

Countdown to the First Day of School

The first few days of school can be an overwhelming experience for a young child. Try some of these suggestions to help smooth the transitions between home/kinder and school.

Please note that the time frame is only a guide. Initiate discussions when you feel that your child is ready.

Get ready for the launch...destination Oakleigh Primary!

...10 from May

Research school readiness with the Kinder teacher. Contact Oakleigh Primary School or your local Kinder and complete an enrolment form. Attend a school tour with our Principal, Jack Fisher.

...8 3 months to go

Start to talk to your child about what it will like to be at school and how school will be different and the same to Kinder. Keep it positive.

Discuss the people who they have already met and how there will be many new friends to meet.

To encourage independence and confidence, plan for your child to spend time with other adults or friends for periods of time.

Attend the Oakleigh Primary School Transition Programs with our 2017 Prep teachers.

...6 6 weeks to go

Finalise uniforms. These are available from the Oakleigh Primary School Uniform Shop.

Choose shoes that encourage your child's independence.

Choose an art smock design that is easy for your child to put on or purchase one from the Uniform Shop.

Attach a unique decorative key tag to your child's school bag so that it is easy for your child to recognise.

...4 2 weeks to go

Discuss the types of food that they enjoy eating and what you will pack for them to eat at school.

We encourage cut up pieces of fruit for the fruit break at about 10.00am, healthy snack food for recess, a nourishing lunch and a drink bottle with fresh water.

Discuss the difference between playtime and lunchtime.

...2 the day before

Take photos of them in their school uniform. This can save any extra pressure when the day arrives.

Pack the school bag.

...9 4 months to go

If you are teaching your child how to write their name, encourage them to use lower case letters and correct pencil grip.

Encourage your child to become more independent when using the toilet.

Use opportunities in the car to talk about colours, numbers, letters of the alphabet, etc.

...7 8 weeks to go

Visit Oakleigh Primary School on the weekend. Show them the play areas, different buildings and a convenient meeting place.

Talk to your child about how there will be a bell. The bell will go when it is eating time and playing time.

...5 4 weeks to go

Organise lunch box, drink bottle, etc. Check that your child can open containers independently.

Label all articles clearly with your child's name.

Have some practise runs getting dressed/undressed and completing morning tasks.

Give your child an opportunity to practise packing and unpacking their bag.

Become familiar with times and dates for the

...3 1 week to go

Enjoy the build up and excitement.

Check through the above list and clarify points of interest with your child.

Begin to get into the time routine your child will need during the school week.

...1 the first day of school

Continue the routines you have practised.

Choose appropriate school clothing for the weather.

Start with a healthy breakfast.

Show your child what is in their lunchbox and explain what they eat for playlunch and lunch. If possible keep these separate.

Be cheerful when leaving and say, "See you soon." Leave promptly when asked.

Appreciate the moment. Join other parents and leadership staff for morning tea.

Blast Off!

