Developing Independence and Self-Confidence

- On the first two days of school, the students have many new things to bring and organise. We encourage parents to come into the rooms for a short while and help their child unpack their belongings, find their seat and locker as well as their bag hook etc.

- After the first two days we like the students to develop an understanding of our morning routines and develop the confidence to organise their own belongings without help.

- Encourage your child to line up by themselves ready for the bell, carry their own bags and wave goodbye. The students become very good at organising themselves and we take things slowly.

- We encourage students to say their goodbyes outside and remember all the new experiences throughout the day to talk to mums and dads about at pick up time. We find that sometimes students have trouble separating from parents if you come inside as well after the first couple of days.

Things to try if your child has trouble separating from you.

- Quite often, children will take their cues from their parents. Explain what you expect them to do, the processes of school mornings. We know it's hard at times but the students settle quite quickly once you are gone.

- Reinforce that you will be picking them up at the end of the day and some of the things you might talk about.

- Maybe make up a sticker chart for mornings, leading up to something special you could do together. We often make up sticker charts for the room to help also.

- Stay in the car and get them to come in with older brother and sisters… (of course you couldn't possibly come out as other cars are waiting to park). Discuss how you are looking forward to coming into the room at home time so they can show you around and talk about their day.

- Organise for them to walk to school with another adult or drive to school with friends etc. This could be a great opportunity for any grandparents who would like to be more involved… maybe they could walk or drive to school with them in the mornings.