Welcome to all parents and children. We hope the transition into Kindergarten has been both smooth and positive. We look forward to meeting you and answering questions you may have regarding this document during our Meet the Teacher Parent information night.

**Italian** - Italian is the community language at Orange Grove. Kindergarten students will experience lessons during a 1 hour session with Signora Dimarco or Signorina Maria each week.

**Technology** – Each class will use the school computer lab during a focussed technology session each week, and children use an interactive whiteboard in class to enhance these skills.

**Library** - Ms Byrne is the librarian. The children are able to borrow 2 books each week, and will be provided with a library bag. Each class has a library session on Monday. Please try to remember your books and bag.

**K-2 Assembly** – will be held on Thursdays at 2.00pm. Each class has a turn at presenting an item and running the assembly.

**Scripture** – sessions begin Friday 10th February, as per the selections made by families. Kindergarten time: 09:00 – 09:30. Please return note if you have not already done so.

**Sport and Fitness** - Kindergarten sport day is Friday. Please ensure your child is wearing suitable footwear and sport uniform. In addition to the allocated sports time, we take part in short fitness exercises.

**School Newsletter** – You can stay in touch with all the events involving the school via the weekly newsletter. This can be emailed out or provided as a paper copy, and is distributed on Thursdays. It is also available on the school website.
News - Each child has been allocated a news day. The timetable will be posted outside each classroom as a reminder to children and families. We encourage children to use a structure of ‘WHEN, WHERE, WHO and WHAT’.

Reading Folders - Families are asked to provide a clear plastic folder (see example on the Kindergarten Noticeboard) for children to bring to school each day. This will be used to send notes, reading books and worksheets home safely.

Birthdays – We are happy for you to provide a treat to help celebrate your child’s birthday. To be fair and reduce the risk of allergies, Orange Grove Public School request cupcakes only. Our school attempts to be a ‘nut free zone’.

Sunscreen - A sunscreen dispenser is available for Kindergarten children to apply if necessary; however, we recommend it be applied prior to arriving at school.

Hats - Orange Grove Public School has a ‘no hat no play’ policy. This applies to playtime, sport and fitness as well as excursions. Please make sure your child’s hat is clearly labelled.

Reporting – Written reports are produced in Term 2 and Term 4. Teachers use a variety of methods to continually assess children. We have a Parent Teacher evening at the end of Term 1, and a Student Led Conference late in Term 3 to supplement our two written reports.

Crunch ‘n’ Sip - This is a program at Orange Grove Public School that encourages healthy eating. Classes take a short break between the start of school and Recess, providing an opportunity for children to eat fruit or vegetables and have a drink of water.

Art smocks – These are highly recommended and are available to purchase at the uniform shop. They are stored in your child’s classroom for the year, and are crucial for an attempt to keep your child’s uniform clean.
Labelling – Remember to label everything!!! Clothing, lunch boxes, drink bottles, and hats need to be regularly checked for labels. A lost property basket is located outside the school office.

Parent Helpers – Beginning in Term 2, Kindergarten will request parents to assist with literacy groups. A note will be sent home closer to the time seeking interest.

Money and Notes - Any school based money (eg. School contribution) should be handed directly to the office. Any class based money or permission notes should be handed to your child’s teacher or placed in the ‘class notes’ tub outside your child’s classroom. There is also a P&C mail slot in the uniform shop door (Block B) for relevant money and notes.

School Absence - A written notice is required when your child returns to school, explaining the reason for any absence. For early departures or late arrivals, you must obtain a slip from the office before taking your child from or to the classroom.

School pick up – Teachers need to be aware of occasions when your child is being collected by anyone other than the usual. If you are unable to inform the teacher, written or telephone permission is required.

We hope this document is helpful in providing a picture of your child’s school life in Kindergarten.

Of course you should feel free to discuss any queries or issues further with your classroom teacher, or make us aware of any circumstances that may affect your child’s performance at school. We are available from 8:45 most mornings, and after school by appointment.

Regards,

Kindergarten Teachers
Elisa Mazzaferro, Shani Keane and Dave Addley.
Orange Grove Public School
8th Feb 2012

Principal
Karen Jamieson