

The Kookaburra Gazette

Newsletter of Miranda Public School



Term 1 – Week 4

21 February 2018

Principal's Report

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in our Swimming Carnival on February 8th. Selected students will represent our school at the Zone Swimming carnival on Thursday 1st June.

Thank you to Mr Williams for organising the successful carnival.

Peer Support

Our peer support *Leader in Me* program began on Tuesday. We are looking forward to watching our Peer Leaders build their leadership skills as the program continues throughout the year.

Congratulations to Mr Skene, Mrs Townsend, Miss McMillan and Mrs Isaacs who planned the program and trained students for the successful implementation of this worthwhile project.

Parent Meet the teacher Meetings

Thank you to all of the parents who attended Tuesday's meetings.

Meet the Teacher sessions are an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, hear about the learning programs planned for the year and talk about any organisational details you need to be aware of. If you were unable to attend the Meeting on Tuesday, class teachers will send information sheets home with students, which detail class organisation.

Parent teacher Interviews

Interviews will be conducted in weeks 10 and 11 of this term, which will provide an opportunity for parents to meet individually with their child's teacher to discuss individual learning progress.

How to make contact with your child's teacher:

When a teacher is on class or as they approach morning lines, the teachers have a duty of care and responsibility to the students within their class. If you wish to talk to your child's teacher, following the procedures below enables the teacher to be able arrange a time that allows them to have a discussion with you in a confidential environment, free from the responsibility of being on class. A focused, timely parent- teacher meeting allows for the best outcomes for your child's learning.

If you wish to find out information or make contact with a teacher, we would you to use the protocols listed below:

- ◆ Phone office to make a suitable appointment time/ leave a message. The teacher will call back to arrange a suitable time
- ◆ Make the school website a favourite/bookmark to find notes and newsletters.
- ◆ Subscribe to the newsletter via the website and you will receive the newsletter in your email inbox.
- ◆ Download school App
- ◆ Email the school; address on website or school letterhead.

Multi-age or Composite Classes

As many parents are aware, with the formation of 10 classes this year at Miranda, we have structured a number of composite or multi-age classes.

Multi-age classes are made up of students drawn from different year levels. They may be established because of the uneven pattern of enrolment in the school, because of the small size of the school, or where it's considered that mixing students of different ages is academically and socially advantageous.

As shown below, research shows it makes no difference to performance.

Two findings stand out in the research:

- ♦ It makes no difference to performance whether students are in a straight year group or in a multi-age class. The most important factors in determining how well a student does are the quality of the teacher and his or her teaching.
- ♦ Multi-age classes may benefit students both socially and emotionally.

We are extremely fortunate to have an outstanding team of highly committed and talented teachers who are dedicated to providing high quality and engaging learning experiences each and every day for the Miranda Public School children.

Student Absences

Parents need to be very mindful and selective about taking children out of school. If it happens occasionally, research tells us there will still be an impact but it may be that alternative, rich, life experiences are being provided that have a benefit of their own. However, extended absences; travel that could be taken at other times; or repeated trips during school terms need to be considered by the Principal to determine whether they can be justified (and approved) or are unjustified (and therefore will be recorded as an unjustified absence). In either case, these absences will be included on your child's school report and records.

The importance of regular, punctual school attendance is undeniable. Apart from illness, children do best academically, socially and emotionally when they come to school every day.

A Department of Education Home-School Liaison Officer regularly audits the school to check student attendance and it is therefore important that we follow strict guidelines and procedures.

If your child is absent from school please contact the school either by SchoolStream, email or by a phone call on the day of the absence. We are then able to record the absence immediately. By doing this you do not need to send a note to school. Absence notes must be sent to school immediately after the absence to avoid a follow-up letter. All notes can be put in the letterbox in the school office. Early departures and late arrivals must come through the school office regardless of whether a note has been sent to school. This is a WHS requirement, in case of an emergency we are able to accurately locate all children on school grounds.

Email Contacts

Later this term, Miranda Public School will be trialling an instant email contact to parents, when their child is absent from school. If you have recently changed or updated your email address, please let the school know to enable us to have relevant contacts in our system.

