



Pre-Kindy

Information

Booklet



The child looks honestly at the features they see in the mirror. They recognise the features that they see in others; the things we all have in common. At the same time they are becoming aware of the things that make them unique, all part of the life-long journey of discovering their "me-ness".

Malaguzzi (cited in Hunter & Wise, 2009)

General Information

Doors Open	8:30am - 12.00pm
Formal Education:	8.45am - 12.00pm
3 Year Old Days:	Monday and Wednesday
Principal :	Mr Steve Miranda miranda.steve@cathednet.wa.edu.au
Teacher :	Miss Elicia Bove bove.elicia@cathednet.wa.edu.au
Teacher Assistants :	Mrs Tanya Forward (Miss Tanya) Mrs Leanne Taylor (Miss Lee)
Administration:	Mrs Lesley West and Mrs Deanne Even west.lesley@cathednet.wa.edu.au even.deanne@cathednet.wa.edu.au
Phone Number:	9629 1174



MISSION STATEMENT

Sacred Heart is a unique Catholic rural community where everyone is nurtured, respected and valued as God's children. We strive to develop each child's full potential by recognising their individual giftedness as part of God's creation.

Whose child is this?

Author Unknown

"Whose child is this?" I asked one day
Seeing a little one out at play.
"Mine," said the parent with a tender smile.
"Mine to keep a little while,
To bathe his hands and comb his hair,
To tell him what he is to wear,
To prepare him that he may always be good
And each day do the things he should."
"Whose child is this?" I asked again
As the door opened and someone came in.
"Mine," said the teacher with the same tender smile.
"Mine, to keep just for a little while,
To teach him how to be gentle and kind,
To train and direct his dear little mind,
To help him live by every rule
And get the best he can from school"
"Whose child is this?" I ask once more
Just as the little one entered the door.
"Ours," said the parent and the teacher as they smiled
And each took the hand of the little child.
"Ours to love and train together,
Ours this blessed task forever."



Welcome

We welcome you to the Pre-Kindergarten Program at Sacred Heart Catholic School. We look forward to working together with your family to provide the best learning environment for your child.

Our Pre-Kindy program provides an introduction to schooling for children and their families and sets the foundation for future school learning. We aim to facilitate this learning through a fun and educational, child centered, program that develops a lifelong love of learning.



The Program

Sacred Heart Catholic School Pre-Kindy program will cover all learning domains within the “Early Years Learning Framework for Australia.” Fundamental to the Framework is a view of children’s lives as characterised by belonging, being and becoming.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators.

The aim of our Pre-Kindergarten program is to encourage all children to develop socially, physically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually in a safe and happy environment. The Pre-Kindergarten program is structured so that learning experiences link to each child’s individual level of development and interest. At Pre-Kindy the children learn primarily through **PLAY** and **IMMERSION**.

What will your child do at Pre-Kindy?

PLAY

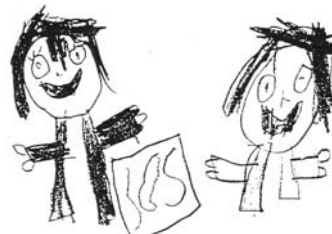
Exploratory play, dramatic play, creative play, manipulative play, language play, constructive play, physically active play, co-operative play
with blocks, paint, glue, playdough, water, sand, jigsaws, books, dress-ups, games, balls, cubbies, swings, climbing frames, beams, slides and many other materials and pieces of equipment.

The numerous types of play provide the children with opportunities for:

- Speaking and communicating
- Listening
- Observing
- Exploring
- Manipulating
- Discovery
- Achieving success
- Relating to the environment
- Sharing
- Developing creativity and imagination
- Trusting self and others
- Co-operating
- Socialising

Out of which grows the child's:

- Knowledge
- Understanding



Conceptual development
Personal development
Sense of self
Self esteem
Attitudes, appreciations and values
Skills and abilities
Self expression
Independence
Fine and gross motor control
Love of learning



Children's Daily Requirements

For each Pre-Kindergarten session please bring the following:

1. A **school bag** so that your child can put any work in it to take home.
2. A **hat** (as per uniform policy). Please note that the school has a 'NO HAT, NO PLAY IN THE SUN' policy.
3. Each child will be required to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable to have during shared "Sip & Crunch" time.
4. Lunch for your child in a clearly labeled lunch box.
5. A **drink bottle containing water**, so the children may help themselves to a drink during indoor play times. Please check that your child is able to open his/her drink bottle easily and close it securely. The children also have access to the water fountain located outside the classroom.
6. A **change of clothing** (suited to the season) should be kept in a plastic bag in your child's school bag to allow us to quickly attend to accidents or spills.
7. A **library bag** will be required when borrowing commences.

You may wish to apply sunscreen to your child before school to maximise sun protection during the summer months. There is always sunscreen in the classroom for your child to reapply during the day.



Health and Wellbeing

Please inform us of any condition that may affect your child's well being, and equally of any circumstances that might affect his/her behaviour on a particular day. This helps us to cater for the needs of your child.

Please do not send your child to school if he/she is unwell.

Should your child be unwell or involved in an accident, you will be notified. For this reason it is important that telephone numbers and emergency contacts are kept up to date at all times.

