

Foundation Term 1 Newsletter

Welcome to Term 1 2025!

Dear Foundation families and caregivers,

Hello and welcome to the Foundation Learning Community for 2025! We have begun the term getting to know your children, their interests, working on a variety of activities and beginning our learning together!

Each term a newsletter will be sent home via Compass to outline key information about what we are learning about in the classroom. This newsletter will also inform you about some important reminders and information about when specialist lessons are for each class as this can change from term to term.

Please feel free to contact your classroom teacher if you have any questions after school or via Compass.

Have a great term!

Kind Regards,

Anjana Sharma, Bridget Thompson, Casey Hunt, Kara Claver, Dee Mifsud and Andrew Warrick










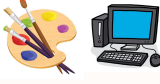












GARRANG WILAM
PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUGANINA



Foundation Specialist Timetable:

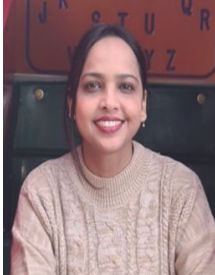



Specialist Timetable for all Prep Classes:

Below are the specialist timetables for each class. Please read the class timetable that your child is in. This will be the timetable for the whole Term. We will also be doing weekly Auslan lessons in the classroom where we will learn to sign key words as well as letters of the alphabet.

Prep A	Prep B	Prep C	Prep D	Prep E
<p>Monday - Library (even weeks)</p> 	<p>Tuesday - Music & PE</p> 	<p>Monday - Library (even weeks)</p> 	<p>Tuesday - Digi Tech & Art</p> 	<p>Tuesday - PE & Music</p> 
<p>Tuesday - PE & Music</p> 	<p>Wednesday - Library (even weeks)</p> 	<p>Tuesday - Art & Digi Tech</p> 	<p>Wednesday - Library (even weeks)</p> 	<p>Wednesday - Library (even weeks)</p> 
<p>Thursday - Art</p> 	<p>Thursday - Digi Tech</p> 	<p>Thursday - Music</p> 	<p>Thursday - PE</p> 	<p>Thursday - Art</p> 
<p>Friday - Digi Tech</p> 	<p>Friday - Art</p> 	<p>Friday - PE</p> 	<p>Friday - Music</p> 	<p>Friday - Digi Tech</p> 







Introducing the Foundation Team...

TEACHER NAME:	ABOUT ME:
<p data-bbox="132 573 488 607">Prep A- Anjana Sharma</p> 	<p data-bbox="675 573 1474 913">Hello GWPS Families! I am so excited to be teaching Prep A this year and can't wait to support and celebrate your child's learning journey. I love creating a warm and engaging classroom where students feel confident to explore, grow, and achieve their best. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time outdoors with my kids. I look forward to working together and making this a fantastic year for our Prep students.</p>
<p data-bbox="132 1021 544 1055">Prep B- Bridget Thompson</p> 	<p data-bbox="675 1021 1469 1249">Hello everyone! I am looking forward to getting to know everyone in Prep B and celebrating our learning throughout the year. I have a pet dog named Archie and I enjoy taking him on walks in my spare time. I also enjoy going to the beach and reading. I can't wait for a fun year of learning together!</p>
<p data-bbox="132 1368 443 1402">Prep C- Casey Hunt</p> 	<p data-bbox="675 1368 1469 1671">Hey Prep Families! I am so excited to be teaching Prep this year and learning alongside all the students. I enjoy keeping active by going on walks and heading to the gym. I also like to keep my mind active by reading in my spare time. I have two cats named Binx and Chia who I love with my whole heart. I am looking forward to teaching and learning with Prep C this year and can't wait to celebrate all their milestones together!</p>
<p data-bbox="132 1731 485 1765">Prep D- Deanna Mifsud</p> 	<p data-bbox="675 1731 1474 1995">Hi everyone! My name is Deanna and I am so excited to be teaching Prep D this year. I have been teaching for a while now across different schools but by far GWPS is the best! I love spending time with my husband and two kids, Zoe and Samuel, my new puppy Sonny as well as reading in the spare moments I get. Here's to having a fun filled year of learning!</p>



Introducing the Foundation Team...