AFL Clinic

We are excited to have representatives from Sydney Swans AFL visiting us on Monday 26th Feb for years 3-6 students. Children are welcome to bring along merchandise to be signed.

Moving into High School

Thank You to the Year 6 Parents that attended the High School EOI (expression of interest) meeting on Tuesday. I hope that I was able to clarify the process involved.

For those parents that were unable to attend the meeting, EOI forms have been sent home with your child and are due back to school by no later than Friday 9th March.

If you have any questions or queries regarding this process, then please don't hesitate to get in contact with me.

High school Information Nights

Many of the local High Schools are running Information evenings over the next few weeks. If your child is going to High School next year, I encourage you to attend the information sessions.

Sylvania High School Tuesday 27th February

Gymea Technology High School Tuesday 6th March

Port Hacking High School Wednesday 7th March

Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

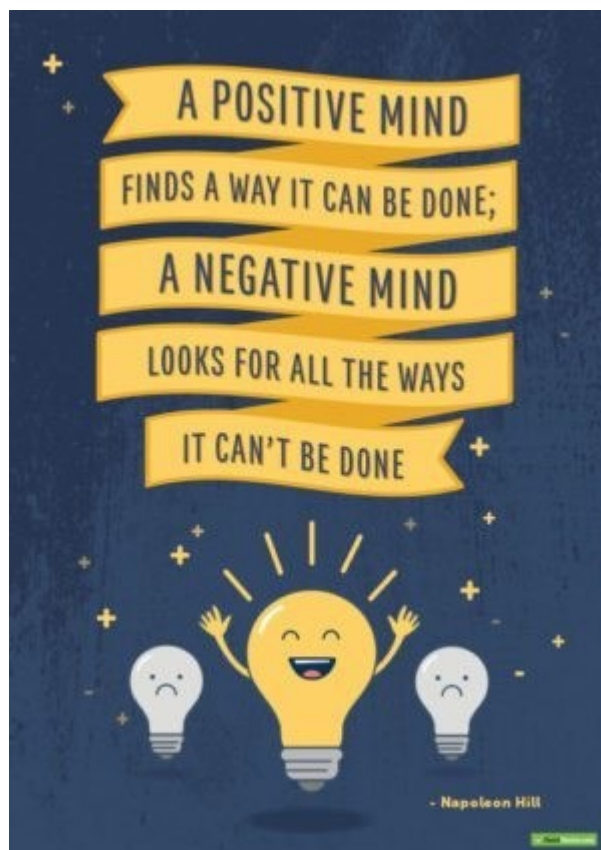
Expression of interest/ deposit notes will be sent home next week for Students to attend the Stage 3 Canberra excursion to be held Monday 18th- Wednesday 20th June.

Mr Carter on Leave Term 1 FBTS

I will be relieving Principal for the remainder of Term 1, as Mr Carter will be working on expanding the Film by the Sea initiative into a state wide festival. We wish Mr Carter and the Film by the Sea staff all the best with this initiative.

Narelle Chaplin

Relieving Principal



Upcoming Events

Mon 26 Feb	AFL Sydney Swans visit 3-6
Thurs 1 March	Zone Swimming Carnival
Wed 21 March	Harmony Day—Orange Mufti Day
Thursday 29 March	Easter Hat Parade and Eggsibition
Weeks 10 and 11	Parent Teacher Interviews
Friday 13 April	Students final day for Term 1
Tuesday 1 May	Students return to school
Thursday 3 May	School Photos—Summer uniform



Principals Award

—Alina 45W



We're excited to announce that Miranda Public School is participating in the **Coles Sports for Schools** program! The program gives schools across Australia the opportunity to earn sports gear just by collecting vouchers from Coles.

Through Sports for Schools, Coles has supplied over \$20 million worth of sports gear to over 7,500 schools across Australia.

During the Sports For Schools program, our students families will be able to collect Coles Sports for Schools vouchers for their school from Coles stores across Australia. When the program ends, we can exchange those vouchers towards sporting equipment to encourage all kids to get healthy and active at school.

Please place your vouchers in our box at Coles or at the School Office.

Thank you for supporting this great program!
(07 February – 03 April 2018)



How does it work?



Step 1

For every \$10 spent at Coles, customers will receive one Sports for Schools voucher.



