

Top Ten Transition Tips For Families



Starting Primary School

- 1 **Talk to your child about starting school.** What is the name of the school? Let them know the ways that school is different from kinder. Talk about how exciting it is to be starting school.
- 2 **Talk with your child about their school uniform (if there is one) for the following year.** Have a practice putting on the uniform. Practice putting on and taking off their school shoes – doing up buckles or laces.
- 3 **Read stories about starting school.** Eg. *The Transition to Primary School story book; 'Blue Bear Gets Ready For School.'*
- 4 **Show your child their lunch box and drink bottle and practice making lunches together.** Let your child have a go at opening any packaging that may be difficult eg. A cheese stick wrapper, mandarin skin. Ask the school what they call morning recess time eg. Play lunch, snack time or little lunch. Make sure your child is familiar with all the terms used and what they might eat at each break.
- 5 **Look at the ipad / iphone app 'starting school' in the *Transition to Primary School* kit.**
- 6 **Take your child to visit the school on a weekend,** get familiar with the play equipment and where things are like the office, toilets and the drink taps.
- 7 **Have your child attend all the orientation sessions that the school offers.** Ask for more orientation for your child if you feel they need it.
- 8 **Introduce yourself to your child's classroom teacher.**
- 9 **Label your child's belongings** – school bag, lunch box, drink bottle, FM system, clothes etc. Can they read their name? Can they recognise their own belongings?
- 10 **On the first day let your child know you're leaving but you're coming back to collect him / her later. Don't forget your camera!**