



# GALILEE

REGIONAL CATHOLIC  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to  
Galilee



# Why preparing for a smooth transition is so important

When children start school they will be adjusting to new:

- physical environments
- social dynamics
- approaches to learning
- behaviour and academic expectations
- a move from a play-based environment to a more formalised and structured environment
- moving between multiple learning areas around the school
- the length of a school day

# Smooth Transition Tips

- Practise packing and carrying a school bag. Add a key ring
- Practise getting dressed in school uniform and wearing in school shoes.
- Practise opening and closing lunch boxes and containers.
- Practise recognising their name.
- Encourage them to take care of their belongings.
- Encourage independent toileting
- Practise the journey to school to ensure you're on time (both drop off and pick up).
- Arrange playdates with other families at the school.
- Establish positive routines for mornings and evenings.
- Ensure you read school correspondence, newsletters, Dojo posts and check the parent calendar.
- Develop a positive goodbye routine. Encourage independence as early as you can.

# The First Day of School

## The night before

- Help your child to pack their school bag.

Your child will need: labelled drink bottle, hat, lunch and snack, spare underwear.

## In the morning

- Put sunscreen on your child.
- Make sure your child eats breakfast.
- Leave home on time allowing time to say goodbye.
- On your child's first day, bring them to their classroom, take a few photos and once they have settled in, give a short, positive and reassuring goodbye.

## At the end of the day

- Collect your child from the classroom at 3.25

# An example of our school day

## Typical Daily Routine

**8.35 am:** School gate opens

**8.50 am:** School day begins

**8.50-9.50am: Learning Session 1:** Might be Reading, Writing or Maths

**9.50-10.50am: Learning Session 2:** Might be Reading, Writing or Maths

(eating time - 10.35-10.50)

**10.50-11.30am:** Break time- Children play outside

**11.30-12.30pm: Learning Session 3:** Might be Reading, Writing or Maths

**12.30-1.30pm: Learning Session 4:** Investigation time (STEM, Geography, History, Health)/  
Religious Education/Personal, Social and Emotional Development

(eating time - 1:25-1:40)

**1.40-2.20:** Break time- Children play outside

**2.20-3.25: Learning Session 5:** Investigation time (STEM, Geography, History, Health)/  
Religious Education/Personal, Social and Emotional Development

**3.25:** Dismissal

## Specialist Classes

Galilee's specialist classes are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The specialist classes are Performing Arts, Italian (LOTE), Visual Arts and Physical Education. A timetable will be sent out at the beginning of the year.



# What to expect in the first term

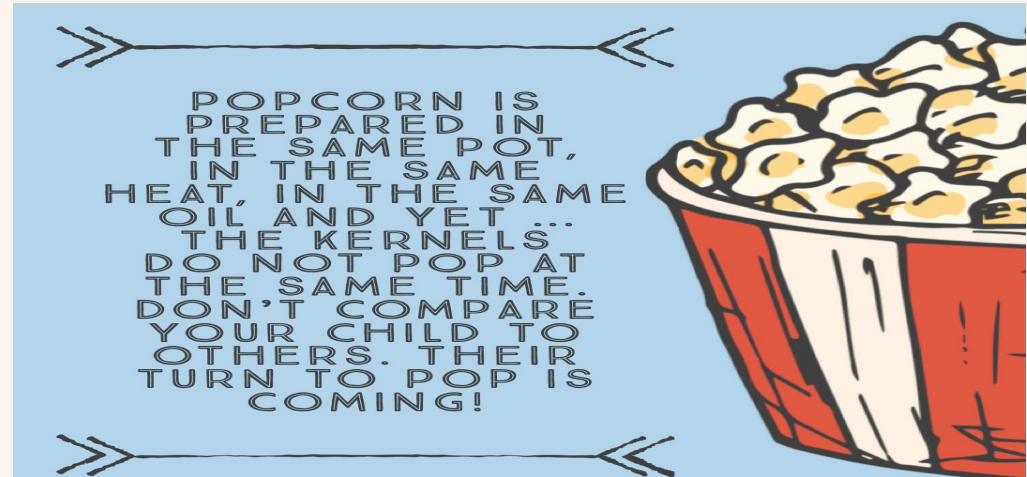
- They might be tired and hungry after school.
- You might see some big emotions at home while they adapt to school life, it can take time for your child to become confident and familiar with the school setting.
- They might not want to tell you everything they did. Try asking “*what was one thing you enjoyed today?*”
- They might not remember their new friend’s name, who they played with or what they played.



