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Learning Areas are child-friendly places, with colourful displays of children’s work, learning materials and books, computers, and construction materials and art supplies - all of which children find inviting and stimulating.

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The focussed teaching strategies and practices used in our school accommodate the variations in the learning needs and styles of our students. Teachers plan the curriculum with a student-centred approach through the application of new teaching strategies and learning theories with a strong focus on developing high expectations of students as learners.

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• build skills and attitudes which transfer to other contexts
• engender skills of good thinking and language development reinforce each other
• to encourage children to pay attention to what goes on in their own experience and to reflect on issues that matter to them
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• to assist children to find ways to connect their own thoughts/ideas with those of others, so that they can build a coherent understanding of the world and their experience of it
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Jen McCrabb
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• build skills and attitudes which transfer to other contexts
• engender skills of good thinking and language development reinforce each other
• to encourage children to pay attention to what goes on in their own experience and to reflect on issues that matter to them
• to promote and develop thinking skills, especially higher order thinking skills
• to assist children to find ways to connect their own thoughts/ideas with those of others, so that they can build a coherent understanding of the world and their experience of it
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• build skills and attitudes which transfer to other contexts
• engender skills of good thinking and language development reinforce each other
• to encourage children to pay attention to what goes on in their own experience and to reflect on issues that matter to them
• to promote and develop thinking skills, especially higher order thinking skills
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*Jen McCrabb*
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Thank you for taking an interest in St Kilda Park Primary School.
Dear Parents,

Thank you for considering St Kilda Park Primary School in your quest to find the best possible learning environment for your child. At any time you can speak with Jen McCrabb (Principal), Andrew Schneider (Assistant Principal) Jenny King (Business Manager), Nova Whitehead (Office Manager) if you require further information.

**Primary School - Early Years**

The purpose of primary school is to give your child a foundation of knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviours and values necessary for further learning. In St Kilda Park Primary School there is a particularly strong emphasis on students achieving high standards in literacy and numeracy. At the same time, children are encouraged to be confident and excited about learning and life through our Philosophy Program and rich Arts Programs.

**The Early Years Learning Areas**

The Early Years Learning Area is an exciting and stimulating place where your child will be challenged and supported. As part of the Learning Area, your child will read books, and learn how to write well and solve mathematical problems with their teacher. Children are encouraged to make sense of the world around them through real-life experiences.

Learning Areas are child-friendly places, with colourful displays of children’s work, learning materials and books, computers, and construction materials and art supplies - all of which children find inviting and stimulating.

Teachers are skilled at observing children during the normal school day activities. Teachers also ask children to perform certain tasks so they can assess their development, particularly in literacy and numeracy. Your prep child is assessed in a range of tasks that are more like fun and games activities than ‘tests’. The specialist team, including Art, Craft, Performing Arts and Italian and Library provide a very comprehensive curriculum to cater for differing learning attributes of your child.

The focussed teaching strategies and practices used in our school accommodate the variations in the learning needs and styles of our students. Teachers plan the curriculum with a student-centred approach through the application of new teaching strategies and learning theories with a strong focus on developing high expectations of students as learners.

We build quality relationships based on respect, value and care. Teachers will take the time to get to know and understand students, not only in an educational sense but also in a wider social and personal sense. We will continue to engender school community partnerships with parents and the broader community to encompass a thorough knowledge of the school and its programs that are enriched and engaging for all. Parent Helpers are strongly encouraged in all Learning Areas and in many other areas around the school.

**Technology in the Learning Areas**

Reading, writing and mathematics will always be important in education, and technology can be vital tools to help students better interact with these fundamental skills. Knowing how to use technology also forms part of the skill set students need for life in the 21st century. St Kilda Park Primary School provides an innovative learning environment so that all students have great opportunities to succeed. We have many technological devices that enhance the rich learning experiences for all students.
Further Information
If you wish for your child to attend St Kilda Park Primary we will give you an Information Booklet which provides you with information you will need to prepare your child for primary school at SKiPPS. The information in this booklet gives you with a snapshot of the valuable opportunities available to students who attend St Kilda Park Primary School. It outlines some of the innovative programs and activities that aim to make school engaging, gives your child a real thirst for learning, and prepares him or her for the future. The Information Book also has useful information to help you become involved in your child’s education.

The school is proud of its transition programs to ensure children enter, move through and exit the school in a supportive environment from all agencies involved. We have an established and consistent application of the approach to student management and engagement across the school. Teachers create an environment where students’ comments are acknowledged, their different opinions are respected and valued and where children feel safe and happy at school.

Information appraising each child’s individual needs, both academically and emotionally is passed onto the next year’s class teacher through tracking the achievement of students in the expected Victorian Essential Learning Standards, which encompasses the holistic child. We will smooth the transition from one year level to the next through continuing development of an agreed ‘handover’ protocol, including sharing of information, reports, specific student data in consultation with parents.

St Kilda Park Primary School
St Kilda Park Primary School is supported by a strong and solid educational system, so you can be confident that state-wide standards in education are maintained. Our school has the flexibility to tailor its programs to meet the individual needs of students and the local community.

St Kilda Park Primary School is an important part of our local community. Not only do the students usually live locally, but the people who make schools work - parents, principals, teachers and other staff and school councils - work hard to involve and connect with their community.

Please consider visiting our school in the near future to discuss your child’s educational opportunities. If you wish to make further enquiries about St Kilda Park Primary School please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Jen McCrabb
Principal

Ethos
The school has chosen to encourage individualism and the development of community relationships, teachers are addressed by first names; all Year Six students are leaders and there is no school uniform.

This is accompanied by an emphasis on participation and the principles of equal opportunity are paramount within the school at both student and staff levels. The underlying principles of the Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2008 are embraced and applied at all levels of school organisation. St Kilda Park provides a secure, stimulating and nurturing environment in which children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour and to respect the rights and needs of others. The school is committed to helping children reach their full potential and celebrates all worthwhile pursuits and achievements. The school is relatively small and the size is regarded as a significant contributor to the creation of a strong sense of community.

Defining the Learning Culture of St Kilda Park Primary School
St Kilda Park Primary School community seeks to develop an inclusive, creative and reflective learning culture. This culture connects children to their world by engaging and equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to become valued members of the community.

The School acknowledges that it has a significant role to play in nurturing and developing social competencies in children as the essential foundation for all learning.
Values guiding community life, teaching and learning at St Kilda Park Primary School

The following core values are reflected in all aspects of school life and contribute to a sense of common purpose within the school community:

**Respect  Creativity  Enthusiasm  Resilience**

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The school community has a strong artistic orientation and high levels of participation in sport/physical activity which is well supported. The school maintains a strong focus on Visual and Performing Arts, Languages Other Than English (Italian), Philosophy, a love of Literacy in the Library, newly implemented Kitchen Garden program and Creating a Positive School Environment (CAPSE).

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