

Miranda Public School



Term 4 / Week 2
15 October 2021



Kookaburra Gazette

Phone: (02) 9524 4631 (8:40am – 3:15pm)

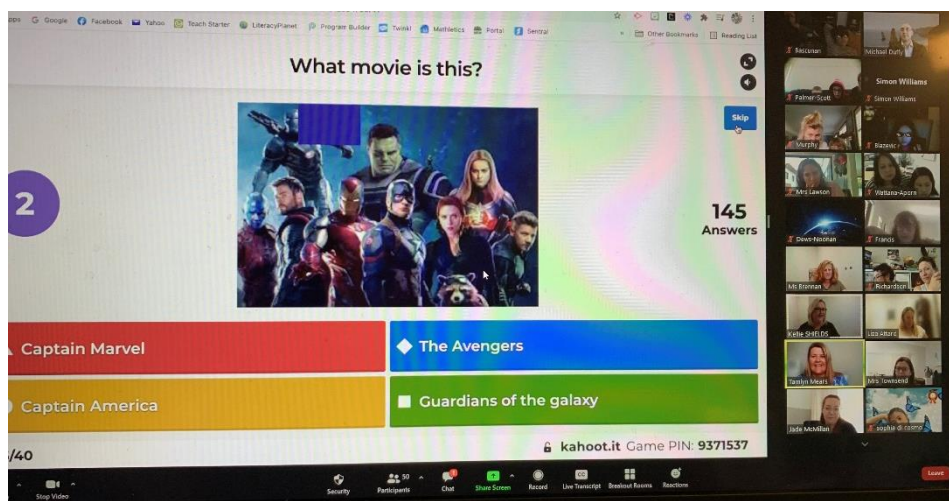
Email: miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Dates to remember

Term 4 2021	<i>Learning from Home continues until 25 October for students in Yrs 3,4,5 & 6, K/6N and 2/3C only</i>
13-10-2021	P & C Meeting (online) 7:00pm
18-10-2021	<u>All</u> students who are in KS (Mrs Shields), K/1J (Miss James), K/6A (Ms Atu), K/6D (Miss Dowling), 1/2G (Mrs Greer) and 1/2W (Mr Wooley & Mrs Rigava) return to school.
25-10-2021	All other classes – K/6N (Miss Gambin), 2/3C (Mrs Cooke), 3/4M (Miss McMillan), 3/4W (Mr Williams), 5/6R (Mr Richardson), 5/6T (Mrs Townsend & Mrs Attard) and 5/6W (Mrs Wilkins and Mrs Brennan) return to school.
4-11-2021	Kindergarten Orientation (TBC)* Thursday 9:45am
10-11-2021	Kindergarten Orientation (TBC)* Wednesday 9:45am
17-11-2021	P & C Meeting (online) 7:00pm Kindergarten Orientation (TBC)* Wednesday 9:45am
24 – 11-2021	Possible Kindergarten orientation or Q&A session (TBC)* Tuesday 9:45am
26-11-2021	Tell Them from Me surveys close (date has been extended).
8-12-2021	Presentation Day (Recorded for parents)
16-12-2021	Last Day of 2021 for Students
17-12-2021	Staff Development Day

* TBC – dates are yet to be confirmed.

Family Trivia Evening



Thank you to everyone who participated in our family trivia evening last Friday. Mr Richardson's family proved to be very competitive! Congratulations to the Mellor family and the Simic family who were our prize winners. Recognition needs to be given to Mrs Shields, Mrs Lawson, Mrs Greer, Liza Attard Mrs Townsend and Mrs Mears for their hard work in organising this event, which required a lot of personal time, research and technological prowess. It was really nice to see so many people just having a good time.

Tell Them from Me Parents, Student and Teacher surveys

The second snapshot for Tell Them from Me is now open and has been extended until Friday 26 November. The survey is conducted entirely online using smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

All data is completely confidential – The school only sees the final collated report. No one in the school will see any individual answers. For more information, please click on this link to the [Tell Them From Me](http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/miranda21) website.

Please take ten minutes to complete the Tell Them from Me Parent Survey. Your responses are confidential and no names are identified on the school data. The link to the parent survey is:

<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/miranda21>

Completing these surveys will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements. All students in Years 4, 5 and 6 and all of the teachers are asked to complete the survey as well.



