

Miranda Public School



Term 1 / Week 8  
19 March 2021



# Kookaburra Gazette

## Dates to remember

<b>Term 1 2021</b>	Gymnastrix on Mondays and Fridays
19-3-2021	Final date for Year 6 High School application forms to be returned to Miranda PS
23-3-2021	School Photographs
23-3-2021	Sydney East girls' Hockey trials and boys' Rugby League carnival
24-3-2021	Sydney East boys' Hockey trials
25-3-2021	Cross Country Carnival
29-3-2021	Cronulla Zone Rugby Union trials
1-4-2021	Hat Parade and Eggs-hibition Last day of Term 1
2-4-2021	Good Friday public holiday – school holidays begin
<b>Term 2 2021</b>	
19-4-2021	Term 2 staff development day (staff only)
20-4-2021	Term 2 begins for students
22-4-2021	ANZAC Day Ceremony

## Congratulations



Congratulations to the Cairnduff family on the birth of their beautiful son, Archie who was born on Friday 5 March.



## Easter Hat Parade and Eggs-hibition

We are holding our Easter Hat Parade (Years K-4) and Eggs-hibition (Years 5-6) on Thursday 1 April. A note went home this week asking for students to bring in craft items for their projects that are made entirely at school. Teachers will film the class parades or presentations for parents to watch with their children.





### P and C Meeting

The AGM meeting is at 7pm on Wednesday 24 March in the main staffroom. Attached is information in regards to executive positions.

### Student Invoices

Thank you to those families who have managed to pay their statement of account for student resources, which was emailed out recently.

For those families still to pay, please be aware that we are happy for you to pay off your fees, over a period of weeks or terms, if you are finding it difficult to pay in one payment. Please contact Mrs Williams, in the school office, if you would like to discuss this.

### NAPLAN online

The Year 3 and Year 5 teachers are preparing with our Learning Support Team for online NAPLAN testing. This is scheduled to take place from 10 to 21 May. Students will be involved in some preliminary testing of the NAPLAN online system this term. This is just to test the capability of the school's and departments online systems, it is not the actual NAPLAN tests. We welcome NAPLAN as an external measure to validate our school's strengths and identify areas for improvement. Students and parents should not feel worried about this.

### COVID restrictions

The response to COVID restrictions varies between schools because each school's response to the Department of Education's guidelines is based on each school's unique context. As an example, most schools do not allow parents on school grounds to wait for their children in the afternoons. We invite parents in because you are respectful of social distancing and our school is surrounded by narrow footpaths beside busy roads.

Parents are now permitted to drop off and pick up students on school grounds as long as they maintain the 1.5 metre rule, remain in the silver seated area 3-6 side and NOT congregate near the school buildings. We also ask that all parents leave the school as soon as the bell rings in the morning.

We can also now allow parents to cross from one side of the school to the other, via the covered walkway, BUT please DO NOT stop to hold a conversation with any parents or students on the way and do not stand or collect in groups on the K-2 side whilst waiting for your child.

These changes to the guidelines will only be allowed to continue, if parents/carers abide by and are respectful of the ongoing guidelines.

Thank you for your understanding.

### REMINDER: High School 2022 Expression of Interest Forms Due

High School Expression of Interest forms were handed out to our Year 6 parents and carers who attended our information afternoon last Monday and were sent home with students last Tuesday.

Please ensure you fill in the required sections, indicating the high school you wish to enrol your child in for Year 7 2022, and return the form to our school office, by **no later than Friday 19 March 2021**.

Thank you so much.

### Newsletter

Our school newsletter is published and emailed to our families at the end of each fortnight (Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) in each term. Please ensure you read the Newsletter to keep up to date in what's happening around the school.

## School Photo Day – Tuesday 23 March 2021

Our school photo day will be held next Tuesday 23 March. Your child is to bring their photo envelope to school on the day regardless of your payment method (i.e. online order, cash).

**Sibling photo envelopes are also to be brought to school on the day.** If you require another student photo envelope or a sibling photo envelope, please collect one from our school office prior to Tuesday.

Full school summer uniform is to be worn (see photo below). Please refer back to the note about school photo day for more details.

