

Miranda Public School



Term 4 / Week 6  
20 November 2020



# Kookaburra Gazette

## Dates to remember

Term 4 2020	
20-11-2020	Ranger Jamie in-school experience (Years 4-6)
20-11-2020	White Ribbon Day – Understanding Relationships
25-11-2020	Last day of Special Religious Education and/or Ethics classes.
25-11-2020	7:30pm - P&C Meeting
30-11-2020	Student Leadership (Prefect) speeches
01-12-2020	High School Orientation Day
01-12-2020	K-2 Questacon Zoom experience
02-12-2020	K-2 Questacon Zoom experience
3-12-2020	House (sports) Captain elections
4-12-2020	Ice block day (fundraiser for Year 6)
8-12-2020	Presentation Day
9-12-2020	Year 6 Farewell
10-12-2020	Semester 2 reports go home
11-12-2020	Year 6 Fete and mufti-day
16-12-2020	Last day for students
16 & 17-12-20	Staff Development Days
Term 1 2021	
27&28-1-2021	Staff Development Days
29-1-2020	First day for students (Years 1 to 6)
29-1-2020	Kindergarten Best Start assessment
1&2-2-2020	Kindergarten Best Start assessment
3-2-2020	First day for Kindergarten



## More Before and After school places at Miranda OOSH.

Our Before & After School Care service, called MOOSH, is provided by Sutherland Shire Council. We work closely with the Council's Children's Services team on the delivery of this important service for our school community.

In recent years we have seen a growing demand for Before & After School Care. There is now a potential opportunity for Council to expand its service within the grounds of our school, to cater to the needs of more Miranda Public School families.

Before we progress with this, the Department of Education must formally assess the need for a larger MOOSH service via a survey of all school families.

**Please complete the following survey by Friday 27 November 2020:**

<https://surveys.education.nsw.gov.au/s3/OSHCParentSurvey>

It should only take a few minutes and this is your family's opportunity to have a say about the need for Before & After School Care at our school.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me, or the BASC Program team (phone 1300 244 145 or email at: [BASCReform@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:BASCReform@det.nsw.edu.au))

## Changes to School Development Days (SDDs) in 2021

In support of a smooth start to the 2021 school year, the Department of Education has made these changes for the 2021 school year:

- An increase from one to two SDDs at the commencement of Term 1 (27 and 28 January, students return 29 January 2021).
- A decrease from two to one SDDs at the end of Term 4

## Film Day

Last Tuesday our entire school celebrated our success in having both of our movies included as finalists out of 150 entries from across the state. Now we may be slightly biased, but our movies were the clear stand outs! Congratulations to everyone who participated.



## COVID-19 Procedures

The Department of Education recently updated its advice for schools based on NSW Health advice. At this stage only essential visitors can come on to school grounds. Some of the changes include:

- Schools may have short, whole-school assemblies for students and teachers;
- P&C meetings allowed onsite after school hours with restrictions;
- Graduation ceremonies, speech nights and award presentations can be held (4 square metre rule applies so the number of parents attending will be limited)

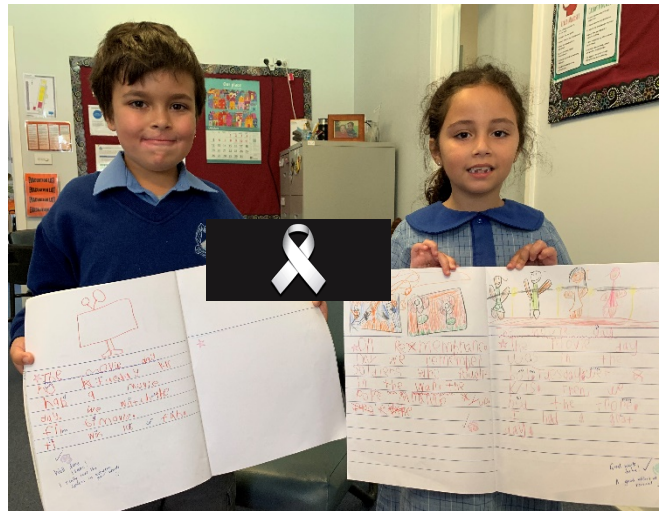
Please continue to follow social distancing rules. As we have seen here in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, it only takes one person to quickly spread the virus again and your children learn best by being at school.

## Presentation Day

Please save the date for Presentation Day - Tuesday 8 December. We will have two short presentations this year at school. Due to the COVID restrictions we lack the space to be able to invite parents to be physically present, so both presentations will be recorded for parents to watch later.

## Principal's Awards

The Week 4 Principal's Awards go to:  
Jye in 3/4A and Dexter in 5/6M, for consistently demonstrating the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People in all areas of school life.



Isaac and Julia in K/1S wrote about Movie Day.



Jye, Kira, Lucy, Max, and Elliot in 3/4A shared their Diamante poems.

## Student Work



Savannah, Jessica and Zoe in KJ have been learning about different materials in Science.

## White Ribbon

Today is White Ribbon Day. At Miranda PS we promote respectful friendships within our families and the community. Teachers have been talking about this during the week with their classes.



## Number 28 by Andrei T 5/6C



The rouge robot walked away from the secret lab he just escaped. His existence was unbeknownst to the rest of humanity, and even he didn't know what purpose he had to serve, or that he had a number 28 on his wrist. He wasn't fully developed, so he still stumbled a bit, but the world he had just entered was a fascinating, vast place.

