Dear Parents,

The Kindergarten children are continuing to settle in well to school life and are becoming familiar with the many routines that occur on a daily basis. While there are a few tired eyes, the children are enthusiastic and eager to learn.

What’s happening in Kindergarten next week?

- **Religion** – We will continue our unit, ‘God Loves Me’ by exploring how each of us is unique.
- **English** – The nursery rhyme focus for the week is ‘Old Mother Hubbard’. Children are introduced to letters, words, text direction, spacing between words, full stops and capital letters. Children will be singing ‘Ants in the Apple’ to assist in developing their phonemic awareness.
- **Mathematics** – The focus for the week is addition.
- **Science and Technology** – We will continue our unit ‘On the Move’, by exploring things that move in the environment.

Special Messages.....

- There will be a Welcome Barbeque for Kinder families, and all new families to our school, tonight at 5:30p.m. in the school grounds. We hope you can join us!
- If your child has received any additional support prior to starting school e.g. speech therapy or occupational therapy, or there is anything you feel the class teacher needs to know regarding your child’s overall development, please let the class teacher know. If you have any specialist reports for your child, please forward them on to the class teacher, to ensure that we are as well informed about your child as possible.
- We have sent home some school exercise books to be covered over the weekend. Please cover these books in plastic or clear contact (not coloured or patterned contact) so that the cover of the book can be easily identified. Please return all books to school on Monday. If you are unable to cover the books over the weekend, please return the books to school uncovered and we will send them home with the remaining books next Friday.
- There will be a Kindergarten information night this Tuesday 16th February at 7:00p.m. This meeting will provide parents with information about routines and expectations of Kindergarten. It will be an opportunity to discuss ways in which parents can assist their children in various aspects of the curriculum, including literacy and numeracy. We strongly encourage you to join us.
- You are warmly invited to join us for the Bethany Opening School Liturgy which will be held on Friday 19th February at 9:45a.m. in the school hall.
- Next week will be the last week in which Kindergarten will finish school at 2:30p.m. From Monday 22nd February Kindergarten will be dismissed at 2:45p.m.
• Please check your child’s school bag each day for notes. Children should keep notes in the front pocket of their bag.

• If your child is using the canteen please only send enough money for your child to buy one food item, so that they have plenty of time to eat their lunch and play with friends. Please remind your child that they are not allowed to share money or food with friends.

• As we have a number of children who are allergic to nuts in the school community, Bethany is nut free. Please **do not** send any nut products to school. This includes peanut butter and nutella sandwiches. If you have not already done so, please inform the class teacher of any allergies or other medical conditions your child suffers from.

• Please show your child their lunch box in the morning and remind them what to eat at recess and lunch. We ask children to bring all uneaten food home so that you can monitor what they are eating.

• Please continue to encourage your child to develop their independence by allowing them to put their school bags and lunch boxes in the appropriate areas and handing notes to their classroom teacher when they go into class.

• If your child has a sibling at the school, please remind them not to visit their Kindergarten brother or sister during play times. While we understand that siblings are trying to be wonderful big brothers and sisters, Kindergarten children often get upset when their brother or sister leaves them. It is important that Kindergarten children are given the opportunity to develop friendships with their peers.

• From next Monday 15th February, Kindergarten will join the school for the Monday morning assembly. If you wait with your child until the school bell, please bring them to the basketball court where they will line up. If you leave before the bell, the Kindergarten teachers will ensure children make their way to assembly. To avoid tears, please allow your child to forward to their classroom with the class at the end of assembly.

Kind regards,

Sue Neilly, Karina Davis and Karen Shillito