Exploring Poetry – 2/3C

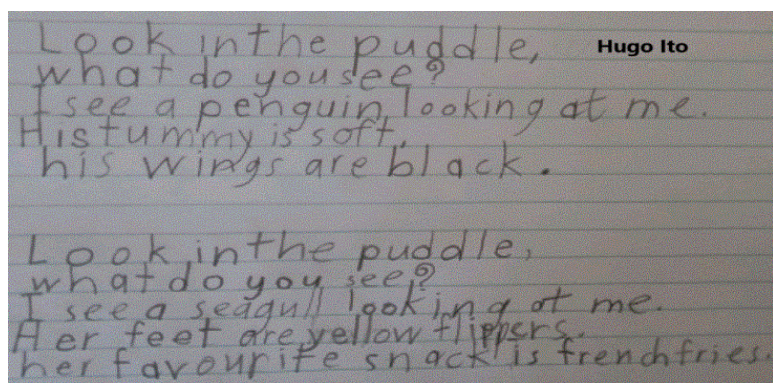
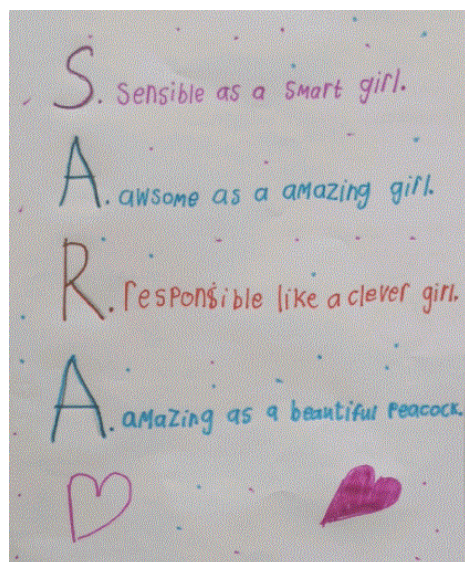
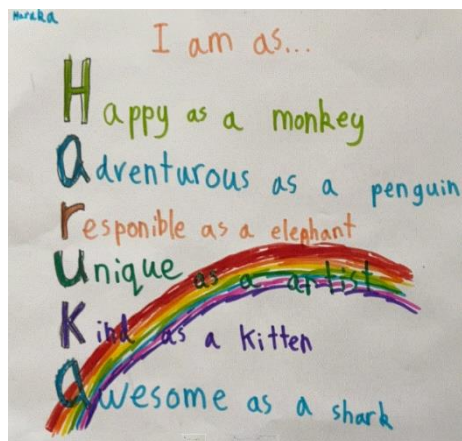
The students in 2/3C have been exploring poetry and figurative language this week.

Mathias

By Nicholas Orozco Garcia

Mathias is my baby brother
Mathias is sweet
Mathias is soft
Mathias feels like a cloud
Mathias is cute
Mathias's hair is so soft
When Mathias wakes up he smiles at me
Mathias's face is soooooooooooooooooooooo adorable
When I carry him he giggles at me
I love Mathias !!





Write Your Own Summer Limerick

Fill in the blanks below to make a limerick about summer. Try to make it rhyme!

There was a (an) smelly hippo from the mud
adjective noun (person or animal) noun (place)

Whose feet was/were on my toes ouch
noun (part of the body or foot) verb (to be) adverb adjective


He/She/It cut a plant into pieces
Add a sentence here about something that happened

And cut a cake into slices
Add more about what happened next

That smelly hippo from the mud
some adjective as first line some noun as first line some place as first line

Great work! Now draw a picture for your limerick.

by Annabelle



Kindergarten 2022 Orientation and Open Days

If you have not yet enrolled your child, please complete your child's online enrolment at:

<https://enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/#/?schoolCode=2574>

Our planned Kindergarten transition dates are still subject to change, depending on the restrictions in place. Please save these dates on your calendar:

9:45 – 10:30am on Thursday 4 November, then Wednesdays 10 & 17 November with a possible parent Q&A session on Tuesday 24 November. These sessions will be either at school or on Zoom, depending on current health orders. We are hoping that our pre-schoolers will have an opportunity to be allowed on site this term. This is dependent on schools being able to move from level 3+ to level 3 restrictions later in the term.

