



Kookaburra Gazette

Dates to remember

| Term 4 2020 | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 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 | |
| 27-1-2021 & 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 |

Before and after school places at Miranda OOSH (update).

Thank you so much for the wonderful response received by all of you to the Department of Education's Before & After School Care survey. The results are:

| Before Care | | | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|------------|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Occasional |
| 38 | 49 | 53 | 38 | 43 | 42 |
| After Care | | | | | |
| 50 | 58 | 67 | 50 | 55 | 53 |
| Vacation care | | | | | |
| 65 | | | | | |

This proves our school's case that there is a growing demand for Before & After School Care. I am now waiting for the Director (Early Childhood, Canteens and Uniforms) to advise the next step.

Reminder: Changes to School Development Days (SDDs) in 2021

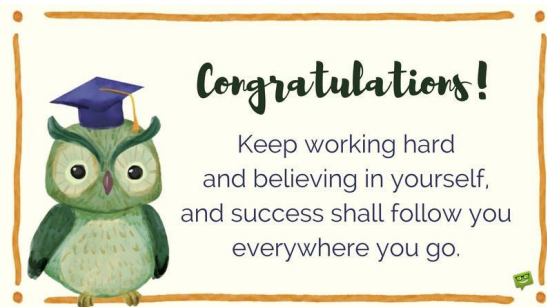
In support of a smooth start to the 2021 school year, the Department of Education has made these changes for the 2021 school year:

- 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

Presentation Day

Our awards ceremonies are being held on 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:
Maho in 1/2W and Sohma in 3/4W, for consistently demonstrating the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People in all areas of school life.

Congratulations Mr Skene

Mr Skene has been appointed through Merit selection as a substantive Assistant Principal (Special Education) at Marrickville West Public School. He will begin in his new position at the start of the 2021 school year. Mr Skene will be missed greatly by the Miranda PS community. We wish him great success in his new endeavours at Marrickville West PS.

Student Work



Some of our students followed a series of instructions in a procedure, with Mrs Holt, to make these interesting aircraft. They flew surprisingly well too.

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.**

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:

Reflections on the School Excellence Framework

The School Excellence Framework (SEF) is a document containing a number of best practice statements relating to the domains of Learning, Teaching and Leading. The school completed its external validation (EV) against these statements in 2019. Even though we are very proud of our school's outstanding success with wellbeing and academic growth, we are always refining the way we collect and annotate whole school evidence for self-assessment against the SEF. We are confident that the focus themes identified below will help us to better support your children:

Learning Culture

- Strengthen community partnerships, focusing on student learning and achievement for ongoing improvement
- Develop collegiality and consistency of best practice

Assessment

- Use formative assessment for, as and of learning
- Students as visible learners who articulate learning goals derived from assessment to identify how they can improve and inform further teaching
- the school uses systematic and reliable assessment information to evaluate student learning over time and implements changes in teaching that lead to measurable improvement
- the school has processes in place to support teachers' consistent evidence-based judgement and moderation of assessments

Data Skills and Use

- Use data effectively to evaluate student understanding of lesson content.
- Have school staff collaborate with school community to use student progress and achievement data to identify strategic priorities and develop and implement plans for continuous improvement

Effective Classroom Practice/ Curriculum/ Educational Leadership

- Review of Instructional leadership to build staff capacity across curriculum areas
- The leadership team develops processes to collaboratively review teaching and learning practices for continuous improvement
- Teaching and learning programs will be collaboratively planned to meet whole school numeracy and literacy goals.
- Instructional leadership leading consistency of evidence based teaching

Upskill staff in differentiation practices

- 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.



Moved address?
New email address?
Have a new mobile phone?

Have you changed your address, phone number or email? Please contact the office as soon as possible with the new details. Proof of address will be required





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