Our Year 6 students will have group photographs taken, one of which will be a 'fun' photo. If your child is in Year 6, they may bring with them to school on the day, **one fun prop only** to use for this photograph (e.g. sunglasses, wig, hat, large bow).

We look forward to a whole day of smiles!



## 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge



The PRC student site is available again this year! Students can search for books to read, add books to their reading logs, and track their progress throughout the challenge. The challenge opens on March 2. You can find the site at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/> and there is a [useful help video available](#) to demonstrate how the site works.

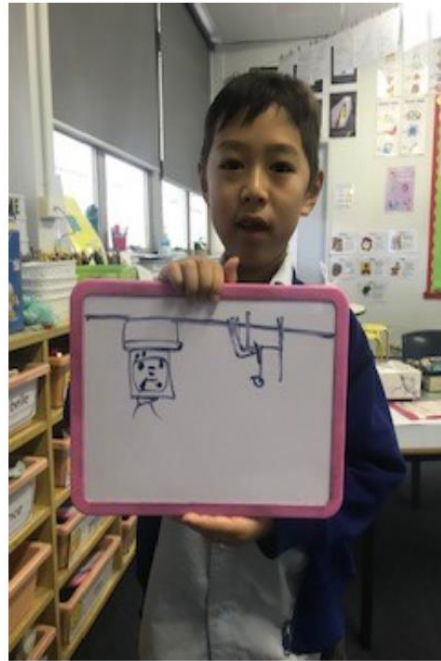
*K-2 Students will complete their challenge as a part of Library lessons each week. The K-2 student reading logs will be registered and updated by Mrs. Leavold. Certificates will be distributed to students with end of the year reports.*

*Year 3-6 students are welcome to register and participate in the challenge. They are responsible for their own PRC reading logs. Please see Mrs Leavold if you need any assistance getting started. All entries should be completed by August. Please refer to the website for details.*



2/3C

Using the word wall and creating pictures to go with our class novel.



K/6 A

Using technology to support English learning.



# A Taste of Highschool



Last Friday Year 6 went to PHHS for the morning. We were split into two groups. In Science we learnt about the elements of fire. After Science we did visual arts where we did a collage. In food tech we made some mini pizzas with tomato paste, ham, cheese and pineapple.

During music, Gianna got to play the piano. They had blue, green and pink sticky notes; we had to play the notes that the music teacher told us to.

We had a really fun day.

By Gianna and Imogen 5/6T





**5/6T are being farmers of the future!** We have planted crops of alfalfa sprouts in our paddocks(plastic trays) and are now busy creating algorithms for our own watering system which we will create using the coding program, Scratch. We will use this to determine how much water we use on our crops each day depending on the temperature and humidity levels, ensuring we only use the water that we need and therefore being sustainable farmers.





The central message for Harmony Day is that 'everyone belongs'. At Miranda Public School we value inclusiveness and are proud of our strong and successful multicultural society. On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March, students and staff came together to celebrate our cultural diversity and share what we have in common.

The day began in the hall with a colourful parade of students in traditional dress. We all enjoyed learning about the various traditional costumes and other interesting facts about the country of origin. Students and staff across the school wore orange, the colour representing Harmony Day, and the children engaged in a variety of Harmony Day activities with their class. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to come together and celebrate our diverse cultural heritage.

Harmony Day Committee













## MOOSH UPDATE

It's been an active few weeks at Before & After School Care, with the children enjoying more group games and ball games at their request. We access the vast space of the school grounds each afternoon to enjoy our sports program.

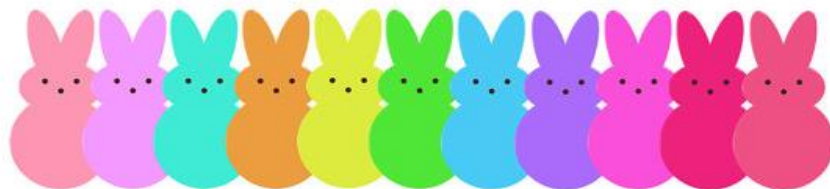
Ball games are a great learning opportunity, supporting the children's gross motor, interpersonal and communication skills. During the games we observe the children practicing their skills in negotiation, fair play, cooperation and inclusive behaviours reflecting all ages and abilities. Some of the children also love combining their two favourite activities – reading and gymnastics!

