Welcome to Kindergarten for 2017! It is such an exciting time for our very youngest of students as they begin their educational journey. We have a busy term ahead, with plenty of time to engage in many activities that will give our young students the best possible start to their school career. We understand that beginning Kindergarten can be a very daunting time for some of our little people, which is why the first few weeks of this term we will focus predominantly on making sure that our Kindergarteners feel welcome and safe, so that school is a place they are excited to come to each day. While we settle into school, we will be busy making new friends, learning the classroom routines and joining in fun activities.

This term we will focus on developing a strong sense of self through our theme ‘Marvellous Me! We will be learning about ourselves, our senses, families and our bodies. God has made every one of us unique and special. Later on in the term we will begin looking at different fairytales.

Literacy

Developing strong oral language skills is the main component of our Literacy learning this term. We will be sharing and retelling stories, as well as learning how to be a good listener and speaker. The students will begin object-based news in week 4. We will also be looking at how sentences are made up of individual words, how words are made up of syllables and sounds and rhyming words.
Mathematics
In Mathematics we will be learning about numbers. We will practise counting objects carefully and assigning a number value to each count. We will subitise - find ways we can recognise how many in a group without having to count each object. We will look at patterns in our environment and create patterns of our own. The students will also be given multiple opportunities to develop their understanding of measurement by describing, ordering and comparing different objects. We will also start playing with money by setting up shops in our classroom.

Social Skills
Our social skills will be developed through play-based experiences that focus on several key areas. To begin with we will learn how to greet people politely. We will learn about the taking turns, this is important when speaking and listening as a part of a conversation and when we are playing. Sharing will be another major focus in our classroom this term. We will also look at the ways we can use our manners to ask for help when needed. Each of these skills will be explicitly modelled and discussed as a part of our daily routine, as well as being reinforced throughout each day.

Religious Education
In Religious Education we will begin to understand that God loves us and has made us special and unique. We will learn how to make the sign of the cross and how to say our special classroom prayers.

The children and the teachers are very excited to be in kindy this year!