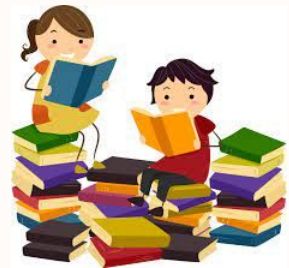
TEACHER NAME:	ABOUT ME:
<p>Prep E - Andrew Warrick</p> 	<p>Hi Prep Families, welcome to Garrang Wilam Primary School. I will be teaching Prep E in 2025, and I'm looking forward to getting to know you all throughout the year. Just a little bit about me, I live with my wife Jess, our 11 month old daughter Isobel and our dog Hugo. I also love playing and watching cricket. I hope your children have a terrific first year of schooling at GWPS.</p>
<p>Prep C (Wednesday) - Kara Claver</p> 	<p>Hello! I am very excited to be working within the Prep space this year. It's such a special milestone for our students as they begin Prep, and it's a privilege to watch them grow and flourish throughout the year. I'll be working in Prep C on Wednesdays. In addition to this, I am a Learning Specialist for Curriculum at GWPS, where I collaborate with other leaders to support the development and implementation of learning across classrooms.</p> <p>I have a son, Olivier, and on the weekends, I love exploring new places, trying new cuisines, and spending time with family and friends. I wish your child all the best for 2025 and beyond!</p>
<p>Alison Gray - Education Support</p> 	<p>Hello. I am super excited to meet all our prep students and their families. One of my favourite parts of the day is greeting and welcoming in all the kids at the door in the morning, so please stop by and say hi. I have been supporting students in prep for the past three years and I am always blown away by how much growth we see every year. I have two children (10 & 12) who love playing basketball and two Golden Retrievers, both who keep me very active. 2025 is going to be a great year.</p>
<p>Sorilah Waikato - Education Support</p> 	<p>Kia Ora, Hello and Welcome to all Prep families! I will be supporting Prep D. I'm looking forward to connecting, supporting and learning more about the students to see them succeed and excel in their first year of school. I have 3 children aged 20, 15 and 10 years old, we enjoy spending time with extended family, going to the beach, pools, making food together and being present. I have one dog and two cats that I absolutely adore.</p>

Literacy



Phonics and Reading

In Term 1, Prep students will begin their journey in Phonics and Reading by learning to recognise and pronounce letter sounds, blend sounds to form simple words, and develop early reading skills. They will explore high-frequency words, practice listening to and identifying sounds in spoken words, and engage with a variety of texts to build their vocabulary and comprehension. Through fun and interactive activities, students will gain confidence in decoding words and understanding basic sentence structures, laying the foundation for lifelong reading success.



Students will engage in an author's study of Alison Lester exploring rhyme, vocabulary and retelling of the stories.



Writing

Many of our Prep students are just starting to learn how to write independently. We guide them to say out loud what they want to write, stretch out the sounds they hear in a word, and then write the letters that match those sounds. At this stage, it's common for students to only write the first sound they hear. This is a normal part of emergent writing, and correct spelling will come as they build their letter and sound knowledge.

This term, the focus will be on retelling stories and naming things they can see through picture prompts. Students will also work on letter formation, correct pencil grip (the static tripod grip is the age-appropriate grip, shown on the right), and developing their fine motor skills through activities using scissors, glue, chalk, tongs, pipe cleaners, and more.

We will also explore CVC words (Consonant-Vowel-Consonant) like cat, tin, and mop as we practice writing these simple words.



Numeracy

This term in numeracy, students will be focusing on learning the days of the week and practicing sequencing them in order. Students will also explore various activities associated with specific days.

In addition, they will strengthen their understanding of numbers by representing them in different ways—whether it be through writing them, creating collections, subitising or identifying the numbers that come before and after.

Students will also follow simple instructions to recognise, copy and continue repeating patterns.



Inquiry





This term in Inquiry students will be inquiring into who they are as people and how they learn best. Students will explore what a positive classroom and school looks, feels and sounds like and what makes a good learner. Students will practise everyday routines that will promote problem solving in everyday school life with a focus on our school values.



School Wide Positive Behaviours and Respectful Relationships

This term Prep students will be introduced to the Zones of Regulation, learning to recognise and identify their own emotions and situations that may evoke these emotions. Students will also identify and describe their personal strengths and identify ways that they can care for others including ways of making and keeping friends.