In the meantime, Mrs Shields (relieving assistant principal) has organised a virtual orientation pack that has been sent out to families.



Thank you so much for all of your support in Learning From Home

Thank you yet again to our wonderful and appreciative school community. Your support in following the NSW Health orders has been outstanding, especially after such a long time. We really appreciate all of the positive feedback that you have been sharing with the staff.

I know from the wonderful feedback that you have been providing, that you appreciate how hard the staff are working to support your children and you. I am so proud of all of our staff and they continue to inspire me with their tenacity and dedication. The staff thrive on hearing your positive feedback, so please keep it coming!



Despite the media hype about "Freedom Day," COVID-19 will still be with us for some time to come. Schools continue to work with NSW Health and restrictions will remain in place to keep everybody safe, as outlined in the email sent last week.

For now, only students and staff are able to come on site.

Uniform shop orders can be placed via the school email or by telephone, taken by the administration staff, who will make arrangements with you for collection.

I will be sharing some resources about preparing children for the return to school at the back of this newsletter (Thank you to Miss Dowling and Mr Thomas).



New Canteen Services – IMPORTANT Back to School information

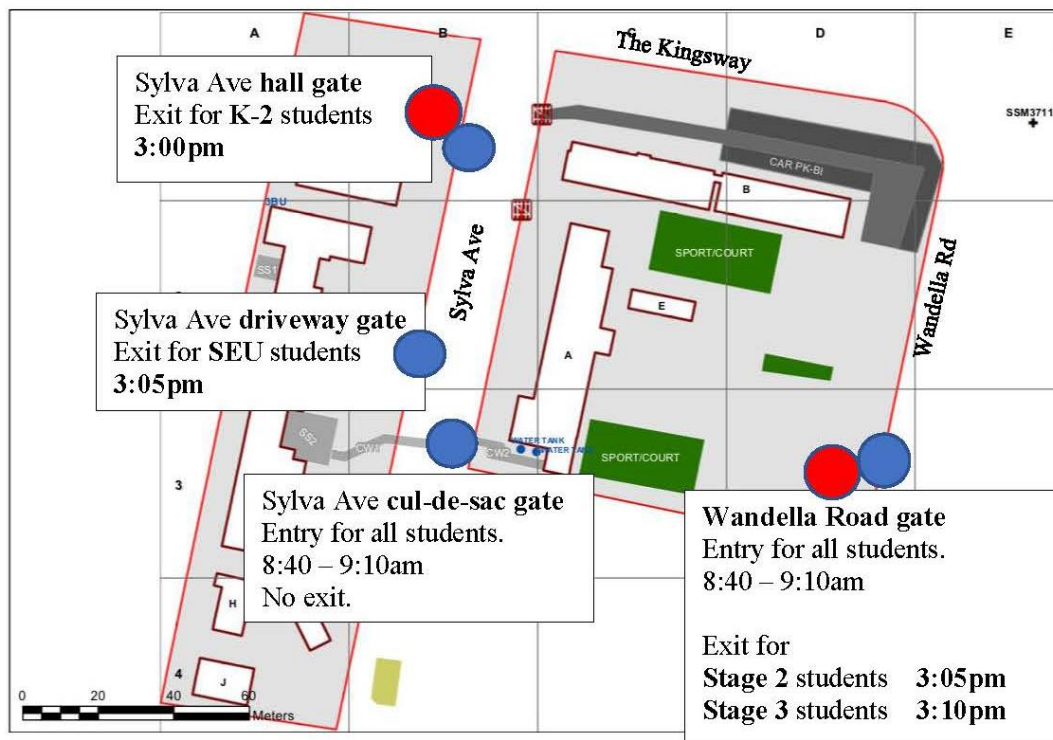
The canteen at Port Hacking High School, which we utilise to provide a school lunch service to our students, has recently undertaken a change in management. Due to this takeover and disruptions caused by continual changes to return to school dates, there will be **NO LUNCH SERVICE** available to Miranda PS students until November 1st wk 5. **Please ensure that your children bring lunch and recess to school with them each day**, prior to the commencement of the new service. We will be unable to provide lunch for students without food. A new menu and price list will be attached to the next Newsletter on 29th October. The process of placing orders will remain the same.

