Transition Programme
Term 2 2011
Welcome to the **Transition to School Programme** we offer at O’Sullivan Beach School.

At O’Sullivan Beach School, we believe that Transition to School is one of the most significant transition points in a person's life. Effective Transition to School can provide continuity for young children and assist them to develop resilience as they move from one learning environment to another.

Research shows that children who have a positive start to school are likely to engage well and to experience academic and social success. Children's perceptions of themselves as learners, and as someone who belongs at school, are often formed early in their schooling. Our Transition to School programme will assist in children achieving a positive start to school.

At O’Sullivan Beach School, our transition programme builds on children's prior learning and develops strong links between parents, prior to school and school. We believe there is much to be learned from families and preschool services about what children already know when they enter our school.

Our transition to school programme usually involve activities for the children as well as parent information sessions, workshops or **getting to know you** opportunities. Transition programmes work most effectively when parents participate for short sessions in the programme with their children. Preschool staff are also invited to participate in activities as this helps the beginning of a collaborative partnership between schools, parents, preschool services and where relevant other community organisations.

How is our school environment different to a preschool setting?
There are many differences however, the main differences we focus on include:

- academic expectations of school
- the physical environment of school
- communication strategies between teachers and families
- social environments at school
- classroom practice that underpinnings teaching and learning

When children start school they move from a play-based environment to a more formal learning environment. There are many more people and relationships for children to navigate and the physical surroundings are often quite different. We recognise the nature of these differences and build in experiences and understandings to accommodate them.

We hope you and your child find our programme to be a smooth, informative, friendly and settling one and we look forward to getting to know your child’s learning needs over the next 5 weeks.

Sally Menadue
Principal, O’Sullivan Beach School
**Visit 1 – Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} of June**  
9:00am–10:30am

- Children to be dropped off at Children’s Centre at 8:40 and walked over to O’Sullivan Beach School by Children’s Centre staff (to ensure smoother transition, we encourage children to kiss family members ‘goodbye’ from the Children’s Centre)

- Family members can collect their children from the transition classroom at 10.30am (unless prior arrangements have been made with the Children’s Centre).

- Children will need to bring a piece of fruit for snack time.

**Visit 2 – Thursday 9\textsuperscript{th} of June**  
9:00am–11:30am

- Children to be dropped off at Children’s Centre at 8:40 and walked over to O’Sullivan Beach School by Children’s Centre staff (to ensure smoother transition, we encourage children to kiss family members ‘goodbye’ from the Children’s Centre)

- Family members can collect their children from the transition classroom at 11.30am (unless prior arrangements have been made with the Children’s Centre).

- Children will need to bring recess with them.

  (This visit will include our normal 20 minute recess break time)

**Visit 3 – Wednesday 15\textsuperscript{th} of June**  
1:40pm – 3:10pm

- Children to attend Children’s Centre and eat lunch before coming to school (prior arrangements to be made with Children’s Centre).

- Children will be walked over by Kindy staff at 1:15pm (to ensure smoother transition, we encourage children to kiss family members ‘goodbye’ from the Children’s Centre)

- Family members to pick up children from school at 3:10pm – meet child at eastern door.

  (This visit will give children the opportunity to experience afternoon lessons  
  Please note, due to the Children’s Centre Launch, visit 3 is on a Wednesday.)
Visit 4 – Thursday 23rd of June
12:00pm - 3:10pm

- Children to attend morning kindy session and walked over by Children’s Centre staff at 12:00 (to ensure smoother transition, we encourage children to kiss family members ‘goodbye’ from the Children’s Centre)

- Children will need to bring a packed lunch with them.

- Family members to pick up children from school at 3:10pm – meet child at eastern door.
  (This visit includes a lesson before lunch, lunch and afternoon lessons)

Visit 5 – Week 10

- Transition teacher to visit Kindy children during week 10 at a time negotiated with the Children’s Centre staff.

Family Information sessions: (all held in the O’Sullivan Beach School staffroom)

**Thursday 9th June 9.30am – 10.25am:**
- Families are invited to attend an information session about the Literacy programmes offered in our Junior Primary classes

**Wednesday 15th June 11.00am – 11.30am:**
- Families are invited to meet some of our school staff – Ms Lynn Wilson, our school Counsellor and Mrs. Lorna Rowe, one of our SSO’s and our family/school community liaison.

**Thursday 23rd June 2.30pm – 3.10pm:**
- Families are invited to meet Sally Menadue, Principal O’Sullivan Beach School. Please consider any questions you may have to discuss.

1st day of school

**Monday 25th of July, 8.40am**

- Your child’s 1st day of school next term will be on Monday the 25th of July, 2011.

- Please meet at the eastern door at 8:30am - 8:40am for welcoming morning assembly.
Some Important Information for Children & Families When Starting School.

- Before your child begins school there are many things you can do at home to help them adjust to school routines and expectations. These include helping your child to recognise his/her name, have some awareness of numbers and letters, practice cutting, gluing and colouring and work on independent toileting.

- Please remember to pack enough food for your child’s day at school, it is better to have some return home at the end of the day than have a hungry child (this will usually include a bottle of water, a sandwich, a healthy snack such as fruit, recess and something ‘extra’ - just in case).

- Please remember to label EVERYTHING; this should include bags, jumpers, hats, lunch containers etc.

- Expect that your child may be quite tired in the 1st weeks of school, please see your child’s teacher if you feel days off or early afternoons are needed.

- Please try and be on time when picking your child up after school, this will minimize any stress your child may experience.