



**ACT**  
Government



# My first day at big school

Written by Garly Gange



The Education Directorate acknowledges the Ngunnawal People as the Traditional Custodians of the ACT and region upon which we live and work. We pay respect to the United Ngunnawal Elders Council and to Elders both past and present of the Ngunnawal Nation for they hold the hopes and dreams for the future of the ACT and surrounding region.

We value the diverse contributions that our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues make to our Directorate.

We also acknowledge and pay respect to the Wreck Bay peoples as custodians of the lands on which Jervis Bay School is located.

# My first day at big school

**A book for little people and their families  
and friends about starting primary school.**



"See you tomorrow at big school!"

"We're kindergarteners now."

Otto's preschool friends  
were so excited about  
starting big school.







But Otto wasn't excited.  
His tummy felt funny and  
his hands were sweaty.

Otto was scared.



Everything would  
be different.

The classrooms, the teachers,  
the toilets, the lockers, the bag  
hooks, even the playground.



"What's wrong  
Otto?" asked Mum.

"I don't want to go,  
I want to stay in  
preschool," said Otto.





"It's okay to be worried and scared,"  
said Mum.

"I get scared when I go to new places too.  
Do you know what helps me?" asked Mum.

"What?"  
asked Otto.



"Talking about what  
it will be like and  
practising getting ready,"  
explained Mum.

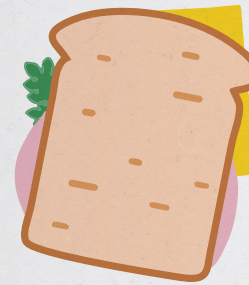


"First, let's try on your uniform," said Mum.



"Now, why don't we pack your bag?" said Mum.

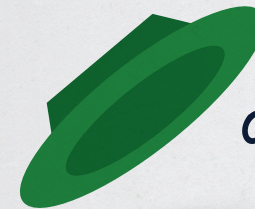
"Here are all the things we'll pack:"



Your snack  
and lunch



your water  
bottle



a hat



a change of  
clothes, just  
in case



"On the first day, I'll take you in the morning. I'll give you a big, squishy cuddle and blow you a kiss."



"And I'll catch it!" said Otto.  
"That's right," laughed Mum.



"Then you'll go into your classroom. Remember when we visited? Your teacher will show you where to put your bag and hat and where the toilets are."



"And where the playground is!" added Otto.

"That's right," laughed Mum.

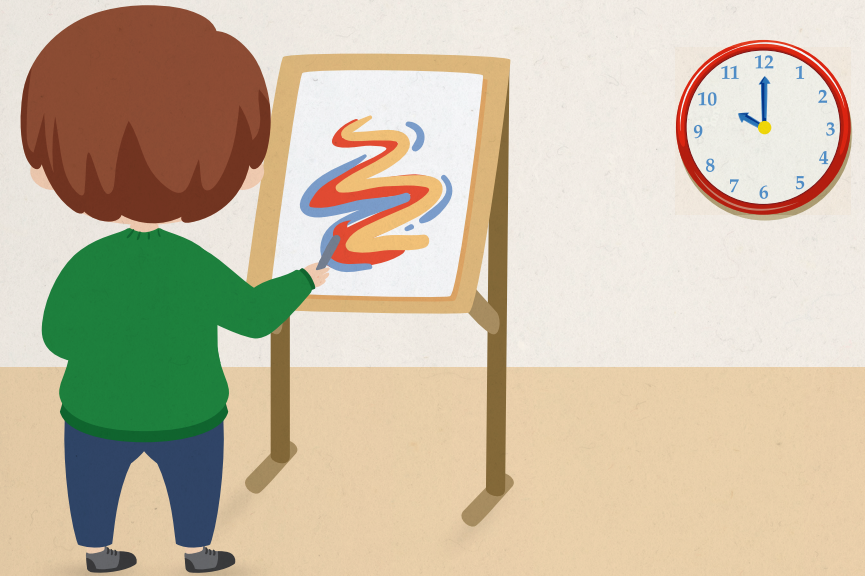


"Wait, wait, wait, will George and Eva be there?" asked Otto.



"They will! And you'll get to meet new friends too, just like you did in preschool," said Mum.

"You'll get to do so many fun things, like painting, listening to stories and singing."



"And playing on the playground!" added Otto.

"That's right," laughed Mum.





"Then at the end of the day, I'll be waiting there to pick you up and to hear all about your day."

"And bring me a snack," said Otto.

"That's right," laughed Mum.



"Now hop into bed so you're  
ready for your first day."

It's going to be such a good  
first day at kindergarten.







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