



# *St Lawrence's Primary School Bluff Point*

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Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to St Lawrence's Three Year Old Kindergarten. I am very pleased to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you and to welcome your child to our class. My name is Mrs Bianca O'Malley and I will be your child's Classroom Teacher for 2018.

This year is a very exciting year in our school as we commence a Three Year Old Kindy at St. Lawrence's for the first time. I would like to start by letting you know a little bit about myself. After completing my Bachelor of Education (Primary) I began teaching at St. Lawrence's seventeen years ago. I started my career as a primary teacher and after having my own children I went on to teach kindergarten. I have since completed my Graduate Certificate of Early Childhood Education and Care and have been teaching kindergarten for 7 years. I currently also teach the 4 Year Old Kindy on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Sue Higgins will be working as the Education Assistant with me in the Three Year Old program this year and we are both excited to be a part of your child's early learning.

With your participation both in and out of the classroom, we can look forward to a productive, creative and enjoyable year together. Parent volunteers are welcome in our classroom, and we encourage this because it provides opportunities for more children to receive personal attention (and ultimately your child will love this special time!)

If you are interested in volunteering, our class Parent Roster Timetable will begin once we have all transitioned and had time to build relationships with educators and peers. Once the timetable is displayed, feel free to choose a convenient time to record your name. A Parent Washing Roster will also be displayed outside the classroom, please assist us on your child's allocated week by taking a small bag of washing home on Friday afternoon and returning it clean on Monday morning.

Please ensure that you have read the 2018 Three Year Old Information Booklet. However, there are a few simple reminders of the daily requirements;

- **Sun cream** to be applied at home.
- A **bag** large enough to carry all necessary items.
- A **hat** for outdoor play. Please note that the school has a “No hat, No play” policy to ensure sun safety for the children.
- A **small, labelled container with fruit** for morning tea
- A **drink bottle** of water only, so children can help themselves to a drink throughout the day.
- A packed lunch in a **lunch box** to be eaten individually at lunch time.
- A **spare change of clothes** (suited to the season) in a plastic bag in your child’s school bag to allow us to attend to accidents or spills.
- If your child requires a comfort toy, such as a teddy, for our rest time after lunch, please pack this in their school bag and we will help the children get it out after lunch. Keeping it in their school bag will minimise the risk of the teddy getting lost or damaged.
- Please ensure all your child’s items are clearly labelled with their name.

As part of our schools Keeping Safe, Child Protection Curriculum we use the correct anatomical terminology when naming parts of our bodies. This means we will be using the terms penis and vagina with your children if we need to reference these body parts. Please make sure they are aware of these terms when referring to their body, even if you don’t use them at home, to avoid confusion.

Please remember my door is always open. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please be mindful that our mornings are a very busy time where we are trying to greet everyone and settle the children for the day and are not appropriate for confidential discussions, however, I am happy to make an appointment to meet with you at a convenient time.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Bianca O’Malley

Kindergarten Teacher