

Welcome to Country

Mrs Campbell to run National Anthem

TED music and intro clip play on projector

Speaker 1: What if I was to tell you that surviving primary school wasn't as hard as you think it is. Sounds impossible, right? Well, we're here today to prove it's not.

Hi, I'm (_____) and I'm (10, 11 years old) and in my final year of primary school- Year 6! And this is my fellow Year 6 peer (____). Say "Hi," (____) Oh, and this is our other friend, (____) These two will take you through how to survive the first two years of primary school. Get ready for Year 1 with (____). Don't worry, I'll be back later to check in with you all. See you soon.

Speaker 2: Our talk today is about some powerful things YOU kids can DO and DON'T do throughout each age group of schooling. Our parents, grandparents and our fellow Year 6's have ALL survived primary school and we are here to tell the tales of how we did so.

Speaker 3: We thought we would give you some inside secret tips I We know not all kids are as lucky to hear these, so consider yourselves secret spies in the world of 'growing up and thriving' at Winthrop Primary School.

Speaker 2: Thanks to scientists, we now know just how important the first years of schooling are for our health and development, especially our brains. We all started learning long before we were even born, from inside our mummy's tummy. By the time we were ready for formalised schooling our parents had completed the hard job of getting us ready for educational life at Winthrop.

Speaker 3: Let's cast our mind's back to the first days of Year 1 and 2. These are the crucial secret tips you need to DO and DON'T's. Let's revisit Years 2017 and 2018.

2018 tune plays out while students enter on stage and freeze.

YEAR 1 SKIT PLAYS OUT

DON'T's

Then

Do's

2019 tune plays out while students enter on stage and freeze.

YEAR 2 SKIT PLAYS OUT

DON'T's

Then

Do's

Speaker 4: Let's hear about some stellar student's who have shown some fantastic progress in the beginning weeks of their new year groups.

Welcome Mr/Mrs (Duffall/Fletcher) to present the merit awards.

MERITS LOWER AND UPPER PRESENTED

TED music and intro clip play on projector

Speaker 4: So, let's talk more about our brains. The blue bag is a rough size and weight of a healthy baby's brain at birth. The red one is a baby's brain after the first year. It almost doubles in volume. And by my age, it's almost 90 percent the volume of an adult brain. Our brains develop faster in our early years than at any other time in our lives. It can create up to one million neural connections every second.

Speaker 5: All of this can't happen without 6 crucial elements in our lives. Our healthy development depends on these top five things, One, connecting; two, talking; three, playing; four, a healthy home, five; community and six education. All of this helps our brains and us reach our full potential.

Speaker 4: Someone who oversees we reach our full potential is our principal Mrs Meldrum. Let's welcome her to address out assembly...Next up, the DO's and DON'T's of Year 3 and 4.

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

TED music and intro clip play on projector

Speaker 6: So what's something you can do that can really make a difference? Scientists call it serve and return. That's just a grown-up way of saying connect, talk and play with us. This is something teacher's at Winthrop are exceptional at. And here's the really big news.

Mr Knoth, (smallest Year 6 child) you ready? (both nod)

Watch as one of the most requested teachers in the school Mr Knoth interacts in a simple game of basketball skills with (_____)

Simple skills training teaches empathy, building upon vocabulary and memory and creates trust.

Mr Knoth and student do simple skills drills talking and responding, laughing etc- for 15 seconds.

Speaker 7: Each time an adult talks with us, plays with us or makes us laugh, not only builds and strengthens our relationships and mental health, it actually teaches us some of the most important life skills. Making friends, to taking the test, to getting a job, to one day maybe even starting a family of our own. Interactions early and often matter. Take it from me, the ten-year-old up here talking about brain science.

(Laughter)

OK, now let's see what happens when the connection is taken away.

CHILD CONTINUES TO THROW THE BALL, DRIBBLE AROUND MR KNOTH BUT HE IS IGNORING HIM, ON HIS IPAD.

Speaker 7: So now he's trying to get his adult's attention again. He's reaching out like, "That was fun, why have you stopped?"

(student looks confused and sad)

I know it's important for adults to use their devices sometimes, but kids are hardwired to seek out meaningful connections, not receiving them causes confusion and stress. OK, Mr K please re-engage.

Speaker 6: Let's take a look at some powerful DO's and DON'T'S of Year 3 and Year 4. Let's cast our minds back to 2019 and 2020.

2020 tune plays out while students enter on stage and freeze.

YEAR 3 SKIT PLAYS OUT

DON'T's

Then

Do's

2021 tune plays out while students enter on stage and freeze.

YEAR 4 SKIT PLAYS OUT

DON'T's

Then

Do's

TED music and intro clip play on projector

Speaker 8: We now find ourselves in the final years of primary schooling, where our brains are nearly fully grown. It's crazy how time flies when you are learning from mistakes, making connections with new people and learning all different skills from social/emotional- to curriculum based learning experiences.

Let's revisit Year 5, 2022, where kids are starting to feel like they've got this 'schooling thing' down to a tee.

2022 tune plays out while students enter on stage and freeze.

YEAR 4 SKIT PLAYS OUT

DON'T's

Then

Do's

Speaker 9: Back in 2022, those Year 5's really thought they had it all figured out. So much so that Christmas school holidays reeeeeaaaaaalllllyyyy dragged for the new future Year 6's of 2023. There was attitude given to parents, kids bored out of their brains, sibling arguments, excessive need for hanging out with friends, avoiding home chores and sneaking iPad time to get onto (Minecraft * * * whatever else is popular.)

Speaker 10: Parents sure were glad to start the year off for their new Year 6 children...But some weren't sure how well they would adjust to the first few weeks of school...Infact, every year- our Upper Primary teachers always wonder whether their new students are ready to learn, or are coming in with BIG YEAR 6 energy.

Here's how some kids always are ready to start Year 6 as they think there's nothing else to learn...Take note of the lack of enthusiasm, fun and attitudes of this group. Here's how to NOT start Year 6!

Group of students to enter stage, kicking rubbish bins, pushing each other, looking generally miserable to freeze.

WEDNESDAY ADAMS DANCE STARTS. Kids are all seated in different year groups and stand up as at different intervals to join in the dance. There will be a main group who come on the stage

initially who will stay to lead dance (these kids will be good dancers.)

Mr D stands on stage at the end and points for them all to get off stage and sit down...They all walk off miserably.

Speaker 1: Hi, me again...As you can see we have travelled through the year groups to bring you some hot tips about all of the DO's and DON'T'S of schooling here at Winthrop. But we haven't quite finished... As we saw, some Year 6's needed an attitude adjustment.

We will now see how how students have turned their opinions around to be open to change, learning, new connections and be ready to take on challenges.

YEAR 6 SKIT PLAYS OUT

DO'S

ALL STUDENTS SKIP OFF TO A CHEERFUL SONG.

Speaker 1: Thanks for coming to our TED Talk. We hope you have taken away some secret tips that will help you all get through your future schooling.

Please listen to your brilliant teachers.