Step 2

Your school's families can then bring vouchers to your school, placing them in the collection bins provided.



Step 3

Every voucher received by your school will go towards your tally to help you order sports equipment.



This week in stage 3 we started our unit on narrative writing. To help us learn about the structure of a narrative we created a story chain to help us identify beginning, complication, resolution and the end. Below is a story that Szonja, Angelina & Kadie composed. They took their inspiration from Valentines Day.

Valentines Day

Szonja-

New York's streets were full with people everybody happy and feeling loved because it was Valentines Day. New York was covered in red flowers, hearts and chocolate everyone was happy except for one cool old lady in a skateboard park. She never had anyone to love because she was always sad and grumpy. The grumpy old lady Krystyna, had a ring, a diamond ring. A ring that was very expensive and she always wore it because it put a little love in her heart.

Angelina-

Krystyna's ring was from her husband Bob who died in a car accident 3 years ago on this day. She was especially sad because she lost the ring her Bob gave her 3 years ago before he died in the car accident! She searched through her whole house, turned it upside down, looked in every corner of every room, but it still wasn't there. She asked the people on the streets, asked her friends at the skateboard park and she even went to the place with all the lotto machines and where they play bingo but she still couldn't find it! She was more worried than ever.

Kadie-

One day she was walking home from the skateboard park something shiny and golden was flashing into Krystyna's blue steeled eyes. She looked closer and realised it was just some heart shaped chocolate wrapper that was a shiny gold colour which reflected from the sun's rays. "Hhhhhhhh" she sighed, "what will I ever do" she exclaimed...

Szonja-

She felt like this is the last of here, she felt sad and missed her husband, Bob so so much. Until she walked past the golden heart shaped wrapper and realised there was something wrapped in it and as she looked closer she realised that there was also a note which said...

I know you miss me, I miss you too

But I am still here right here with you

Will you be my valentine?

After reading the note she looked inside the wrapper and her diamond ring was lying in the palm of her old wrinkly hands. She never felt happier or more magical because she knew she was still loved!

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!



Peer Support





Multi-age or composite classes

2014-2017

Hattie's (2003) synthesis of research states that teacher quality is the greatest influence on student achievement rather than class composition and numbers.

Multi-age classes are made up of students drawn from different year levels. They may be established because of the uneven pattern of enrolment in the school, because of the small size of the school or where it is considered that mixing students of different ages is academically and socially advantageous.

These multi-age classes are often designed to match the organisation of the syllabus, which is based on 'stages' running over two years.

Research about multi-age classes

Three findings stand out in the research:

Class organisation "...will not determine either educational advantage or disadvantage..." (NSW DET 1997).

- The most important factors in determining student success are the quality of the teacher and his or her teaching.
- Multi-age classes may benefit students both socially and emotionally.

NSW students are performing at a high level

NSW consistently performs above the national average in NAPLAN testing.

In 2016:

- the proportion of NSW students performing at or above the national minimum standard for Reading and Numeracy was above the national average in all four testing years.
- NSW is mostly ranked in the top three jurisdictions, along with ACT and Victoria, on the proportion of students at or above minimum standard and the proportion of students achieving results in the highest band for NAPLAN performance.

FACT SHEET

SAFE SCHOOL TRAVEL

Welcome back to a new school year! Sutherland Shire Council Parking Officers will be out at all schools again this year helping you to ensure that all children get to and from school safely.

DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP YOUR CHILDREN

Schools are areas where there is a lot of interaction between cars and pedestrians: your children. Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably, and are extremely vulnerable.

Their lack of road experience means it is difficult for them to judge dangerous situations. Boys are twice as likely to be involved in pedestrian accidents as girls and children 10-14 years have the highest rate of child pedestrian casualties (RMS).

- Children up to eight years old should hold an adult's hand on the footpath, in the carpark or when crossing the road.
- Children up to ten years old should be actively supervised around traffic and should hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.
- Take the time to make sure your children are aware of, understand and follow traffic safety regulations when they are walking.

HAVE A PLAN

Plan with your son or daughter how you will collect them. When and where will you be after school? Where should they wait? Make sure they know not to try and get into your vehicle while it is still in traffic,

even if you are stopped; they should wait until you have parked at the side of the road.