The **ZONES** of Regulation®

			
BLUE ZONE Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	GREEN ZONE Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	YELLOW ZONE Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	RED ZONE Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control



Lunch Orders and Subway Orders

Subway

Students at GWPS have the opportunity to enjoy Subway twice each term on a particular Friday, with order dates scheduled for Week 3 and Week 7 of each term. Our first Subway Day will take place Friday the 14th of February. To ensure your child's order is included, families must place orders by midnight on the Wednesday of the designated week.

Orders can be placed conveniently through the *Canteen Hub* app. 'How to order' forms are available at the school office or can be accessed below.

Please note, \$1 from every sub ordered will be donated back to the school to support student initiatives.

The subway will be delivered directly to the school on Friday and then dropped off to their class during lunch eating time.

If you have any questions, please speak to Nicole Hovell, Jarrod Bateup or Aaron Floyd.

TK Tuckshop

TK Tuckshop is our lunch order provider at GWPS.

They deliver lunch orders to school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Orders close at midnight the night before. All orders can be made through the 'spriggy schools app'.

TK tuckshop deliver the lunches to school and student's collect them during lunch eating times.

They offer a range of items from fresh pizza to sushi, sandwiches, wraps and more.

You can create an account and register your child to start ordering today.



Canteen Hub

Getting ready to place your first order

- 1 Create a new profile at app.canteenhub.com.au/register-customer or use the QR code.
- 2 Set up children under the profiles tab. If you have more than one child, add them all here. If you already have a log in, you can log in with your details.
- 3 Search for your school via **postcode (3029)** and select from the drop-down list. Select your child's current class.
- 4 Select your class and allergies if any. Click add profile.
- 5 Head to order now.
- 6 Select the person you are ordering for **14th Feb.**
- 7 Select the items and toppings from the approved menu and finalise your order.
- 8 To place orders for multiple students, you will be asked when you finalise your first order if you would like to place another order for another profile (student). Select the other student profiles to complete their order.



Events and Reminders

Hats - Please ensure your child has a wide brim hat to wear during recess and lunch in Term One and Four. If they do not have a hat they will be required to sit in the shade.

Name Labels- A reminder that everything your child brings to school needs to be labelled with their name such as school hats, jumpers, drink bottles, lunch boxes etc.

Drink bottle- Please make sure your child comes to school with a drink bottle each day

Absences - Please update Compass if your child is going to be absent from school.

Spare clothes- Please pack a spare change of clothes in your child's bag in case of toileting accidents.



At Home Learning Focus- Reading:

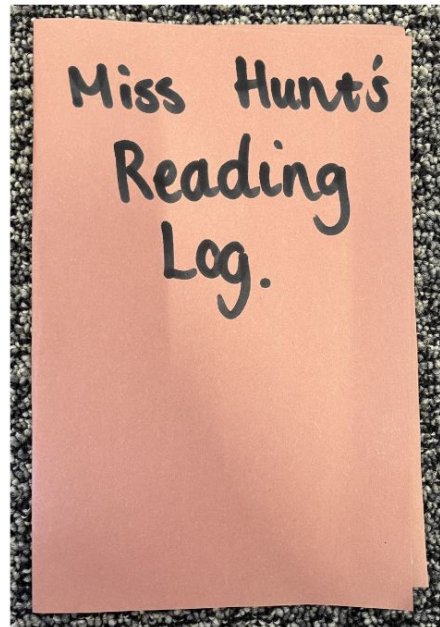
Students are expected to read their take home readers daily and will change their books at the beginning of the week. Students will read the same book for the week to develop their skills and to focus on decoding words. More information will be sent out separately regarding take home reading. Please make sure your child has their **black reading folder** in their school bag.


We highly recommend that parents try to talk about these texts with their children, as this helps to support what students are learning in class as well as bridge communication between home and school.



How to fill in your reading logs neatly:

- Read for 5-10 minutes every day - this can be by yourself or with a family member.
- Write a one sentence comment about the book or get your parents/guardian to help you.
- Teacher will check it everyday!
- We are aiming for 25 nights of reading!



Nights Read	Date	Title	Comment	Teacher Acknowledgement
1	31/1/23	Pig the star	Read independly	
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
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22				
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24				
25				

Congratulations! 25 nights read!!

