

Miranda Public School



Term 3 / Week 2  
29 July 2022



# Kookaburra Gazette

## Dates to remember

Term 3 2022	<i>All events are subject to the COVID restrictions in effect at that time.</i>
Mondays	Groove Nation
Wednesdays	SRE and Ethics
28-7-2022	OC Testing
2/3-8-2022	M Duffy @ Met South & West principals' Conference
4-8-2022	Education Week Open Day
5-8-2022	PSSA AFL begins (Fridays)
8-8 to 2-9-22	P & C Loose Change Fundraiser
9-8-22	K - 6 Pyjama Day Mufti-day (fundraising by Year 6) Stage 3 Drone Workshops begin (Tuesdays)
10-8-2022	Combined Schools Dance Concert at Hurstville 6:00pm
11-8-2022	Cronulla Zone Athletics Day 1
16-8-2022	Book Week 2022
17-8-2022	Starting School Information Talk at Miranda Kindergarten 7:00pm
22-8-2022	K-2 and SEU Excursion to SOPAC
25-8-2022	Cronulla Zone Athletics Day 2

### Education Week

You are cordially invited to attend our Education Week open day on Thursday 4 August.

We would love for you to join us and celebrate in in your child's journey of 'Creating Futures – Education Changes Lives'.

- Date: Thursday 4 August 2022
- Showcase Assembly: 9:40am – 10:40am
- Location: Miranda Public School Hall (entry via Sylva Avenue gate)

Open Classrooms: 10:45am – 11:00am (subject to change under department advice)

Please note that not all students will be present and participating in the assembly as it is just a small showcase of some of the amazing things that are occurring here at Miranda Public School.

All parents and carers will have the opportunity to see and engage with your child and their learning during open classrooms at 10:45am.

We will be asking people not to crowd our classrooms. Please be prepared to take turns and wait outside. Please note that other COVID restrictions may need to be applied.

You are encouraged to social distance, use sanitiser and wear masks. Please stay home if you are unwell.

### 2023 Kindergarten Enrolments

We are now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten in 2023. If you have (or know of a friend who has) a preschool child turning 6 next year, please ask them to come to the school to complete their enrolment forms. Parents will need to bring original copies of:

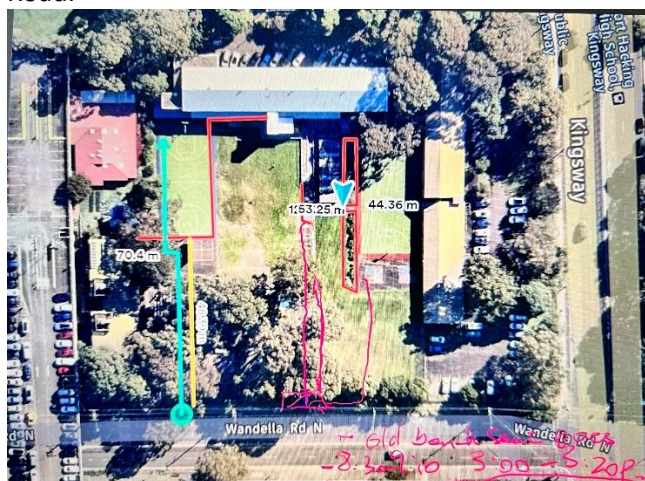
- the student's Australian birth certificate (or family passports and VISAs);
- the student's immunisation certificate (from Medicare); and

- proof that they are living in the area, e.g.: rates notice or lease agreement and a utility bill (such as council rates, water, gas or electricity).

If your pre-schooler has any special needs, please help us to set him/her up for success by completing the enrolling process now so we have time to ensure that supports are in place. It would also be helpful to bring in any reports from professionals who have been supporting your child. Please also see the flyer at the back of this newsletter for our transition dates.

### Work around the school

Our playground upgrade has finally begun. The work will include a synthetic multipurpose court, new asphalt and new retaining walls around the toilet areas. We will then need to purchase new seats and organise line markings and other items. In the meantime, there will be some disruptions to our playground areas and we are currently using the double gates in Wandella Road.



We now have a shelter linking the students' toilets to Block A (two/three storey building) and have received a quote to do the same for Block F.

The trees were pruned during the holidays.

A ventilation system is being installed into Block F.

### Uniform

After speaking with the P&C, Mrs Williams has asked W Reid to make up a uniform sample with blue shorts and a white blouse for parents to view. We will advise when these are complete.

### Preparing for 2023 Classes

Placing students in classes is a very complex process and a lot of factors need to be taken into consideration to ensure the best placement for students.

If you have information to share about your children that you would like the school to consider for 2023, please organise an interview with your child's class teacher, assistant principal, or Mrs Wilkins at the beginning of Term 3.

No promises can be made, because we need to consider all the students and also meet with Department of Education funding protocols. We are in a better position to consider your information if it is conveyed well in advance.