Communicating with our school

Our office staff are now back at school so if you have any questions, please feel welcome to email Miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au or call the office on (02) 9524 4631 during business hours.

Entry and Exit points from 18 October.


Welcome back to school! – Term 4 2021




At Level 3 & 3+, only students & staff may enter the school site.

No one can walk through the school. The uniform shop is closed to onsite visitors.

Please make sure you communicate this information to your children's parents, grandparents, other carers and siblings.

Key:  Entry/departure point

 Parents may wait between the gate and the witches' hats and dome markers.

Wear a mask and remain distanced from other parents/carers if you are waiting on the school site.

If you have several children and you would like them to wait together, please let all of your children's teachers and carers know. It needs to be the same gate every day. Please be patient while your children walk through the school.



What you need to know about our return to school in Term 4

We're excited about our return to face-to-face learning and welcoming students and staff back onsite where we know the best learning happens. This is a short summary of what our parents and students can expect.



Key dates for our staged return

While we know there is excitement about the return to school it's important that we stick to the staged return to give us time to be ready to welcome back students onsite. Students will return to face-to-face learning in the following order

- from 18 October – All students who are in KS (Mrs Shields), K/1J (Miss James), K/6A (Ms Atu), K/6D (Miss Dowling), 1/2G (Mrs Greer) and 1/2W (Mr Wooley & Mrs Rigava)
- from 25 October – all other classes – K/6N (Miss Gambin), 2/3C (Mrs Cooke), 3/4M (Miss McMillan), 3/4W (Mr Williams), 5/6R (Mr Richardson), 5/6T (Mrs Townsend & Mrs Attard) and 5/6W (Mrs Wilkins and Mrs Brennan)

Please note the entrance and departure points in this week's newsletter.



Our school's COVID-safe operations

Our COVID-safe return to school plan is NSW Health approved and includes numerous effective practices to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. These practices include vaccinations, mask wearing, reduced mingling of student groups and staff, ventilation in classrooms and continued good hygiene and cleaning.



Keeping student groups together

As we return to school students will be kept in their cohorts to minimise opportunities for transmission of COVID-19 and to enable effective contact tracing and containment. This means minimising interaction between students on school grounds and keeping cohorts together where possible.



Mask wearing for students and staff

Masks are required to be worn on school site by staff indoors and outdoors and strongly recommended for students indoors and outdoors unless exercising or eating. As this is a recommendation, mask wearing will not be enforced with students.



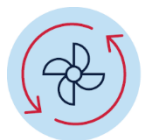
Vaccinations

All staff required on site supporting the return to school will need to be fully vaccinated from 18 October. Then from 8 November all staff, contractors, volunteers and students on student placement on a school site will need to be fully vaccinated, including Outside of School Hours Care staff.

Volunteers in the school uniform shop will need to be fully vaccinated.

We are encouraging our school community to take up a vaccine as soon as possible. Students aged 12 years and over are eligible to receive either the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccination. NSW Health and the department are urging all students 12 and over to get vaccinated with either of these vaccines as soon as possible before returning to school.

There is currently sufficient supply of the Moderna vaccine to community pharmacies and the Pfizer vaccine to General Practitioners. Bookings can be made via the [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#) External link.



Ventilation

Having open or well-ventilated spaces reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 because infectious particles are more quickly diffused in the open air. The department will continue to work with NSW Health to provide us with advice and guidance on maintaining good ventilation in our school and we will make use of our outdoor spaces wherever practical.



School activities

During Term 4 many school-based activities will remain on hold until NSW Health advise otherwise. This includes large celebrations like assemblies, presentation days and graduations, arts and sports events.



Covid Communication

Parents and students will be notified if a decision is made to close the school due to a confirmed case of COVID-19. During this time we will continue to provide learning from home activities and we will let you know when we can return to face-to-face learning.



Preschool and out of school hours care

Out of school hours care, vacation care settings and preschools operating on school sites will follow the same COVID-safe guidelines as public schools including the requirement to be fully vaccinated from 8 November.



Orientation and transition to school

Onsite orientations and transition programs are not currently allowed in person on school sites until we are advised differently by NSW Health. We'll share more information in the coming weeks about our school's virtual orientation and transition program.

