

October 2026

Kindy



End of Year Break-up

**Group A - Monday, 7th December
8.30am - 11.15am**

**Group B - Thursday, 10th December
8.30am - 11.15am**

Our last day of kindy is fast approaching and we invite our families to join us on the last day.

We will sing some songs together and each child will be presented with their portfolio and a family gift that they will be creating.

Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea.

An RSVP list will be available on the sign-in table soon, where you can let us know if you'll be attending.

Just a reminder that our celebrations will finish at 11:15am, when kindy closes for the day.

2026 Family Survey

Your feedback about your experience at Bayview Heights Community Kindergarten is important to us.

The 2026 Family Survey has been emailed to families and closes Wednesday, 4th November.



Save the Date!

2027 Parent Information Session

Wednesday, 4th Nov
at 6.30pm

Student Free Days

Friday, 13th November
Tuesday, 17th November

2027 Child Orientation Days

Friday, 13th Nov
Tuesday, 17th Nov

Committee Meeting

Monday, 9th Nov
at 5.00pm

End of Year Break-up

Kindy closes at 11.15am on these days

Group A—Monday, 7th Dec (8.30am -11.15am)
Group B—Thursday, 10th Dec (8.30am-11.15am)



Transition to Prep Family Information

At this time of year most families are having their interviews and orientation/transition visits to Prep ready for 2027. We will be implementing a range of experiences during 4th term aimed at helping your child to be ready and excited about their move to Prep. For example, practicing daily name writing, reading books about school and displaying a map of schools children are moving to. We are also attaching some articles about transition to school to this newsletter.



Transition Statements

All families have now signed consent to create an online Transition Statement for their child.

When a draft is complete, the Transition Statement will be emailed to each family and another consent form sought to allow the Transition Statement to be published and accessed by your child's school.

Thank you for your cooperation in this process.

Health Care Checks Before Starting School

We recommend that all parents talk with their GP about their child's 4-year-old health check if you have not already done so. It is a good idea for your child to have an eye examination and hearing check before starting Prep. See the



AGES: 2-5
Small Sprouts THERAPY

TINY TALKERS CLUB

DROP IN FOR A PLAY AND A CHAT
WITH OUR FRIENDLY SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS

DATE: 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th October; 3rd & 10th November

TIME: 9:30AM - 10:30AM

LOCATION: Bayview Scouts Den | 61 Windarra Street, Woree

COST: Free | No bookings or registration required! | All resources provided.

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS?

The kindy teacher said I should get help. Where do I start?

What can I be doing at home to help my child?

My child isn't talking much, should I be worried?

Can you give me some tips whilst I am waiting for services?

My child is hard to understand, is that normal?

COME ALONG IF SO!

MISSION AUSTRALIA COMMUNITARIAN FOR CHILDREN

iKonnnect

Do you have your own PIN?

iKonnnect is our digital parent/guardian sign in and out system via the iPad which eliminates the requirement for a paper-based record. This quick and simple process is a legal requirement and must be accurate with the correct details of who is signing your child in and out for the day.

Please ensure that the PIN you create with your phone number is always kept confidential and is not shared with any other person. All guardians who you have been identified as being able to drop off and pick up your child, are required to have their own iKonnnect PIN. Please ensure the correct and current phone number has been provided for each additional/emergency contact for them to create their own PIN.

Add/remove Additional/Emergency Contacts

This can be done through your Parent Portal. Emergency contact details cannot be updated once created. You will need to remove and re-add with the correct details. Please click on the link to show you how—[Update Emergency Contacts](#)

Initial set up of iKonnnect

Your additional/emergency contacts will need to have their mobile phone with them for the initial setup as they will receive an SMS with a temporary PIN.

- Type in your mobile number
- An SMS with a PIN will be sent to your phone
- You are required to enter this PIN into Konnect
- You will then be prompted to reset your PIN
- Once completed, you can sign your child in and out
- Next time, you will be able to type your mobile number in and use the PIN you have created.

2027 Enrolments

It is that time of the year again that we do our Parent Information Session and Child Orientation days for our 2027 families. The dates are set for:

Parent Information Session—

Wednesday, 4th November at 6.30pm

Committee members are required to attend

Child Orientation Days— Group B Friday, 13th November and
Group A Tuesday, 17th November



Transition to school

Starting school is an exciting milestone for your child and family. All of you will be experiencing changes as your child settles into a new learning environment, develops new friendships, and spends time with new teachers.

Preparing your child for their transition to school prepares them for future learning and development.

Is your child ready for school?