**Limited MOOSH vacancies available. Position enquiries ph 9710 0466, tour requests ph 9540 5631**

Further information please logon to [www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/MOOSH](http://www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/MOOSH)







Due to the recent lift on COVID-19 restrictions in schools,  
we are delighted to invite you to the.....

# Miranda Public School's Easter Hat Parade!

**When:** Thursday 1 April 2021

**Where:** K-2 Grass Area

**Time:** 9.30am

All visitors will need to scan the QR code on arrival, as well as read and sign an external visitors' form.

Prior to and after the parade, you are invited to  
visit the Stage 3 Eggs-hibition in the school library.

*Hippity hop on over to Miranda Public School  
to see our crazy hat creations and for the  
Light House Team's Easter Raffle!*

*We hope to see you there!*

**Please note:** In the unfortunate circumstance of **wet or extreme weather**, parents **will not** be able to attend the Easter Hat Parade as we will be unable to adhere to 1.5m social distancing guidelines. In the event of wet or extreme weather, class teachers will inform you via ClassDojo that the event will become a student only event. In this case we will revert back to our original plan and class teachers will film the class parading and upload this film to class Dojo.

## NAPLAN is back for 2021

During Week 4 and 5 of Term 2 (10<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021), students in Year 3 and Year 5 will be completing their NAPLAN assessments. With the exception of the Year 3 writing test, students will be completing these assessments online. The *NAPLAN Online 2021* guide for parents has been attached for your information.

Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a practice assessment for the online components of NAPLAN during Weeks 9-10 this term. They are also receiving additional opportunities in class to familiarise themselves with the testing format.

An assessment schedule, outlining the dates students will be completing each of the NAPLAN assessments, will be distributed early in Term 2.

If you anticipate that your child will be away during the NAPLAN assessment period, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN please contact your child's teacher, Ms McMillan or Mr Duffy.

### NAPLAN Online 2021 Information for parents and carers

**Schools across Australia started the move from paper to online testing in 2018. The move to NAPLAN Online brings new benefits for teachers and students.**

#### Why are schools moving to NAPLAN Online?

Significant planning, research and trialling has been ongoing since 2012 to support the move to NAPLAN Online. Online testing creates new opportunities for teachers and students that are not possible with paper tests.

#### What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

- NAPLAN Online will provide better assessment, more precise results and faster turn around of information.
- Most students find online assessment more engaging.
- NAPLAN Online uses tailored testing, which gives students questions better suited to their ability, resulting in more detailed individual assessment.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools and teachers.
- The precision and improved timing of the results will help teachers streamline their teaching more specifically to student needs.
- By 2022, online assessments will significantly reduce the time it takes for student results to be returned to parents and carers.

#### Practice test

NSW schools transitioning to NAPLAN Online in 2021 will participate in a school practice test between late March and early April 2021.

The practice test is a 'practice run' for students to participate in a trial NAPLAN Online test. The practice test is not an assessment of student ability but will allow schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN online test format and processes
- check they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

#### More information

More information about the NSW transition approach to NAPLAN Online, including answers to frequently asked questions, can be found on the NSW Department of Education NAPLAN Online website:

<https://www.education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/student-assessment/naplan-online>



Parents wanting to familiarise themselves with the NAPLAN Online platform can visit ACARA's public demonstration site, which includes online demonstration tests for each NAPLAN year:

[www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site)

Detailed information on NAPLAN is available on the ACARA parent and carer support webpage:

[www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support)

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **When will NSW schools transition to NAPLAN Online?**

Education ministers have recently agreed to extend the current plan for schools to transition to NAPLAN Online by one year to 2022. More than 50% of all NSW Department of Education schools completed NAPLAN online in 2019.

### **Is NAPLAN Online compulsory?**

NAPLAN Online will replace the current paper NAPLAN tests. When schools have transitioned to NAPLAN Online, all eligible students in Years 3, 5, 7 or 9 must participate, unless they are exempt or withdrawn from NAPLAN testing by parents or carers.

### **Will the Year 3 writing test be online?**

No. At this stage, the Year 3 writing test will continue to be paper-based. All other Year 3 NAPLAN tests (numeracy, reading and language conventions) will be online.