NEW SCHOOL VISITOR CHECK IN – From Monday 18th October all government schools will be operating a new School Visitor Check In system. This will be accessed via the Service NSW App and will be used by parents, carers, contractors, service providers, volunteers as well as all school based staff. The school will have their own unique QR code and this will link directly back to our school systems.

Please ensure that you have the Service NSW App on your phone in readiness for the lifting of restrictions. More information about this new system will be forthcoming once restrictions have been lifted.

COVID-safe school operations

Overview			Guidance on mask wearing
School operating in a COVID-safe way	Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students and staff to not attend school if they have symptoms, negative COVID-19 test required prior to returning to school Parents, carers and visitors are allowed on site QR code check-in and check-out required for all staff and visitors COVID-19 Safety Plans required in line with NSW Health advice (such as large gatherings or events) Activities such as singing, chanting, choirs, bands and school performances allowed in line with broader Health settings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and students are supported to wear a mask or face covering should they choose to do so.
	Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Level 1, and: Non-essential visitors not allowed on site (including parents and carers) Staff identified as vulnerable supported to work from home Activities such as singing, chanting, choirs, bands and school performances allowed in outdoor settings only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assemblies must have COVID-safe practices in place and no parents or carers are allowed Excursions within local government area (LGA) only, and strongly recommended to be outdoors and within walking distance
COVID-safe, restrictions on activities and non-essential visitors	Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Level 2, and: Mask wearing requirements Introduction of staggered breaks and reduced mingling of student cohorts wherever possible Activities such as singing, chanting, choirs, bands and school performances not permitted School canteens can operate with conditions Exams as per Health approved COVID-safe HSC guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff interactions limited with physical distancing No assemblies No excursions No community use (except early childhood services and OOSH services) Uniform shops are online No SRE/SEE (externally provided religion and ethics classes) No Community Language School on site
	Level 3 plus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Level 3, with following conditions: Return to school will be based on community settings such as adults fully vaccinated and levels of community transmission Only vaccinated staff on site Students in cohorts (including split classes) starting with staggered return of priority cohorts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimised interactions and contact within student cohorts Staggered access to school facilities and shared spaces such as libraries and canteens Drop-offs, pick-ups and break times staggered by cohort
COVID-safe, face-to-face learning allowed for certain cohorts if vaccination rates achieved; restrictions on activities and non-essential visitors	Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families are encouraged to keep their children at home, with no student to be turned away Schools activate plans to support continuity of education for all students learning from home Study bubbles for students sitting their HSC exams Where students and staff are at school, Level 3 guidelines apply, and: No community use (except early childhood services) No canteens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools in identified local government areas of concern are operating under Level 4 settings. Requirements for authorised workers in an LGA of concern remain in place. Staff must not leave their LGA for work unless they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> had at least 1 dose of a COVID-19 vaccine or provide evidence of a medical exemption have registered their travel with Service NSW. Staff who live outside but work in an LGA of concern will need to register their travel.
	Learning from home encouraged; schools are open for families who need it		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While on school sites, both indoors and outdoors, masks or face coverings are mandatory for all staff, and all students in Year 7 and above unless they are eating or exercising. Masks are strongly recommended for all students.

Returning to School after Lockdown and Isolation

You and your child might be worried about heading back to school. Below is some information and strategies for you and your family to use to get ready for a return to school.



Talking to your child is one of the best ways to work through fears and anxieties. Use language they can understand to discuss returning to school. This is an excerpt and image above from [DHHS Victoria](#).

Early Primary School

- Balance plans to return to school with reassurances that their schools and homes are safe
- Remind them that adults are there to keep them healthy and to take care of them
- Discuss handwashing as a step in staying healthy at school and home
- Use language such as 'adults are working hard to keep you safe'

Upper Primary School

- They may be more vocal in asking questions about whether they truly are safe and what will happen if COVID-19 comes to their school or community
- They may need assistance separating reality from rumour and fantasy
- Discuss efforts of school and community leaders to prevent germs from spreading

High School

- They may be able to discuss COVID-19 in a more in-depth fashion and can be referred directly to appropriate sources of information
- Provide honest, accurate information about the current status of their schooling. Having such knowledge can help them feel a sense of control
- Plan together what the return to school will look like



Plan Ahead: Check uniforms, equipment, bags and other resources.



Name the possible support people at school, home or care.



