Please ensure that any cake or foods brought in as part of the birthday celebration are FREE of NUTS or nut products.

LAUNDRY ROSTER

Parents are asked to help with a small amount of washing, like towels, tea towels and dress ups. They do not need to be ironed, just neatly folded and returned back to class as soon as possible.

FORMS

Approval forms must be completed by all parents are included in your child's information pack. Once completed, these forms need to be returned to the office.

We request parents to indicate if you are willing / not willing to give your approval for your child to appear in publications and activities that take place regularly, e.g. Newsletters. Please see the Principal if you would like clarification of any aspects of these forms.

These approvals include:

- General Permission which allows the school to publish photos and have written and verbal samples of work published in the school newsletter or website.
- Digital Release
- Permission for Online Access
- Confidential Declaration Form; is required before any parent can be allowed to participate in classroom programs. Eg: Parent Help
- Student Health Care Summary if your child has any previous health care needs.

HEALTH

The Department of Education document entitled 'Student Health Care Summary' describes procedures relating to students with medical problems and students requiring prescribed medication while at school.

For your information, a summary of this policy, has been incorporated into the school's policy and is listed below. Copies of both documents are available at the school.

1. Parents are asked to contact the school with information or procedures for dealing with emergency situations that may arise due to their child's medical condition. If this applies to your child, a medical detail form must be completed and submitted to the front office. Parents should also notify the school promptly if their child's medical condition changes or a new medical condition is discovered.
2. Schools are required to document all administration of medication to students, whether the medication is self administered or assistance is required by a staff member.
3. Medication should be in properly labelled containers showing the name of the substance, the name of the student and the appropriate dose and frequency. Unlabelled medications will not be administered.
4. Parents and the school develop procedures to:
 - Reduce the risk of an emergency situation arising
 - Cope with an emergency if it does arise
5. This emergency action plan is updated annually and you will have a copy of the plan.
6. Long Term occupancy of the school's sick bay by students is not considered appropriate. Parents will be contacted to take children home in this situation.

HEAD LICE

Head lice are tiny insects which can live in human hair. They are not caused by poor hygiene, and do not carry disease. Head lice are transferred between humans when their heads are close together while playing or doing schoolwork. For this reason head lice are quite common in schools.

Head lice can be easily treated and copies of a four page Head Lice Fact Sheet including recommended treatments are available from the school front office. Alternatively you can download this information from the Health Department's website at www.public.health.wa.gov.au

Head Lice in schools is a constant source of frustration for parents, children and staff. We ask that parents remain vigilant with regular checks of their child's hair and take appropriate action. All long hair should be tied back and hats are not to be shared.

If Head Lice are detected at school, parents / caregivers will be contacted to collect their child from school for treatment at home. The child may return to school after treatment and symptoms of lice have been eradicated.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

If a child has any of the following, then he/she must be excluded from school. The period of exclusion varies, so contact the school for further details regarding;

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Rubella</i> | <i>Chicken Pox</i> |
| <i>Whooping Cough</i> | <i>Scarlet Fever</i> |
| <i>Impetigo (school sores)</i> | <i>Mumps</i> |

Please advise the school immediately should your child be diagnosed with any of these conditions.

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Yuluma Primary School has a YouthCare Chaplain, Mark Walker is supported by the local Churches Council three days a week. Chaplaincy offers pastoral care support to the school community as an integral part of the day to day running of the school. As well as providing one-on-one support, there are a number of programs that are currently being held by Mr Walker at the school. Mr Walker co-ordinates our Breakfast Club 5 days a week and our 3 year old programme 9.00 – 10.30 am held at the school every Friday. If you would like to make an appointment with Mr Walker please contact the school office. Support is given to families as well as the children.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Yuluma Primary School provides a Before and After School Care Programme through OSH CLUB and is located on the school campus in Block 2. OSH CLUB provides the highest quality of Before and After School Care and 'Pupil Free Day' Care on-site at our school in an environment in which children feel safe and have fun. This programme is for Primary and Kindergarten aged children. At each session OSH CLUB provide a selection of structured and unstructured activities, offering children plenty of choice. The structured activities teach children a variety of skills based on their core principles of Play, Discover, Engage and Share. Their unstructured activities give children the opportunity to relax and play with their friends – and just be children! They also provide children with healthy nutritious snacks.

OSH CLUB is managed by caring and well trained staff. If you require further information or would like to enrol you can go online to www.oshclub.com.au Permanent and casual bookings can be requested.