Some parents ask the school to consider repetition. Research has shown that repetition only proves to be effective in a small number of cases, so this is not a decision that can be rushed through at the last minute. Parents may be required to speak with the school counsellor to organise an assessment, answer surveys along with class teachers and meet with the learning support team so that a fully informed decision can be made. If you have been thinking about repetition, please approach Mrs Wilkins or your child's assistant principal early in Term 3

### OSH Club

If your child attends OSH Club and is absent from school, could you please notify OSH ASAP that they will not be attending. This is a parent responsibility.

OSH Club employs staff according to the number of students expected. They need to pay for these staff, so they have the right to charge parents, if they have not been given adequate notice.

### NAIDOC Week Celebrations

We celebrated NAIDOC week at Miranda Public School during the first week of Term 3. As part of our school's celebration, students enjoyed participating in a range of activities.



### Public Speaking

The Miranda Public School Public Speaking competition will be held during Term 3. All students in Years K to 6 will participate in this activity, fulfilling English syllabus requirements as well as providing students with the opportunity to develop their confidence and oral presentation skills. Your child's teacher will have conveyed this information.

### Student Led Conferences

Thank you for attending the student led conferences. We trust you found these were informative.



Please remember that you are our partners in education and we welcome your feedback. You are most welcome to make an appointment to speak with the teachers at any time of the year, because discussions about your child's progress are best conducted in face to face environment. Such conversations are not appropriate on ClassDojo, Seesaw or email.

### Principals Award



Congratulations to Zane Nurkic (4/50) who has received his Principal's Award for being a safe, respectful and responsible student.

### Tell Them From Me Surveys

Each year students in Years 4, 5 and 6 participate in these confidential surveys in Term 1 and again in Term 3 to assist the school with information to improve learning and wellbeing. The survey also asks students about teaching practices and the learning environment.

The survey will provide valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them.

The survey is completed online and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar. Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable, he/she can choose to stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped.

The same students, as well as teachers and parents are invited to participate in TTFM surveys in Term 3.

### Explaining the survey to your child

- Your child will be filling out an online survey called 'Tell Them From Me'.
- This survey is an opportunity for them to let their teachers know how they are going at school.
- The survey will ask your child how engaged they are with their learning, different ways that their teachers teach them in class, how supported they feel at school, and more.
- Your child's responses are confidential, which means their teachers won't know how they have answered.
- Please encourage your child to answer as honestly as they can. There are no right or wrong answers. The school just wants to hear what they think and their responses will help to improve their school. Some of the questions are there to help the school understand students and how to best meet their needs.
- If your child is unsure how to answer them, they can skip these questions.
- They can skip any question that they don't feel comfortable answering.
- If your child would like to talk about any of the questions in this survey, please encourage them to talk to their teacher, their Year Adviser, the school counsellor or the school psychologist.

If you do **not** want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the form at the back of this newsletter and return it to the school by 18 March 2022.

More information about the survey and the research is available in English at [education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm](https://education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm)

### Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the NCCD guidelines (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional

- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the Australian Government's Privacy Policy <https://www.dese.gov.au/about-us/resources/department-education-skills-and-employment-complete-privacy-policy-0>

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the NCCD Portal <https://www.nccd.edu.au>

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact Mrs Wilkins or Mr Duffy.

## Happy National Tree Day

Happy National Tree Day on Friday 29 July 2022! While we can't plant trees in the grounds today, Katie and Fabian from The Green Streets Team (Sutherland Council) are working with Mrs Cooke and interested students to create some garden designs and suitable species for each area in the school.

Please see below an overview of the areas we identified through our site inspection with students where planting could occur:



Sutherland Shire Council is proud to promote Operation Cooldown Miranda's Walking Art Exhibition'.

The students of 3 Miranda based schools have created incredible artworks for their community, sharing why they feel 'Trees are Cool'. Artworks are from students who attend Miranda Public School, Miranda Kindergarten, Miranda North Public School. These images showcase the voice of a generation who will benefit from street trees planted in 2022. Student artworks have been attached to the stakes of newly planted street trees in streets within the 'Operation Cooldown Miranda' precinct, highlighted in the attached map.

We hope you enjoy this walking art exhibition and share the attached map with students and their families to walk through and enjoy the art on display. We hope students find their artworks, and let their friends know if they find theirs along the way.

Miranda currently has only 15% canopy cover. Targeting tree replenishment within this community will help to maintain the leafy character of Sutherland Shire for current and future generations. More tree canopy means healthy people, more shade, cooler suburbs, more homes for our wildlife and even an increase in property values.

If families from Miranda Public School would like a tree voucher to collect 2 free trees of their choice from The Sutherland Shire Community Nursery to plant in their own yard, please email [greenstreets@ssc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:greenstreets@ssc.nsw.gov.au) with address details. There are species options at the Nursery for growing in pots on balconies too.