As he walked around the run-down village, he saw many strange things - creatures flying, white floating fluffy objects in the sky and a giant shining ball floating off in the distance. He also noticed a few other creatures through the openings in the structures, wearing clothes with unfamiliar colours. The strange part was, it felt all too familiar. He pondered around, letting all of his senses switch off. It was quiet but... there was something...a....heartbeat...inside of him. "What?" he thought!

## Approaching our School

From time to time parents or other members of the community may need to approach the school to:

- Discuss the progress or welfare of own child; or
- Enquire about school policy or practice.

Please phone the school to make a time to speak with the teacher concerned.

Occasionally students may tell their parents about issues involving other students. If this happens, please assist your child in developing resilience by asking your child to talk with a teacher. You are also welcome to contact your child's teacher or an executive teacher. **Never approach any child, other than your own child, to address an issue at school. Please do not approach other parents about issues involving the students – that is the school's responsibility.**


## P&C Lap-a-thon

Thank you to all of our parents for your generosity and to all of our students for participating in the school lap-a-thon. The school raised just over \$1500 and the P&C Association are kindly donating this towards the Year 6 farewell. I would also like to acknowledge all of our teachers and P&C members who were involved in the organisation of such an enjoyable day.




Name: Jannah Date: 11/11/2020

The Possum in Our Classroom



On Monday morning a possum was in our classroom and it had shining sharp claws. It had a long tail and its eyes were red and round. Its eyes were as big as a ball. We saw it when we were doing work but when we were doing our work we had to evacuate the classroom to the library. I thought that it was cute and our pet. I think the name was spotty.



Great use of adjectives to describe the possum Jannah.

## School Improvement Plan

As a Leader in Me school, Miranda PS prides itself on maintaining positive relationships and celebrating future focused learning, diversity and inclusion. This term we are finalising our situational analysis and we welcome your input in this process because this is a community school and your voice matters. In guiding our school plan we have been reflecting on the theme descriptors of the *School Excellence Framework* and *What Works Best* (Eight critical quality teaching practices).

Situational analysis snippet:

Our school has outstanding growth:

scout

Tools / Data / Report Engagement / Views

Value Added Across Schools

VA results during the NAPLAN online transition period should be treated cautiously.



Strengths:

- Most students who arrive in Kindergarten leave in Year 6 and therefore we are above statistically similar schools.
- NAPLAN results are significantly higher than state average and this part of Sydney
- Excelling academic growth K-5 (see previous slide)
- Higher than average attendance (increasing)
- Excellent wellbeing practices, multicultural and inclusive ethos – Leader in Me.
- Dedicated staff and supportive families.

We could improve/change?

- Academic Growth (Years 5 to 7), particularly in Numeracy
  - Places in before and after school
  - Technology access to support future focused learning
  - Number of students with an attendance rate higher than 90%. Attendance is lower than like schools.
- 
- ***What do you like about our school?***
  - ***What would you like us to change?***
  - ***What else should we consider?***

We would love to hear your feedback. A brief survey will be emails to you shortly.

## Ranger Jamie Visit



## Kindifarm Visit



### Outstanding Fees

This is a reminder to any families who still have outstanding fees for textbooks, online subscriptions, incursions etc that we would greatly appreciate those fees being paid promptly, as we are heading into the final weeks of the school year.

As you are aware, many of the school resources that your children have access to throughout the year, are purchased or provided by us, rather than each class requesting that parents go out and personally purchase these larger resource items.

As you would appreciate, we have to budget for these purchases and therefore we do ask for support from our families, by asking for a parental contribution toward these purchases. We do appreciate every dollar we receive back into the school and it is put to good use in other areas within the school.

Thank you for your continued support!

Kim Williams

Business/Administration Manager



## Thank you for participating in Primary Ethics in 2020!

**What an incredible year it has been! It has certainly challenged our thoughts and beliefs!**

**Thank you so much for continuing to participate in Primary Ethics this year!**

It has been a pleasure and delight to be conducting Primary Ethics Classes at Miranda Public School and we are looking forward to another year of engaging topics in 2021!

We trust that the students have had some interesting conversations with you on such topics as;

- Secrets, and Doing harm without meaning to in the Kindergarten class,
- Pride and Laziness in Stage 1,
- Being Selfish and Disagreeing respectfully in Stage 2, and
- Fatalism and Human rights in Stage 3.

Please let the school office know if you want to enroll your child into Primary Ethics classes. Our last class will be Wednesday 25 November 2020 and will restart in Term 1 2021 from Week 4, Wednesday 17 February.

Once again Thank you so much for supporting Primary Ethics and us as Volunteer parent Teachers at Miranda Public School!

Sadly we say Thank you and all the very best to Mrs. Cooke (Stage 2), as she has taken a work placement next year to become a Psychologist. Mrs. Cooke your time in Primary Ethics has been very much appreciated and will be very much missed!

We therefore have 2-3 positions open as Volunteer Primary Ethics Teachers in 2021. FREE training and continual support is provided. Parents and carers of **ALL backgrounds, nationalities and ages are WELCOME to join our amazing team! *Volunteers are needed for this valuable program to continue and grow our children's minds!***

This role has inspired and encouraged our current teachers to lead to boundless self development opportunities such as greater confidence and command of English, and other paid roles.

For more information to learn about Primary Ethics in schools, or discussion topics in class, please feel free to visit: <https://primaryethics.com.au/> or your MPS Volunteer Coordinator: **Jessica on 0422 865 300.**

Wishing all in our Miranda Public School Community a Very Happy and Safe Holidays, and an even better New Year in 2021!

Your MPS Primary Ethics Team!

Pic (L-R): Mrs Narelle Chaplin, Naziah Gargan, Lindsey Cooke, Mr Michael Duffy, Jessica Vazquez and Jessica Hicks



# Primary ETHICS