Being school ready is not dependent on whether your child can read and write. Being school ready is about the whole child. When deciding on the right time for your child to start school, it's important to consider a range of factors, including your child's age, emotional maturity, language skills, social skills, physical wellbeing and their ability to undertake simple self-help tasks independently.

If your child is attending an early childhood education and care service, speak to the educators about your child's cognitive, physical, social and emotional development and seek their views on how to best support their transition to school. Ask the educators about the transition to school strategy they have at the service.

You can also speak with the principal of the school your child may attend. Most schools support your child as they transition to school, through an orientation program, made up of visits to the school and spending time with the kindy teachers and other children.

How can you help prepare your child for beginning school?

- Talk positively and confidently about starting and attending school
- Speak with your child about the change in their daily routine, how will they get to school, what time they have to get up in the morning and what they will have in their lunch box
- Visit the school with your child before they start so they're familiar with the classrooms, playground equipment, bubblers, toilets, sick bay etc.
- Meet the teachers that may be working with your child and speak about them positively to your child
- Tell your child about support systems that the school offers e.g. if there is a buddy system where an older child supports your child in their first year of school
- Read books together about starting school
- Be involved in your child's school community e.g. participating in playgroups, orientation days or other social gatherings like school fetes and welcome barbecues
- Attend school events such as the book week parade, an assembly or school concert

Thinking about transition to school

Starting school is an important time for children and families. Children who make a positive start to school are more likely to:

- feel comfortable, relaxed and valued
- feel excited and motivated to learn
- have good relationships with others
- develop a sense of belonging within the school community.

Starting school is not just about the first day. It's a process that begins when children and families start to prepare in the year before, and continues as children experience their first days, weeks and months of school. The process involves a number of changes for children and families, and everyone reacts differently. For some children the change brings excitement about making friends and learning new things, while for others the change can leave them feeling nervous and overwhelmed. You may reflect on your own school experiences and be reminded of the mix of emotions you felt when starting school.

Families play an important role in supporting children to manage the transition to primary school. With the support of your child's early childhood educator and school teacher, you can help them to cope with the new challenges by developing their social, emotional and learning skills. Supporting your child's skills in these areas contributes to their mental health and wellbeing. Children who are mentally healthy are better learners, have stronger relationships and are better able to meet life's challenges.



The main changes for your child

Starting school involves a number of changes for children and families. This includes the differences between your child's current setting (eg home, long day care, preschool) and the primary school they will be attending. When children start school they experience changes in the following areas.

Physical environment: For example, the size of the playground, classroom and school buildings, the location and types of toilets, the number of other children and teachers.

Rules and procedures: For example, more structured times for attending class, eating and going to the toilet, rules for different places such as the classroom and playground, lining up and putting up a hand to speak.

• **Relationships:** For example, meeting new children and adults, responding to children of different ages, leaving an early childhood educator, getting to know a range of teachers for different subjects and from different grades.

• **Learning:** For example, more formal learning experiences, structured times and set tasks, increasing independence.

Managing change during transition

Learning from other transitions

Your child has most likely already experienced several transitions in their life. These may include starting preschool, going on holiday, moving house or welcoming the addition of a new brother or sister. These experiences can help children develop skills for managing new situations such as starting school. They can also help you get to know how your child copes with change. You may like to think about:

- What has helped your child manage other transitions and changes in their life?
- How have you supported them to cope?
- How can you utilise your child's early childhood educator and school teacher to support this process?

Using your child's strengths and skills

Throughout your child's early years they have been learning and developing a range of skills. Every child is different. They each have their own strengths that can help them manage change when starting school.



The following provides you with some ideas for helping your child manage change and build on their social and emotional, independence and learning skills. Many of the suggestions will be things that you are already doing, and your child will keep progressing in these areas when they start school.

You may like to choose one or two skills to focus on over the next few months. Choosing a small number of skills is important as you do not want to overwhelm your child in the lead up to starting school.

Social and emotional skills

Teach friendship skills: Teach your child ways to introduce themselves to new children, join in play with others and be friendly and co-operative. Talk to your child about what being a good friend means (eg sharing, taking turns at choosing a play activity, using kind words).

Encourage sharing and taking turns: Playing with your child, following their lead and having fun together will help develop their social skills. Playing simple board games, card games or computer games with children helps them to develop sharing and turn taking skills. It also helps children to cope with disappointment when they do not always win.

Invite children to play together: Arranging for your child to get together with other children helps them to establish friendships and practise their social skills. Providing positive guidance and helping to structure activities (eg using blocks to build a tower together) can be helpful when supporting children to establish new friendships.

