



# Pre-Primary

at Grace Christian School



## WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL & DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (PRIMARY)

Welcome to Pre-Primary at Grace Christian School!

In the early years of schooling, your child makes significant leaps in their development. In Pre-Primary, they will continue to enhance their language skills, grasp new numeracy and literacy concepts, and have the opportunity to refine social skills, practice fine and gross motor skills, and deepen their Biblical understanding.

We strive to create an environment in Pre-Primary that is both safe and challenging. We are intentional about providing opportunities for our students to grow, develop, and build resilience. The best avenue for this development is through play, which remains an integral part of your child's learning experiences, both inside and outside the classroom, fostering creativity and problem solving skills in collaboration with others.

Continuity between home and school is very important to us, and we look forward to getting to know you and your child throughout the year. We want children to see teachers and parents as partners in their education. Our aim is to build strong relationships with each child and their family, encouraging parents to be involved in the learning program.

We pray that this booklet will assist you and your child in making an informed and positive start to the wonderful experience that is Pre-Primary, and we trust that the year ahead will be filled with great memories for you and your family.



Mr Hugo de Ridder  
Principal



Mrs Donna Holman  
Deputy Principal (Primary)

## DAY-TO-DAY PROGRAM

### Pre-Primary Session Times

The Pre-Primary day commences at 8.35am and concludes at 3.05pm. The classroom will be open for you and your child to come in at 8.25am. Upon arrival, parents and children are welcome to engage in reading, puzzles or quiet activities inside the classroom. When the siren sounds, this signals the start of the class, and parents/guardians are asked to say goodbye.

On Friday we run our Perceptual Motor Program (P.M.P.). On this day the classroom opens at 8.35am, and all children will go to one classroom to get ready for P.M.P. Parents can assist by helping their child take off their shoes, before they say goodbye at the door.

Each child must be collected by an adult at the end of the day. If someone other than a parent or guardian is collecting your child, please inform a staff member in person or notify Student Services.

Supervision is required for children outside of school hours.

**Pre-Primary School Dog, Miss Maple:** Miss Maple is a mature Labradoodle who will be at school most Thursdays and Fridays with her owner, Mrs. Joss Barnes. She has a wool coat, making her a low-allergen breed. Miss Maple has undergone intensive training and has been cleared and approved by a veterinarian to be a school dog. She will be gently introduced to both the children and parents.

**Please Note:** The Pre-Primary playground is off limits before and after school to ensure the safety of all children.



## Attendance

In Pre-Primary, your child will attend five days a week. Please be aware that some children may feel tired as they adjust to this new routine. To assist with the transition, we offer an optional rest day for the first few weeks of school. If you have any concerns about your child's adjustment, please feel free to come and speak with us.

## Arriving Late

If you arrive at school after 8.35am, you will need to go to Student Services with your child to collect a late note and take it to the class teacher.

## Recess and Lunch Times

Children are required to bring along fruit for morning tea and a healthy lunch. As part of our health program, a variety of nutritious foods is encouraged. A water bottle, containing only water, is also required every day.

Lunch orders are also available from our school canteen on Thursday and Friday. Lunch orders can be placed online at [www.quikcliq.com.au](http://www.quikcliq.com.au).

NOTE: We are an allergy aware school, so do not send any food that contains nuts.

## Before and After School Care

Camp Australia offers before and after school care services, which can be booked online. For more information, visit: [campaustralia.com.au](http://campaustralia.com.au)



## SCHOOL UNIFORM

### What to Wear

The uniform for Pre-Primary can be purchased from the Perm-A-Pleat School Uniform Retail Outlet, located at Unit 5/61 Albert Road, East Bunbury. The uniform consists of:

- Early Childhood Navy Polo Shirt with school logo
- Grace knee-length shorts with an elastic waist
- Wide brimmed navy hat with school logo
- Suitable footwear, such as sandals or joggers with velcro straps.

Please note: The school enforces a 'no hat, no play' policy for all Primary School children. If a child does not have their school hat, they will be required to play on the verandah.

### Labelling of Personal Belongings

All personal belongings must be clearly labelled with your child's full name, using indelible ink or iron on, sew on, or stick on labels. Initials are not recommended.



