



**Thomas Acres Public School**  
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## KINDERGARTEN 2022 INFORMATION

### WELCOME TO THOMAS ACRES PUBLIC SCHOOL

#### Start dates for Kindergarten 2022

**Best Start testing**- Literacy/Numeracy assessment- will take place between **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**. Students with surnames **A-G** on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February**, students with surnames **H-P** on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February** and students with surnames **R-Z** on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**. Best Start Testing will take place before the Kindergarten children officially start school. Your child will be given an **allocated day and time (approximately 2 hours)** to come up to the school so that the Kindergarten teachers have the opportunity to assess the children themselves. **(Your allocated time will be in the Orientation pack)**. This will assist the teachers in observing the learning needs of each individual child. The children's progress will be tracked all through Kindergarten. A Best Start report will be sent home later in Term One so that you can see where your child is placed and it also has ideas on how you can help your child at home.

**School begins for all Kindergarten children on Monday 7th February 2022 at 9.30 am.** Please bring your child to the **school hall**.

**Please pick your child up at 2:30pm for the first 2 weeks (Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February).** They will be walked to the fenced safety area (Sparkle's Yard) at the front of the school. **From Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February, Kindergarten will finish with the rest of the school at 2:55pm.** From this date, the children will be picked up from either the front or back gate. Please ensure you pick up your child from the designated areas and not their classroom or from walkways. This ensures teachers can closely monitor each child as they are picked up.



**School starts at 8:55am from Tuesday 8th February.** For the first few weeks the Kindergarten teachers and senior students will meet your children at the front of the school from 8:40am. We ask that you say goodbye to your child at the front of the school and allow the teachers and senior students to walk your child to the Infants play area. This decreases separation anxiety and helps them get into school routines more quickly.

**Allocation of classes-** your child may not be allocated a set class or class teacher for the first week. We are going to focus on play-based learning and readiness skills for the first week, where the children will all have an opportunity to socialise together and work with all of the Kindergarten teachers. This will enable the teachers to observe the student's interactions and ability levels so that we can form classes that will best meet your child's needs.

**Lunches and recess-** your child will need a lunchbox and drink bottle. Please ensure that all your **child's items are clearly labelled with their name**. Please don't pack too much food. Let your child know what is packed for lunch (sandwich and snack), fruit break and recess (snack). During the holidays practise unwrapping cling wrap, opening containers, drink bottles and packets of food etc.

**Clothing-** Please ensure your child's clothing is **clearly labelled** with their name. This will save your child and their teacher a great deal of confusion.

**Separate playtimes** - for the first 2 weeks, Kindergarten will have different playtimes to the rest of the school. This helps children to socialise with their classmates without being overwhelmed by the rest of the school.

**Canteen** - we ask that Kindergarten children **DO NOT** order from the canteen for the first 2 weeks due to their separate eating and playtimes. After this time, they will be able to order their lunch and buy from the canteen during playtime. A price list and details for online ordering are in the Orientation pack.

**Helpful Information-** If your child has attended Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, a Paediatrician or any other specialist service could you please provide the school copies of any reports. This will assist us in best meeting your child's learning needs.

**Communication** Please keep an eye out for further updates and information regarding Kindergarten 2022 via our school's:

- website - <https://thomasacre-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>
- facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/pg/ThomasAcresPublicSchool/posts/>
- **Seesaw** – Seesaw is a wonderful tool for us to be able to provide you with photos of what is happening inside the classrooms and to be able to communicate messages to you. You will need to download the app and the school will provide you with a personal QR code.

We look forward to seeing you in 2022!

Mr Pope (Principal)

Mrs Bryce (Assistant Principal Early Stage One)

Early Stage One teachers