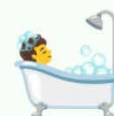
Talk to your child about going back to school and that things may look different.



If you are concerned that your child is not coping, seek further help. See details on the next page.



Eat well, sleep well and be active.



Take care of yourself and acknowledge the difficulties you have been through.

If you need further support

Coronavirus Mental Wellbeing Support Service (Beyond Blue)

1800 512 348

However the pandemic is affecting your mental wellbeing, you can talk it through with a counsellor who will provide advice and support based on your needs. 24/7

Kids Help Line

1800 55 1800

Provides free online support and counselling for children and young people aged 5-18 across Australia

Lifeline

13 11 14

Provides suicide and crisis support if you are experiencing emotional distress 24/7

Suicide Call Back Service

1300 364 277

Translating and Interpreting Service

131 450

If you require an Interpreter, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service TIS.

Domestic Violence Line

1800 737 732

Keeping safe is a priority. If you or someone in your home is experiencing domestic violence, please contact the Domestic Violence line for support.

Parent Line

1300 1300 52

Parent Line is a free telephone counselling and support service for parents and carers with children aged 0 to 18 who live in NSW. 9am to 9pm Weekdays, 4pm to 9pm Weekends



Wellbeing Apps

Smiling Mind

Meditation app, with programs available ages 7+. Available in some Aboriginal languages.

Insight Timer Meditation App

This app has over 25000 free guided meditations and guidance. Ages 12+

FitOn

Free workout app with a variety of fitness options. Yoga, Cardio, Strength, Barre, Pilates and more. Videos range from 10 minutes to full workouts.

Niggle

An app for kids to work on their wellbeing. It includes games and puzzles and videos. Produced by Kids Helpline.

Web resources

Sydney Children's Hospital Network. This website has a variety of reliable COVID-19 resources for yourself, your children and your family including links to mental health resources.

<https://www.schn.health.nsw.gov.au/covid-19-information>

Reach Out

Helps under 25's with tough questions and through difficult times. They also have a page for parents.

WayAhead

Mental health support and information.

<https://wayahead.org.au/>

SANE Australia

Counselling support, Peer support, live blogs moderated by health professionals. Visit www.sane.org

Head to Health

Links a variety resources

<https://www.headtohealth.gov.au/>

Brave Program

Program for children and young people with anxiety. Can also be completed by parents and carers.

<http://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au/>

If you need more support, you can contact your GP to talk about receiving a mental health care plan with a psychologist or support from a Psychiatrist.





Placement in selective high schools for Year 7 entry in **2023**

Information for applicants

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 in 2023?

You must apply online at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>



Key Dates

Application website opens:
19 October 2021

Application website closes:
17 November 2021
You must apply before this date.

Test centre and test authority advice released:
24 February 2022

Selective High School placement test:
10 March 2022

Placement outcome expected to be released:
8 July 2022

Please read this booklet carefully before applying.

There may be changes to the procedures in this document.

Check the website at education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc regularly for updates throughout the application and placement process.

Please check the website for information before you contact the Team.

After applying, you will be able to log into your application dashboard to change details and send and receive messages.

The Selective High Schools placement process for Year 7 entry is administered by the High Performing Students Team. It is referred to as 'the Team' in this document.

Contact Details:

High Performing Students Team, NSW Department of Education

Email: shs-oc@det.nsw.edu.au

Telephone: 1300 880 367

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/772251106301086/>

CLOTHING POOL 2021

Items	Size	Quantity	Each	Total \$
POLO SHIRTS (4,6,8,10,12,14,16)			\$22.00	
HATS (55cm,57cm,59cm,61cm)			\$16.00	
SKIRTS/NETBALL (4,6,8,10,12)			\$20.00	
SKORTS (4,6,8,10,12)			\$20.00	
JACKETS (4,6,8,10,12,14)			\$33.00	
JUMPER (4,6,8,10,12,14)			\$28.00	
BAGS - SMALL			\$48.00	
BAGS - LARGE			\$50.00	

CASH ONLY

TOTAL \$

SECOND HAND OPTION

Price and condition of second hand clothing varies. Second hand items are best viewed at the Clothing Pool on Wednesday mornings 9.00-10.00am or a small selection can be left at the office by arrangement.

ITEMS	SIZE	QUANTITY	PRICE RANGE

NAME:

CLASS: