

January 2024

Dear Flanagan Parents & Carers,

Welcome to North Kalgoorlie Primary School (NKPS) for 2024. My name is Mrs Louise Hurst, and I am privileged to be your child's teacher this year. I am also fortunate to share the teaching and learning with Ms Karyn Best and Ms X (Wednesdays). We have been busy preparing plenty of play-based and explicit teaching and learning opportunities as directed by the Western Australia Curriculum, the Early Years Learning Framework and the NKPS Early Years plan.

I am now in my fourth year teaching early childhood (ECE) but have been honing skills for more than a decade as an EA prior to completing my degree. With guidance from the NKPS and Pre-primary teams, and other ECE colleagues, I will provide your child with every opportunity to play, learn and grow in a supportive and fun environment. I am excited to respond to your child's interests and offer learning activities in a fun and playful environment.

Your child's education is my priority but first I must get to know you both a little better. Enclosed with this letter is a 'Getting to Know Your Child' questionnaire which I would appreciate you completing then returning to Flanagan. Please let me know about anything that will help me establish a good relationship with you and your child.

Reminders for the first few days

- ♥ Please make sure all your child's clothing items are labelled. Also ensure that there is a **spare set of clothes packed in their bag in case of accidents**. Things can get messy! 😊
- ♥ NKPS is a Sunsmart school which means all staff and students must wear **wide brimmed or bucket hats** at school. Those without these hats will have restricted play areas.
- ♥ Children must bring their own **bottle of water** to school every day from which they will be encouraged to drink regularly. Please no juice or cordial.
- ♥ **Morning Routine** Help your child to hang their bag on an outside hook and wait with them until the siren goes at 8.35am. When the doors open, please bring your child into the classroom, help him/her to quickly settle into an activity, say a brief goodbye and leave without delay. Alternatively, bring him/her to the classroom door, give them a big hug and a kiss and say goodbye. Reassure your child that you will be back to collect them at the end of the day then leave (this is the hard part for you - less so for the children). The longer you linger or seem unsure about your departure, the more difficult it will be for your child. Ms Best and I will greet them warmly and help them settle into our school routine. Rest assured we have a fun, first day planned and your child will come home with a big smile on their face. If you are having difficulty separating from your child, please signal me or our EA to assist you. As this is a very busy time, Ms Best will be available outside to collect and check-off the stationery while I welcome the children into our classroom.

- ♥ **Recess and Lunch** - we will encourage your child to eat their healthy snack at recess time (10.35 – 11.10). Please support them to be organised so that they can easily access the recess food and distinguish it from their healthy lunch (12.20 – 1.00). However, if your child is hungry and chooses to eat their lunch at recess time then we will help again accordingly. Please check our NKPS for ideas for healthy school food choices.
- ♥ If you wish to chat, I am available after school most days, as the mornings are the time when I like to give the children my attention. However, important information about your child will always be welcomed at any time.
- ♥ In Pre-primary we share most resources eg pencils, glue etc so you are not required to label all your child's books and stationery.

More communication will be sent out to parents as the term progresses and a class meeting is planned for all parents early in the term. Also keep an eye on the NKPS website and check your email for links to **CONNECT** – this is the Dept's preferred method of written communication between school and home. If you are unsure about CONNECT, please speak to our school officer, Ms Erin Bates, in the front office.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year of fun and learning. See you all on Wednesday 31st January 2024.

Mrs Louise Hurst
Teacher, Flanagan Pre-primary