Education ministers have requested more research about the benefits or disadvantages for Year 3 students composing text in an online environment before any future decision is made.

### **What is tailored testing?**

NAPLAN Online uses tailored testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.

This allows students to better demonstrate their knowledge and provides teachers and schools with more targeted and detailed information on students' performance. More information about tailored testing can be found on the NAPLAN Online website: [education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/student-assessment/naplan-online/whats-changing/tailored-tests](http://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/student-assessment/naplan-online/whats-changing/tailored-tests)

### **How will NAPLAN Online tests be marked?**

Automated marking is currently used in the paper NAPLAN test to mark numeracy, reading and conventions of language and will remain in use for NAPLAN Online.

Trained markers will mark student writing as is currently the case with paper tests. Automated essay scoring will not be used to mark NAPLAN Online writing tests.

### **Will students' personal information be safe?**

Yes. Information about your child is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained. The NAPLAN Online platform has been built with state-of-the-art security features that comply with national data security policies and data encryption standards.

### **How will parents receive their child's NAPLAN Online results?**

Printed individual student reports will be sent to parents and carers by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), as they currently are with paper NAPLAN tests. Once all NSW schools have transitioned to NAPLAN Online, this will significantly reduce the time it takes for all individual student reports to be returned to parents and carers.

### **Will NAPLAN Online be accessible to students with disability?**

Yes, for most students. The accessibility adjustments provided in NAPLAN Online for students with disability will be equivalent to what is currently provided in paper NAPLAN tests in most instances. ACARA will provide new adjustments for NAPLAN Online, such as alternative items for students with visual, hearing or motor disabilities. Students requiring braille, or print larger than what the NAPLAN Online platform or assistive technology can provide, will sit paper tests.

### **Do students need headphones or earphones to complete NAPLAN Online?**

Yes. Headphones or earphones are required for each student to complete NAPLAN Online, as some

questions include audio. For example, the spelling test includes audio delivery of words that students are required to type in.

Schools will be responsible for ensuring that all students have the appropriate headphones or earphones to complete NAPLAN Online.

### **Can students use their own devices to complete NAPLAN Online?**

Yes, however it will be at the discretion of the individual school. Each device will require the installation of a locked down browser application, which prevents students from accessing unauthorised websites, applications and spellcheck features.

The ACARA website has more information on technical requirements for NAPLAN Online:

[www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/technical-requirements](http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/technical-requirements)

### **What happens if a computer experiences issues during a test session?**

No student is disadvantaged if their device stops working during the NAPLAN Online test. In the case of interruptions, tests can be paused and resumed as required with no time lost. If a device stops working, all responses will be saved and the student can complete their test in a rescheduled test session.

### **Who is responsible for administering the NAPLAN tests**

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) is the test administration authority responsible for the administration and delivery of NAPLAN tests in NSW, including paper test and NAPLAN Online.

### **Who is ACARA?**

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is an independent statutory authority responsible for the development of national curriculum, and the administration of national assessments and associated reporting on schooling in Australia.

## **2021 Cross Country Thursday 25 March**



## **Welcome to the MPS P&C Pop up Stall**



### **All Drinks @ \$2.00 each**

Juice boxes  
Soft Drinks  
Bottles of Water



### **All Snacks @ \$1.00 each**

Zooper Dooper Ice Tubes Variety  
Crisps / Popcorn Variety  
Wafer Biscuits  
Mixed Lolly Bag



**Miranda P&C**

**General  
Meeting**



**< Cash Only >**

***Thank you for your support!***

*Your* 

**Annual  
Meeting and**

**Helpers Needed!**

**Anytime between 9.10 am – 2.30 pm  
Contact Jessica on 0422 865 300**



# **MPS P&C Meeting and Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

**Wednesday 24 March 2021  
@ 7.00 pm**

**via Office entry, Sylva Avenue**

2020 & 2021 Kindy & All Parents/Carers are encouraged to attend!

Get to know your MPS Community & School developments and planning

Your involvement in the P&C makes a huge difference in the learning and well being for all students!

