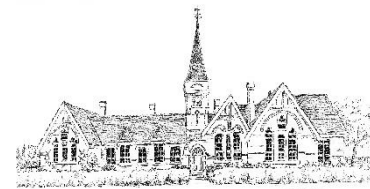


ARMADALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

DENSHAM ROAD, ARMADALE 3143

Phone: 9822 7003 Facsimile: 9824 8954 Email: armadale.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au



Monday 17th August 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well. It has been such a challenging time for all of us and I wanted to reach out and offer you all some sense of relief and assurances with the concerns around your children being "ready for school" in 2021.

I am sure I can speak for all of our local government schools that we understand the anxiety around children not having attended their number of sessions this year that they normally would. Your concerns are that they are "behind" or "not yet ready" or won't cope in a highly structured school environment.

In recognising this at APS, we will "slow down" our transition to life in school in Term 1 2021 and ease all of the children into the learning environment and ensuring our curriculum delivery is adaptive and flexible to cater for every child's needs. The most important space for children when starting school is to feel positive both socially and emotionally and to play and make connections with new friends. Once we have them engaged, their learning and development flourishes from then. Our school philosophy is all about honouring the child and our pedagogical practices values the growth of every individual learner.

We will nurture, embrace and be responsive to every child who comes to us, no matter if they have completed a full year or not of kinder. As children's first teachers you will be surprised just how much they already know and how ready they are for ongoing learning. Unlike many adults, children are highly resilient and have an intuitive growth mindset, and we will continue to develop in them the dispositions that enable them to be great learners.

Of course if your kinder teacher has advised that your child is best suited to another year at kinder then you are best advised by them.

But if your child is developmentally ready and you are still wavering in your decisions to start school and would like some more advice, please don't hesitate to email me at rochelle.cukier@education.vic.gov.au or feel free to ring the school on 9822 7003 and I will happily return your call.

Kind regards

Rochelle

Rochelle Cukier

Principal

Armadale Primary School