Unisex Navy Polo with Logo



Unisex White Under Shirt (optional)



Unisex Track Top with Logo



Faction Colour Hat



Grace Shorts with logo



Grace Pants with logo



Sandals or Joggers (velcro)

### Spare Clothing

A set of spare clothes should be kept in your child's bag, suitable for the season. This is important in case of toileting accidents or if your child gets wet during water play.

### Toileting Independence

Children should be able to manage toileting independently. This includes removing and re-dressing their clothes, wiping themselves, flushing and washing and drying their hands.

## STUDENT LEARNING

Teaching and Learning programs in Pre-Primary are about children's knowledge and development guided by *The Early Years Learning Framework* for Australia and the *Australian Curriculum (WA)*. The learning areas are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- The Arts
- Languages
- Health and Physical Education
- Technologies
- Bible and Christian Living

### Learning Enrichment

In addition to the support provided by classroom teachers, our Learning Enrichment staff are consulted if there are concerns about any aspect of your child's progress or development. The Learning Enrichment staff will collaborate with teachers and parents to provide the necessary support.

### Portfolios

Individual portfolios are sent home at the end of Term 1 and Term 3. These portfolios capture your child's achievements for the term. We encourage you to spend some time discussing their accomplishments with your child, as a great deal of hard work has gone into each piece of work.

### Reports

Students will receive a formal report at the end of each Semester to show progress in each learning area.

### News Telling

In Pre-Primary, your child will begin participating in "telling news" from Term 1, Week 4. This activity is a great way to develop oral language skills and will have a different focus each term. Your child will bring in an object from home to share with their friends. Please use the guide booklet to practice with your child on how to share their news. Additionally, please avoid sending any fragile objects.

## Homework Folder

Term 1 & 2: Picture Cards (oral language development) and Letter Sounds (phonic cards).

Term 3 & 4: Home readers, early sight words and phonic blends (cards).

## Excursions

Each year, students participate in excursions that provide valuable opportunities for out-of-class learning. Students on excursions will always remain under the direct supervision of staff members in small groups. Parental assistance may be requested at the discretion of the classroom teachers. Students may be excluded from attending an excursion if it is determined that their participation poses a safety risk to themselves or others. The safety of our students while off school grounds is our primary concern.

An annual excursion permission form must be completed by parents, which is accessible via our School Stream App. Parents will be informed by the classroom teacher when classes go on excursions.



## OPEN COMMUNICATION

To foster effective communication between school and home, several methods are provided for parents to stay connected.

- You will receive a class letter at the beginning of the term outlining the focus areas for learning and information about special events.
- **School Stream App:** This is the primary means of communication with parents. It is essential for all parents to download the app, which is available for free from the App Store or Google Play.
- **Email:** Throughout the year, parents may receive emails from their child's teacher. Parents are also encouraged to use email to communicate directly with the class teacher.
- **Seesaw App:** Messages, reminders, and photos will be sent to parents, making it a great way to stay connected with your child's learning.
- **Classroom Whiteboard:** A whiteboard located outside the classroom keeps parents informed about classroom events and important reminders from teachers.
- **Social Media:** Follow the school on Facebook and Instagram @gracechristianschoolwa for updates about the school community.

### Parent Interviews

We encourage parents to attend parent interviews throughout the year. These interviews take place in Term 1 and Term 3, and class teachers will send out information about the meetings closer to the dates. They provide a great opportunity to hear about your child's progress in their learning. Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting.

### Communication / Concerns

We value partnerships with parents and encourage you to speak directly to your child's teacher with any concerns. If you have a concern or query, a change in circumstance, or an issue that impacts your child, the best approach is to discuss it with your child's teacher. If this does not lead to a satisfactory resolution, please follow the trail outlined on the next page:

Speak directly with the child's teacher.



If needed, contact the Early Childhood Coordinator, Mrs. Maritha van Deventer, via email at [mvandeventer@grace.wa.edu.au](mailto:mvandeventer@grace.wa.edu.au) or call 08 9726 4200.



Request an appointment with the Deputy Principal (Primary), Mrs Donna Holman.