Plan to arrive AFTER the school bell goes in the afternoon, so your children are ready and waiting for you and you are not blocking traffic.

NO PARKING ZONES

A No Parking zone is a pick up and drop off area: you can stop here for a maximum of two minutes to drop off or pick up passengers and must remain within three metres of the vehicle. When parents park in a No Parking zone for longer than two minutes they prevent other parents from stopping to drop off or pick up their children, creating frustration and dangerous situations. If you arrive before the school bell and block the pickup areas, you risk a fine.

Parking offences in school zones carry heavier fines and loss of demerit points. Sutherland Shire Council makes no apologies for fining drivers who break the law around schools and in school zones.

See the Roads and Maritime Authority website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au for more about Australian Road Rules and other road safety information.

SIGNS YOU WILL SEE AROUND SCHOOL



NO PARKING

What does it mean?

You CAN stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for older children to be set down and picked up without endangering other children.



NO STOPPING

What does it mean?

You CANNOT stop in this area FOR ANY REASON.

Why is it there?

To keep sight lines clear for drivers AND children so both have more time to avoid crashes.



BUS ZONE

What does it mean?

You must NOT stop or park in a bus zone unless you are driving a bus.

Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up. Cars parking in bus zones put lives at risk by forcing buses out of 'their' safety zone.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

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sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au



- ❖ Coles Sports for Schools
- ❖ School Banking
- ❖ Next P&C Meeting: Wednesday 28 February 2018



Hello All Parents and Carers, New and Familiar with Miranda Public School.

Welcome to your 2018 P&C News, where we endeavour to keep you informed and entertained with all the fundraising, events and activities!

We hope that everyone has now settled in to school and looking forward to this years' adventures!

Once again, your P&C are organising and planning fundraising for the school, and look forward to sharing them with you soonest.

We are currently involved with the following:

We're excited to announce that Miranda Public School is participating in the **Coles Sports for Schools** program! The program gives schools across Australia the opportunity to earn sports gear just by collecting vouchers from Coles.

Through Sports for Schools, Coles has supplied over \$20 million worth of sports gear to over 7,500 schools across Australia.

During the Sports For Schools program, our students families will be able to collect Coles Sports for Schools vouchers for their school from Coles stores across Australia. When the program ends, we can exchange those vouchers towards sporting equipment to encourage all kids to get healthy and active at school.

Please place your vouchers in our box at Coles or at the School Office.

Thank you for supporting this great program!
(07 February – 03 April 2018)




How does it work?

 <p>Step 1 At every \$10 spent at Coles, customers will receive one Sports for Schools voucher.</p>	 <p>Step 2 Our school will collect these vouchers when they are placed in the collection box provided.</p>	 <p>Step 3 Every voucher collected by our school will be exchanged for sports equipment.</p>
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School Banking has started up again this week!

School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarsmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The 2018 Rewards are displayed on the P&C News Board in the office, so feel free to come and see what you can achieve.



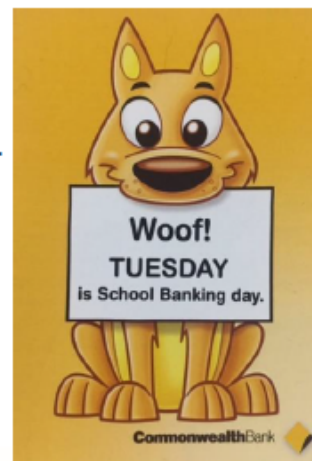
School Banking Information Session.

Miranda Public is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students. School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The rewards available during 2018 are:

Twister Power Handball

- Secret Scratch Pad
- Sparkle Glitter Pens
- Glow Light
- Mighty Boom Handball
- Heat Reactor Pencils
- Slushie Maker Cup
- Zoom Flying Disc



School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives a Regular Savers Contribution of \$5 for every 10 deposits processed per student as well as an Annual Contribution which is based on the number of students who made at least one School Banking deposit in the prior year.

School Banking day is **Tuesday, Starting Tuesday 20 February 2018**. Each week you need to bring your **banking book to your class and place in the school banking bag**.