• **Involve your child in conversations:** Talking with your child and involving them in conversations can help them to learn the rules of communication such as waiting for a turn, expressing ideas and listening without interrupting.

• **Help your child to manage their emotions:** Emotional skills include being able to recognise, express, understand and manage a wide range of feelings. You can promote your child's emotional development by spending time with them and being warm and responsive to their needs. Talk to your child about what is happening and help them to describe and label the emotions they are feeling.

• **Get to know other families in the school community:** Arranging to meet with other families in the school community prior to starting school will help develop relationships and a sense of connectedness to the school community.

Independence skills

Encourage self-help skills: These skills include your child dressing and undressing themselves, eating from their lunch box, going to the toilet and asking for help. Encouraging your child to develop these skills will give them lots of confidence in being able to do things for themselves.

Promote a sense of responsibility: Encouraging your child to take responsibility for small tasks (eg setting the table for dinner, putting their clothes in the wash basket) will help them feel useful and build their self-confidence.

Teach your child to care for their belongings:

Encourage your child to care for and respect their belongings (eg tidying up toys, putting pencils back in their pencil case).

Involve your child in making decisions: Providing your child with simple choices will give them practice for decisions they may need to make at school. Start with giving two choices such as the red or the blue top when getting dressed or an apple or banana for a snack. This will give them the confidence to make bigger decisions.

Develop your child's understanding of social rules:

Talk to your child about how different settings have different rules and expectations (eg rules at preschool, rules around a swimming pool to keep everyone safe). This will help them adjust to some new rules they will need to learn to remember and follow at school.



Learning skills

Introduce early literacy and numeracy skills:

These include your child recognising numbers and letters, and counting and writing their own name. Introduce the concept of counting and letter recognition through everyday activities. For example, count the number of toys on the floor, point to words when reading aloud to your child, sing songs, say nursery rhymes and foster an enjoyment of listening to stories. Remember, children will get plenty of practice with reading and writing once they start school.

Encourage your child to focus on an activity:

Encourage your child to sit and focus on an activity for a period of time (eg making a house from blocks, building a racing track, drawing a picture, doing a puzzle). Your child may benefit from you sitting with them or checking back at regular intervals to provide positive encouragement and feedback as they concentrate and enjoy themselves. For example, you might say, "wow, look at the size of the house you built! Could we add a fence or garden?"

Encourage listening skills: Reading books or listening to CD or DVD recordings of stories is a great way to help develop your child's listening skills. Asking questions about the story can also support your child's understanding and communication skills. For example, ask questions about what has happened, what might happen next or how characters might be feeling. To promote curiosity, you might ask, "I wonder what would happen if...?"

Help your child to follow instructions: Start by giving your child one instruction to follow (eg get your socks) and walk with them to do it if necessary. You can then build up to giving your child two-step instructions (eg put your dish in the sink and get your socks). Children often have difficulty remembering more than two or three instructions at a time.

Promote a hands-on approach to learning:

Learning occurs through everyday play and experiences. Providing opportunities to experience new places, such as going to the library to look for books, visiting places in the community and following your child's interests (eg looking for bugs with lots of legs), will show them that learning is fun. 'Make-believe' play, such as when children pretend to be characters, encourages their imagination and creative skills. Materials such as empty boxes, writing materials and dress-up clothes can help to support make-believe play.

Encourage hand-eye coordination: Using scissors and glue, drawing, building with blocks, helping with cooking (stirring and pouring), and throwing and catching balls can help children to learn and practise hand-eye coordination, which is important as they learn to read and write.



For more information

If you would like more information, KidsMatter has produced a range of resources to support your child through early childhood and primary school. The following information sheets related to this topic are available online at

www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/information-sheets

KidsMatter Early Childhood information sheets:

- *Feelings matter*
- *Children and play: Resources for families and staff*
- *Learning positive friendship skills*
- *Supporting children to develop friendships and empathy*

KidsMatter Primary information sheets:

- *Social and emotional learning: Suggestions for families*
- *Emotional development: Suggestions for families*
- *Helping children learn positive friendship skills*
- *Friendship skills: Suggestions for families*

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Starting School information sheets for families. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au/startingschool



SMART EYE START

As the Prep year delivers the foundations to your child's education, having a full eye examination at an optometry practice prior to schooling will help to ensure their best chance at reaching their full potential

Approximately

1 in 5

Australian children suffer

from an undetected

vision problem

Visit your local optometrist today!

An Optometry Queensland & Northern Territory Initiative

**More information & optometrist details:
www.optometryqldnt.org.au/smart-eye-start**