# What to expect in the first term

- Don't expect too much of them too soon, all children develop at different rates. Don't compare your child with other children and don't compare other children to your child.

Always remember that all children are on a different learning journeys (emotional, social, academic) and have different strengths and challenges, remember to be understanding and show compassion for all of the children.



# Classroom Communication

- Class Dojo and communication
- Operoo
- Parent calendar and newsletter

The screenshot shows the ClassDojo app interface for a class named 'Prep EF' with 18 students and 26 parents. The top navigation bar includes 'Classroom', 'Portfolios', 'Class Story', and 'Messages'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Students' and 'Groups'. The main area displays a grid of student avatars, each with a name: Whole Class, Aidan, Anna, Audrey, Catherine, Darcey, Darcy, Elena, Harry, Harvey, Henna, Isla, Joshua, Rohan, Scarlett, Sierra, Valen, Valencia, and William. An 'Add students' button is located at the bottom right of the grid.

The screenshot shows the ClassDojo app's 'Please join our classroom community on ClassDojo' screen. The screen is titled 'PARENTS:' and contains two columns of instructions. The left column is titled 'New to ClassDojo?' and lists four steps: 1. Download the ClassDojo app, 2. Open app and tap 'Parent' to create a parent account, 3. Enter name, email & create a password, and 4. Tap 'Add child (+)' and use this code: PVHXJW5V9. The right column is titled 'Already have a Parent Account on ClassDojo?' and lists two steps: 1. Open the ClassDojo app on your phone, and 2. Log in as a Parent (if you aren't already). Ensure you're logged in as a Parent, not a Student or Teacher! It also includes a third step: 3. Tap the 'Kids monster' at the bottom of your screen and then tap 'Add child' and a fourth step: 4. Add child using this code: PVHXJW5V9. Both columns have a button with the code PVHXJW5V9.



# Let's work together

We would appreciate your help by encouraging your child and supporting our Prep program in the following ways:

- Ensure your child has a **clearly named school hat** to wear **each day** in Terms 1 and 4.
- Ensure all belongings are **clearly named** (please check regularly).
- Please provide a **large box of tissues** to share with the class.
- Practise independent toileting and hygiene practices, for example flushing the toilet, **washing hands**.
- Teach your child to tie his/her shoelaces OR wear velcros.
- Keep up to date with **school communication from Dojo, newsletters and the parent calendar**.
- Reply promptly to notices and requests.
- Carefully monitor your **child's health** so we can prevent the spread of sickness.
- Phone the office answering service to explain absences or late arrivals.
- If you are late to school please, take your child to the school office and sign him/her in.
- If you need to collect your child from school early, pick up times are **10.50** and **1.40**
- Notify the office of changes of address, phone numbers, emails and emergency contacts.

# Key Dates in 2024

- Prep students to begin school on **1st of February, 2024**
- During Term 1, the Preps will have a rest day. **The Prep rest days:** 7th February, 14th February, 21st February and the 28th February.
- On these days English & Mathematics assessments will be completed. Please note that you will be emailed details to make a booking for your child to participate in this mandatory testing for a period of one hour on one of the dates listed above.
- **Monday 5th of February, 3.30-5.30pm and Wednesday the 7th of February from 2-5.30pm: Prep Meet the Teacher Conferences.**