## MPS Pie Drive

Miranda Public School P&C Association is running a pie drive for families who may like to order some delicious goods supplied from Loftus Pies to help the P&C fundraise. Orders CLOSE on 18th August 2022. Goods will be delivered to school for pick up on Friday 26th August 2022. Everything is freezer friendly. You can share this form with friends and family if they would like to support our efforts and enjoy some goods also.

The link is: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/MirandaPC1/MPSPieDrive>

For more information, please contact Trudi or Elise via the school office.





# Miranda Public School

## Kindergarten 2023



## Is your child starting school next year?

Miranda Public School would love to invite 2023 Kindergarten students and their families to our exciting school events taking place this year.\*\*

**\*\*All activities are subject to Covid Restrictions. We will notify your preschools if there are changes.**

### **Easter Hat parade**

Friday 8 April 2022

2:00pm to 3:00pm

Wear your Easter Hat for our parade

### **Celebration of 100 days of learning**

Monday 27 June 2022

9:30am to 10:30am

Hands on activities in Kindergarten classrooms

### **Education week – School Open day activities**

Thursday 4 August 2022

9:30am - 11:00am Open classrooms and student performances

Join us in showcasing the wonderful programs we have at Miranda Public School

### **Book Week Parade**

Tuesday 16 August 2022

2:00pm to 3:00pm Book character parade

Kindergarten 2022 are invited to dress up and join in the parade

### **Kindergarten 2023 Transition Program**

Tuesday 25 October 9:45am-10:45am

Wednesday 2 November 9:45am – 10:45am

Thursday 10 November 9:45am – 10:45am

### **First Day of Kindergarten**

Information regarding Best Start interview times will be provided during the Kindergarten Transition Program.



Please contact the school if you would like to register for any of these events

3 Sylva Avenue Miranda 2228

Telephone: 9524 4631

Email:

[miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website:

[www.miranda-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.miranda-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

Facebook:

Miranda Public School Official

Twitter:

@mirandaps6

## ***Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form***

**(only relevant for students in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.)**

**Please read article about “Tell them From Me surveys” in this newsletter first.**

If you **do not want** your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to the school by **12 August 2022**.

**I DO NOT** give consent for my child/children to participate in the ***Tell Them From Me student feedback survey***

Name of student 1

Roll class of student 1

Name of student 2

Roll class of student 2

Name of student 3

Roll class of student 3

Name of student 4

Roll class of student 4

Name of parent/carers

Signature of  
parent/carers

Date



# Compulsory School Attendance

## Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





### **My child won't go to school. What should I do?**

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### **What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?**

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### **What age can my child leave school?**

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

### **Working in Partnership**

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

**If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.**

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

#### **Policy, information and brochures:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

#### **The school leaving age:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

#### **Do you need an interpreter?**

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

[www.dec.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

# Completing Absentee Notes and Notices

## Information for parents and carers

It is important to tell the school if your child has to be absent from school and to provide a reason for the absence.

Principals are legally responsible for keeping accurate records of student attendance.

Principals are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified.

Wherever possible, parents and carers are encouraged to provide an explanation for absences before the absences occur.

The Principal of the school has the right to question parents' requests for their child to be absent from school. The Principal also has the right to question an explanation given for a child's absence from school.

To explain an absence parents and carers may:

- send a note, fax or email to the school
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

### Bilingual Absentee Notes

Three bilingual absentee notes are available to assist you to inform the school of your child's absence.

Absentee note 1 should be used when a child is absent for 1 whole day.

Absentee note 2 should be used when a child is absent for more than 1 day.

Absentee note 3 should be used when a child is absent for part of the day.

### Absentee Notices

If the school has not received an explanation for a child's absence they may send you an Absentee Notice.

Principals use the Absentee Notice to contact parents within two days of an unexplained absence. The Absentee Notice must be completed in English and returned to the school within seven school days, giving a reason for the absence.

### Completing details of absences

Sections of the Absentee Notes and the Absentee Notice ask you to provide details for your child's absence or partial absence.

For the school to be able to understand the reasons given, these sections should be completed in English. Possible reasons are provided in this leaflet and have been translated into English for you to copy onto the forms, if applicable.

If you have difficulty understanding the Absentee Notes or Absentee Notice or with completing the details you may telephone the school to explain the reason for your child's absence. If you telephone the school you do not need to fill in a written note as well.

### Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact your child's school, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call the school and stay on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

### Newsletters

Our "Kookaburra Gazette" is published at the end of every **even week** and can be received by email, Facebook "*Miranda PS (official)*", the NSW Education Parent app (now on Apple and Android): <https://education.nsw.gov.au/campaigns/schools-digital-strategy/nsw-education-parent-app>