If further assistance is required, request an appointment with the Principal, Mr Hugo de Ridder.



For formal concerns, parents may write to the School Board.

## BEING INVOLVED

### Parent Rosters

Parents are encouraged to get involved in the classroom by joining the parent roster. This opportunity allows parents to observe their child in their learning environment, assist the teacher and other students, creating a special experience for both parent and child. It is hoped that parents will enjoy their time in the classroom. If interested in participating, please add your name to the parent roster. The Perceptual Motor Program (P.M.P.) requires three parents (between the two classes) each Friday for it to operate smoothly.

Siblings are welcome to accompany parents; however, parents are responsible for supervising them. Please remember to sign in, and out at the Administration Office upon arrival.

### Helping Out

Volunteers are always welcome and appreciated as part of school life. The school is eager to expand its volunteer base. For more information, please speak with one of the Administration Staff at Student Services.

## HEALTH & WELLBEING

### Absentees

By law, students are required to attend school. If your child is absent, please notify Student Services.

### Students Leaving School During the Day

There may be times when you need to take your child out of school for appointments or family reasons. Whenever possible, please notify Student Services and the teacher in advance.

Parents or guardians collecting a student must report to Student Services, where they will be required to sign the student out and back into the school (if applicable).

### Illness at School

Throughout the year, your child may occasionally be unable to attend school due to illness. We ask that if they are unwell, they stay home to rest until they are fully recovered, as this helps prevent cross-infection. The following illnesses require exclusion from school: Chickenpox, Head Lice, Conjunctivitis, Vomiting, Cold Sores, Diarrhea, Influenza, School Sores, Ringworm, Slap Cheek, Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease, Measles, and Mumps.

Any illness requiring three or more days off school will necessitate a medical certificate to be submitted to Student Services.

### Medication at School

If your child needs to take medication at school, provide it to the Pre-Primary staff, who will ensure that it is administered correctly. Clearly label all medication with instructions and complete a 'Prescribed Medication Permission Form,' available from the Administration Office. Ideally, medication should be brought to school in its original packaging.

### Medical Action Plans

Medical plans issued by a doctor for students with serious allergies or illnesses must be submitted to Student Services. If any changes occur regarding the care of your child, it is critical to notify the school to ensure that records and emergency contacts are accurate, and please inform the class teacher as well. Class teachers will receive a copy of the updated information.

Occasionally, a specialist may be needed to support your child. The school has access to a pool of allied health professionals who work with us to provide quality care for our students.

## GOOD TO KNOW

### Quiet Time

Each class will participate in a quiet time after lunch. Your child will need to bring a small cushion to school, which will remain in the classroom and be returned to you at the end of the year. Please ensure the cushion is labelled with your child's name.

### Birthdays

We love to celebrate birthdays. On your child's birthday, parents may like to send along small cupcakes for sharing with classmates.

**Please Note:** If your child has an allergy, it is advisable to provide a small treat as an alternative. For more details, parents should consult with the teacher.

### Bus Cards

Smart rider bus cards can be ordered through Student Services. Please let your child's teacher know which bus they will be catching.

### Before and After School Care

Camp Australia provide before and after school care at Grace Christian School from 6.30am - 8.30am and 3.05pm - 6.00pm during school term. Should you need more information please contact Camp Australia directly on 1300 105 343 or email [info@campaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@campaustralia.com.au)



## OUR MOTTO

“Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,

Or stand in the way of sinners,

Or sit in the seat of mockers.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord,

And on His law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water,

Which yields its fruit in season,

And whose leaf does not wither.

Whatever he does prospers.”

Psalm 1 : 1-3



# GRACE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

22 Vittoria Road, Glen Iris, WA 6230

P O Box 7, Bunbury, WA 6231

Email: [admin@grace.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@grace.wa.edu.au) | [enrol@grace.wa.edu.au](mailto:enrol@grace.wa.edu.au)

Website: [www.grace.wa.edu.au](http://www.grace.wa.edu.au)

Socials: [@gracechristianschoolwa](https://www.instagram.com/gracechristianschoolwa)

Telephone: 08 9726 4200

Fax: 08 9726 4210