We will be holding a School Banking Information Session at our school:

Time: 8.30 am

Date: Tuesday 20th February 2018

Location: Primary Playground

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child you can do so by:

1. Online: Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account.

2. In branch: Visit a Commonwealth Bank branch with identification for yourself and your child, like a driver's licence and birth certificate.

3. At School: On the above date, a School Banking representative will be available at the Information Session to show you how you can do this. In order to verify yourself and your child, you will need your driver's licence and your child's birth certificate, but if you don't have these with you on the day, you can complete verification online at home.

4. Existing Youthsaver: If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

Your Parent Volunteers will also be there to help you with any questions.

See you there!

Jessica, Jaqi, Mandy, Miki and Martha

Port Hacking High School



***Promoting excellence in Academic Studies,
Sport and the Performing Arts***

Open Night

For prospective Year 7 Students 2019

Wednesday 7 March 2018

5:45 pm

Extension Class Test

Year 7 2019 Extension Class Test will be held on

Wednesday 21 March 2018

Applications available from our office

OR download on

www.porthackin-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

SAY NO TO BULLYING POSTER COMPETITION

Register for this year's 'Say No To Bullying' Poster Competition by February 19 for your chance to win a **Ferdinand** event for your school, thanks to Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment.

The competition invites primary-school students to draw a picture depicting their interpretation of the theme to identify and address bullying behaviours. The theme for 2018 is 'BULLIEVE IN YOURSELF' and we're encouraging participation on March 16, to coincide with the **National Day Of Action Against Bullying And Violence**.

There are amazing prizes to be won, including:

- a family holiday
- a Fox Home Entertainment DVD movie pack
- Faber-Castell creativity kits
- free Bullying Awareness Program (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) and Cybersafety For Parents & Carers program for one lucky school that reaches 100% participation

PLUS if you hold **Bullying Awareness** or **Cybersafe Teens** programs between February 28 and June 30, you'll be given a special session featuring Ferdinand and friends!

Register at: goo.gl/pLG238



 **interrelate**[®]
relationship experts since 1926



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Being a Dad

This 3 hour program will help fathers gain the skills necessary to build closer relationships with their children.

You will learn to:

- Connect with your children
- Discipline constructively
- Understand the special role of fatherhood
- Father from the inside-out

Thursday, 22nd March

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Venue: Interrelate, 383-385 Port Hacking Road, Caringbah

Cost: \$15 per person (includes pizza and refreshments)

Bookings essential — numbers limited
phone 8522 4408 or email KristenM@interrelate.org.au

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Sutherland College

EXPLORE YOUR CAREER POTENTIAL OUTREACH COURSES



WORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN (WOW)

ENQUIRE NOW SUTHERLAND COLLEGE OUTREACH SECTION - 9710 5004

Work Opportunities for Women (WOW)

10583 NAT Certificate 1 Access to Work and Training
This course is for women returning to work who want to build confidence and skills for employment.
Choose from two introductory courses:

Emerging Technology for the Office.

This course aims to update computing and office skills for employment.
The program includes an introduction to Microsoft Word and Excel (spreadsheets), PowerPoint, Internet, email, file management, cloud storage, scanning and downloading digital images.

Monday and Thursday 10.00am – 2.30pm

Computing and Introduction to Bookkeeping using MYOB

This course provides an introduction to manual bookkeeping and MYOB.
The program also covers Microsoft Word and Excel (spreadsheets), Internet, email, File management, cloud storage, scanning and downloading digital images.

Monday and Wednesday 10.00am – 2.30pm

Information Session Thursday 1 February – 11.00am
Classes start 12 February 2018 – School Hours
Both courses include job seeking skills

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OUTREACH COURSES



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BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS

Student Learning and Community Engagement Directorate

Everyday Computing

10581NAT Course in Vocational and Community Engagement

This course is designed for people who are absolute beginners or have never touched a computer and are seeking to build confidence and skills in computing.

You will learn introductory skills in:

- Computer Fundamentals
- Windows 10
- Word Processing
- Email
- Internet
- File Management
- Keyboarding

Class Details:

Length:

Location:

Cost:

Classes will commence in February 2018

3 hours a week

Sutherland College of TAFE – GyMEA Campus

Fee **FREE** Smart and Skilled conditions apply

Information Session – Thursday 1 February 2018 at 11.00am

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