Parent Information Sessions for KP, KS, KG, KR and K/1H
Monday 25\textsuperscript{th} February 2013.

We appreciate that in a busy world not all parents will have the flexibility to attend our Meet and Greet
Information session so we trust that the following written information will help to keep you informed.
Further, we look forward to meeting all our parents personally in the not too distant future.

Welcome to Flinders Public School. As your child’s first teachers, you have done an amazing job
going them ready for ‘Big School’. Kindergarten is a critical year, which sets a solid foundation for
future learning. We strive to ensure that every child achieves their personal best; academically, socially,
emotionally and physically. **Strong lines of communication and a genuine, supportive partnership
between school and home are essential for this to occur.** By working together we can do our best to
ensure your child has a memorable year of learning and achievement.

Already, you may have noticed how tired your child is when they get home after school. This is
normal. Going to bed early and eating fresh, healthy foods will help them to concentrate and cope at
school.

We have three main aims-

1. **To foster within your child a growing love of learning.**
2. **To nurture within your child an attitude of ‘I will try’ and to develop confidence within
   your child because they are succeeding at their level of development.**
3. **To develop within your child a sense of belonging, significance and resilience.**

We have four parallel Kindergarten classes this year and one Kindergarten/Year One combined class.
After careful observation your child has been placed in the class we anticipate will be best for their
learning. These classes are not graded.

This term’s topics are Rules (which includes how to share and make friends) School Days, Songs and
Rhymes and Easter. Year One will also study Families.
Organisational Information for 2013

Library: Borrowing began in week 4 (last week). Students should be bringing their library bags on the following days: KP & KS on Monday, **KT on Tuesday**, KR & K1H on Wednesday. Children need to know their surname for Mrs Beedles to record the books they borrow.

Sport Day:  
- **Kinder Sport will be on Wednesdays.**  
- **Year 1 sport will be on Wednesdays in Term 1.**

K-2 Assembly is every Friday 12:15 – 1:00. **Merit certificates are awarded at this assembly.** This is not a parent assembly. Parents are welcome to attend Monday 8:55am assembly and Thursday fortnightly assemblies at 2pm.

Whole School Assembly is every second Thursday.

Homework  
The Department of School Education policy states that Early Stage 1 children do not receive formal homework. Talking and explaining to your child about the world around them, reading, singing, cooking, playing cards or games, writing notes, are all things you can do to enhance your child’s learning. It is also imperative that year one students receive the same rich home experiences. Year 1 will receive spelling and mathematics activities.

Home Readers  
Kindergarten has been bringing home ‘Mums and Dads’ books. This will continue for all of Term 1. Year 1 have begun to take their readers home. Please note that each child’s reading ability will develop at an individual **rate.** At an early reading stage some children may memorise texts. This is acceptable. Readers may also gain meaning from picture clues. This is also valid so please do not cover them.

In Year 1 the children don’t ‘climb’ through the levels as quickly. Please understand that the levels are a guide for teachers and depending on the skill being taught they may choose a level higher or lower than the previous book.

Premiers Reading Challenge  
All Kindergarten and Year One children will be participating in the Premiers Reading Challenge this year. They will be doing this with their class teacher and our Teacher Librarian, Mrs Beedles.

News Days  
Students may bring one thing to show and tell on Fridays.

Absences, Arriving Late, and Leaving Early  
If your child is absent from school, you are required to confirm, in writing, the **reason** for his/her absence. This needs to be given to the class teacher upon your child’s return to school. Purple absent slips are available from the office. If you arrive at school late or intend taking your child early, you are required to sign them in or out at the office before proceeding to the classroom.
**Parent Helpers**
Parent Helpers are a wonderful asset to our classrooms and school. If you would like to volunteer some of your time to help with class activities please see your child's class teacher. For those who did not participate in the Orientation session last year - information about the Parent Helper course will be published in the school newsletter. Because preschoolers can make it difficult for the parent and children to concentrate, I ask if your preschooler is disrupting the learning process or their older sibling that you take them home and try again another day.

**100 Days of School Celebration:** This is a Kindergarten tradition to celebrate 100 days of ‘Big School’. We celebrate at the common across the road from our school with our ‘buddy classes’. We have lots of fun and even invite our favourite teddy bears.

**Excursion:** TBA

**Assembly:** KG & KR are Thursday  
  KS is  
  KP is  
  K1H is in Term 4.

**Reporting and Parent Interviews**
Formal written reporting to parents occurs at the end of Terms 2 and 4. The teacher or parents can request parent interviews. We are also available at other times during the year for meetings. We just ask that you make an appointment should you wish to discuss any matter pertaining to your child so we can do our best to accommodate your request.

We are all looking forward to working with you this year.

Jenny Soccio, Lyn Phelan, Tania Giustiniani, Michelle Richardson, Jo Hallagan and Gail Heap.