Dear Parents,

Our school values our parent and school community and we are seeking your assistance to support our students' learning in the areas of Investigations and Literacy. The success of our programs is complimented by the assistance of parents, grandparents or guardians, as helpers during our learning times.

As you may be aware our Prep - 2 classes now begin most days with INVESTIGATIONS - based on The Walker Learning Approach, which is a personalised, investigative play-based approach to learning. The approach uses developmentally appropriate ways of helping to engage children in truly meaningful and relevant strategies that enhance not only literacy (particularly the development of oral language skills) and numeracy, but motivation, self-esteem and the development of life-long skills. See http://walkerlearning.com.au for further details. If you were assisting in the classroom during Investigations time we would ask that you interact with the students and support and scaffold their learning.

Literacy learning incorporates the English strands of Reading and Viewing, Writing and Speaking and Listening. The formal teaching in these areas generally follows Investigations, but may vary due to individual class timetables. Classroom helpers assist the classroom teacher by helping and supporting children with a variety of Learning Centre activities as planned by the teacher.

Your assistance in either or both of these learning areas would be required on a selected day on a regular basis, generally for an hour in between 9 and 11 OR and 11.45 and 1.45. This would be negotiated with your child’s class teacher depending on your availability and the teacher's/students’ needs, once you have attended one of the Classroom Helper sessions, detailed below.

In order to assist teachers, it is necessary to have attended an information session outlining the expectations and demands of your role as a classroom helper. This year, our Classroom Helpers sessions will be held on Friday, 20th March from 9.00 am to 11.00 am and Wednesday, 25th March from 1.00 to 3.00 pm in the school’s Theatrette (which is located in the office building). Please note, you only need to attend one session. If you have previously attended a Literacy Helper session you are not required to attend the Classroom Helper sessions, but you are more than welcome to attend, particularly if you would like to be informed on ways to support learning during Investigation time.

Due to the commitment required by your role as a Classroom Helper, we ask that no toddlers accompany parents at this time, nor when assisting in the classroom. Morning/afternoon tea will be provided. You may also wish to consider organising your Working With Children Check as this is a requirement for all parents assisting with school-based activities. However, it is not necessary that you have this before our Classroom Helpers sessions.

If you will be attending ONE of the Classroom Helper sessions, please complete the appropriate form below and return it to your child’s classroom teacher or Mrs Rita Dubowik at the office by Friday, 6th March.
However, if you would like to become a Classroom Helper, but are unable to attend either of these sessions, please contact the office (or myself) and we may be able to organise alternative arrangements.

Your contribution and commitment to the learning of our students is much appreciated and valued and I look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Dubowik
Prep and One Learning Leader

CLASSROOM HELPER SESSION Friday, 20th MARCH, 2015 (9 - 11am)
I am available to attend the Parent Helper Information Session.

Name_________________________________________Contact Phone No._______________________

I have/do not have a WWCC (Working with Children Check). Please circle one.

Child’s/Children’s (Prep – 2 only):
Name_________________________________________Grade__________
Name_________________________________________Grade__________

CLASSROOM HELPER SESSION Wednesday, 25th MARCH, 2015 (1 - 3pm)
I am available to attend the Parent Helper Information Session.

Name_________________________________________Contact Phone No._______________________

I have/do not have a WWCC (Working with Children Check). Please circle one.

Child’s/Children’s (Prep – 2 only):
Name_________________________________________Grade__________
Name_________________________________________Grade__________