- ✓ Children welcome!
- ✓ Light refreshments



The Miranda Public School P & C Association warmly welcomes you to the Annual General Meeting at 7:00pm and our usual meeting at 7:30pm in the main staff room. Please enter the school through the main entrance. Feel free to bring children along and remember your \$2 coin to enable you to formally join the Miranda PS P&C and vote on future decisions of the group.

This is a great way to get to know other families in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, learn more about the school, ask general questions and express your view.

We hope to see you!

When: 7:00pm on Wednesday 24 March 2021

Where: Miranda Public School. *Please enter by the main entrance (two storey building).*

## **Executive Roles of the P&C Association**

At the Annual General Meeting, financial members may nominate for the following positions:

### **Role of the President**

The President is elected at the P&C Association's Annual General Meeting.

The President is responsible for:

- The successful functioning of the P&C Association meetings
- The attainment of the P&C Association's objectives
- Ensuring that the P&C Association takes part in decision-making processes in the school

- Fostering fair participation of all members and ensuring that all new members are made to feel welcome
- Supporting volunteers
- Consistent adherence to the constitution
- Acting as the P&C Association's spokesperson when public statements or actions are needed
- Setting up lines of communication with the Principal
- Being signatory on the Association's bank accounts
- Chairing meetings, in the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents will chair the meeting or the meeting can elect a chairperson from the members present for that meeting.

#### Voting

The President is entitled to the same voting rights as any member. However, a President, when in the Chair, often abstains from voting in order to preserve the impartiality of the position. The person chairing a meeting does not have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote. In the event of a tied vote, the motion remains as status quo. This allows the motion to be put forward at another time.

#### Sub-committees

The President is automatically a member of all P&C sub-committees. The President should be informed of all subcommittee meetings and decisions, this would occur through written report. An experienced President gives opportunities to the Vice-Presidents to develop their skills in chairing meetings. Federation recommends that a vice-president be delegated to chair part of a meeting. The training process could also include delegating the responsibility of sub-committee leadership to vice-presidents. The President also has important responsibilities outside of meetings and is looked to as a leader of the parent community. The President does not make unilateral decisions and should be mindful that all public statements accurately represent the views of the association.

### **Role Of The Secretary**

The Secretary is responsible for carrying out the administrative tasks related to the decisions of the meetings as resolved. The Secretary prepares, in consultation with the President, all meeting agendas.

The Secretary is required to attend P&C Association meetings and take notes of the discussions in order to produce a set of Minutes for subsequent distribution to members and for receipt, possible amendment and adoption at the following meeting. (In the absence of the Secretary the meeting should elect a person to take the Minutes, this person should be identified in the Minutes.)

Further, the position includes receiving and tabling all correspondence as well as writing and dispatching outgoing correspondence as resolved/appropriate.

The Secretary also issues notice of all meetings and maintains official records of the P&C Association such as the constitution, by-laws, rules of subcommittees, Incorporation Certificate, ABN details, list of financial (voting) members, Minutes, Attendance book.

### **Role Of The Treasurer**

Whilst all P&C members must be mindful of complying with financial accountability requirements, this is the Treasurer's primary responsibility. The Treasurer receives and deposits monies, maintains records, draws cheques\* and presents accounts.

The Treasurer also ensures that all funds held and handled by P&C are properly and openly accounted for as the Treasurer is responsible for all funds held in the name of the P&C Association. This includes all P&C Association



committees. This does not mean that the Treasurer must undertake the actual bookkeeping themselves but they must ensure that the various sub-committee financial records have been kept to the Treasurer's satisfaction.

The Treasurer is a signatory on the P&C accounts and should not delegate this responsibility. The Treasurer should encourage members to understand the state of the P&C Association finances. The Treasurer must ensure a case book or books are kept, recording all financial transactions of the P&C Association.



**O'GRADY  
DRAMA**

**Classes run at  
Miranda Public School on  
Thursdays 4pm-5pm**

**Spaces Available!**

*Come join our fun drama classes and build  
creativity and communication skills*

**Contact us to enrol or book a trial on  
0400 707 393 or  
[sydneysouth@ogradydrama.com.au](mailto:sydneysouth@ogradydrama.com.au)**

**CREATIVE  
KIDS**  
REGISTERED PROVIDER  
Claim your \$100 voucher here  
NSW