Medication

As a matter of general policy we are not able to accept the responsibility of administering



medications without the completion of appropriate forms. When bringing medication into the school, please go to the administration office to fill out the appropriate forms.

Children with allergies and asthma will need to provide the school with appropriate information to ensure a medical action plan can be in place and appropriate medication provided. This medication will be stored in the Kindy classroom, there is a fridge available if necessary.



Family

All parents are invited to come along to Pre-Kindergarten as a rostered parent helper to assist in the program. This is a wonderful opportunity to see what your child does at school.

Roster

invited to come along to Pre-Kindergarten as a rostered parent helper to assist in the program. This is a wonderful opportunity to see what your child does at school.

Confidentiality

All children develop at different rates and have different strengths and weaknesses. When on roster you will observe the many varying abilities within the Pre-Kindergarten group. Please do not discuss these observations outside the classroom. If you have any



concerns about what you have observed while on roster, please see the classroom teacher. Likewise, if you have any concerns about your own child's development or experiences at Pre-Kindy, please make a time to discuss these directly with the teacher.

Birthdays

If your child is having a birthday, you are welcome to send along individual cupcakes for approximately 20 children. Please inform the class teacher if you are supplying anything the day before. **Please remember that Sacred Heart is a nut free school when preparing food for your child.**

Newsletter

The newsletter is available online each Friday and will be emailed directly to all parents. Should you require a hard copy of the newsletter, please let the administration office know and it will be sent home in your child's Pre-Kindy folder on the following Monday.



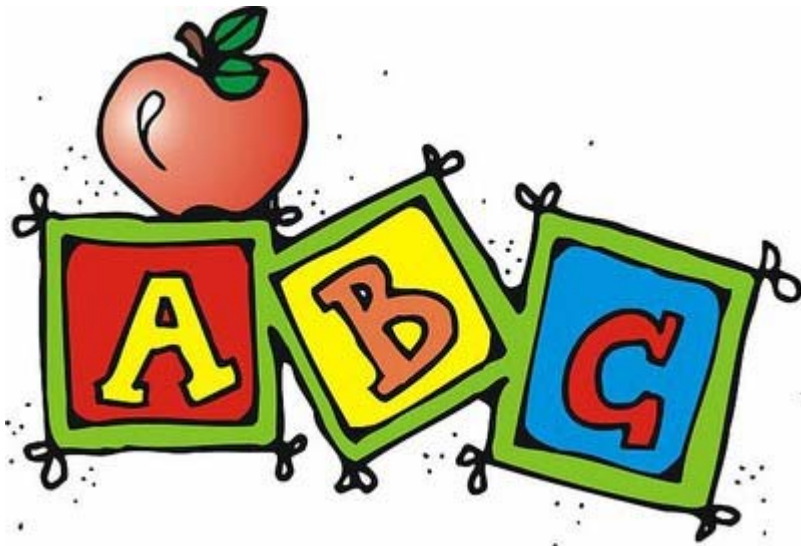
Settling in

The first few weeks of Pre-Kindergarten are very important for you and your child.

Hints

Your child needs your support, both at Pre-Kindergarten and at home. For many children, this may be the first big step towards independence. For some, it can be a traumatic time in which they have to learn to cope with unfamiliar adults, peers, environments and routines.

- Some children take longer than others to settle in.
- Remember, this first experience helps set the foundation for their attitude towards learning. Let's make it a happy one.
- Your child may be tired after the first few days at Pre-Kindergarten and in need of a little extra love, attention and plenty of sleep.
- Talk about the work your child brings home in an encouraging way. Please remember, the best things your child learns at Pre-Kindergarten may not be carried home in his or her hand.



The First Day

WHAT YOUR CHILD SHOULD WEAR

Please send your child in play clothes, easy to move in, comfortable and appropriate for messy activities and easily undone by the child for toilet time.

The school has Sacred Heart Catholic School shirts for sale from the uniform shop. These are not compulsory, but strongly encouraged. They cost \$15.00 each. Footwear should be comfortable and easy for your child to manage.

WHAT TO PACK

- A spare set of clothes
- Drink bottle with water
- Fruit or vegetable for shared Crunch and Sip..
- Lunch in a clearly labeled container.

WHAT TO DO

- Please place “Crunch & Sip” in the basket provided.
- Place the drink bottle on the drinks tray.
- Choose a book or puzzle to complete.
- Say a cheerful goodbye to your child as you put them on the mat.
- Please leave the classroom with a smile.
- We will ring you if there are any problems.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Please give to staff members on first day.
Items **do not** need to be labeled.





PLAY TODAY

Leila P. Fagg

You say you love your children
And are concerned that they learn today?
So am I – that's why I'm providing
A variety of kinds of play.
You're asking me the value of blocks and other
such play?
Your children are solving problems
They will use that skill everyday.
You're asking what's the value of having your
children play?
Your daughter's creating a tower;
She may be a builder some day.
You're saying you don't want your son,
To play in that "sissy" way?
He's learning to cuddle a doll;
He may be a father some day.
You're questioning the interest centres;
They just look like useless play?
Your children are making choices,
They'll be on their own some day.
You're worried your children aren't learning,
And later they'll have to pay?
They're learning a pattern for learning
For they'll be learners always.