Term 1 Week 6 8 March 2024



#### Miranda Public School

# Kookaburra Gazette



Miranda Public School proudly acknowledges the Gweagal of the Dharawal Nation as the traditional owners of this land.

We acknowledge the homelands of all First Nations People and pay respect to all elders, past, present, and emerging.

#### **Meet the Teacher Evenings**

Thank you for attending the meet the teacher evenings held last week. We hope you found this information helpful. The time freely given by parents and carers and all the teachers is greatly appreciated.

As always, you are welcome to make appointments to discuss your child's progress throughout the year.

#### **NAPLAN 2024 parent and carer information**

Each year the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is undertaken by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Students will participate in tests for writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar, and punctuation) and numeracy.

NAPLAN 2024 will take place from Wednesday 13 March to Monday 25 March.

NAPLAN is just one part of our school learning assessment program. The tests assess literacy and numeracy skills your child is already learning at school.

In preparation for NAPLAN, our school will undertake activities to help students become familiar with the format and functionality of the online tests. These activities are not an assessment of student ability and will not be marked. Excessive preparation for NAPLAN is not required nor recommended.

If you or your child/children would like to know more about the <u>NAPLAN online</u> platform you can go to the public demonstration site and do some practice tests and past <u>NAPLAN papers</u> are also available online.

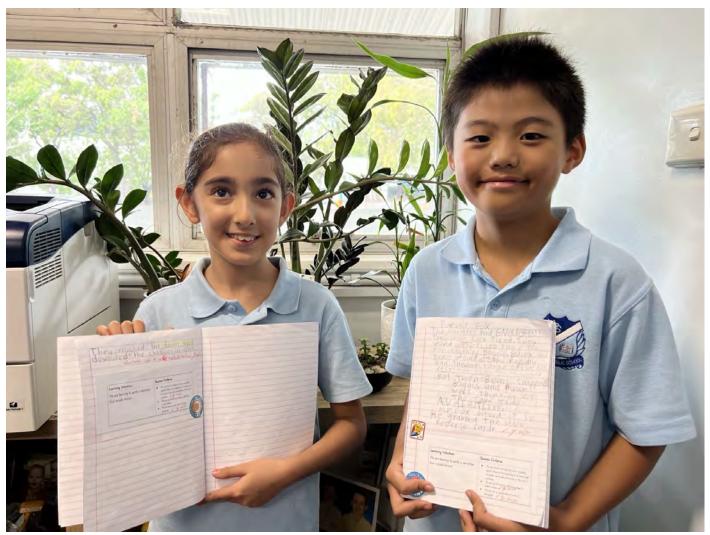
Adjustments are available for students who have diverse functional abilities and needs. On a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments for individual students can be made so they can complete NAPLAN. Speak to your child's teacher to discuss the adjustments available. For more information read the <u>Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN (PDF 96 KB)</u>

You can support your child by reminding them to simply do their best. You can also encourage:

- a healthy diet
- drinking lots of water
- getting enough sleep
- exercise and relaxation time

#### **Third Party Software**

Notes were sent out (by paper) last week asking for parent permission so students may use the nominated third party software at school, including ClassDojo and See-Saw. Thank you for returning these so quickly. If you have not done so already, please sign and return these to school next week.



Viyona and Kai (3/4Amethyst) shared their writing with Mr Duffy and were both able to explain how well they are progressing by referencing the learning intentions and success criteria from the lesson (shown on the pages of their books.)

#### **Respect at School**

Every school community around the state is very different. While most schools (including Miranda Public School) are respectful and harmonious, violence and unsafe behaviour are not acceptable. School staff and students have the right to learn and work in safe and respectful learning environments.

We value our partnerships with you to support our students to learn, grow, and belong. It is up to us – the school and the parent-body - to be good respectful role models to our students. Together, we can create a safe and harmonious environment for our students and staff.

We appreciate your support in this initiative. What do you need to do? It is easy: Please remind others to treat our students and staff with kindness and respect, at all times. We are here to help you. Please feel welcome to contact Mr Duffy (principal) or your child's stage assistant principal if you have any questions.

#### **Approaching your School**

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

- Discuss the progress or welfare of own child.
- Express concern about actions of other students.
- Enquire about school policy or practice.

It is therefore necessary to have procedures that will help solve problems as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. The best results usually flow from working together.

On occasion, concerns may cause frustration and anxiety and digital platforms such as email and ClassDojo are not appropriate forums to express these issues. Instead, please organise a time to talk with school staff in an unhurried and confidential atmosphere.

Speaking to teachers when they are supervising students or engaged in another conversation, is <u>not</u> appropriate.

ClassDojo may be used for passing on brief messages to teachers, as long as parents understand that teachers need to be teaching. Face book is used for celebrating student learning and only positive comments will be accepted.

The staff will not respond to messages sent during the school day when they are supervising students or attending meetings. It is also unfair to expect teachers to respond to messages when they are with their own families or preparing for the next school day. Please allow <u>at least</u> one full business day before you expect to receive a response. If you need to contact your child's teacher urgently, please contact the school office 9524 4631 and a message will be passed on.

ISSUE	APPROPRIATE ACTION	
Academic progress of own child	Directly contact the child's teacher either by note, ClassDojo/Seesaw or via the office to arrange a suitable time to discuss any issues.	
The welfare of your own child	<ul> <li>For minor issues directly contact your child's teacher to clarify information before 9:00am.</li> <li>For more serious concerns, contact the office to arrange a suitable time to talk with the staff member involved.</li> <li>To convey information about change of address, telephone number, emergency contact, custody details, health issues and so on, please email <a href="Miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au">Miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au</a> or contact the office 9542 4631.</li> </ul>	
Actions of other students	<ul> <li>Contact the class teacher for a classroom problem.</li> <li>Contact the stage assistant principal for playground problems.</li> <li>Never approach another parent's child or other parents to address an issue at school.</li> </ul>	
NSW and Federal legislation, DoE policies and procedures	Like you, all school staff are expected to follow all NSW and Federal laws, and comply with Department of Education policies and procedures. It is inappropriate to challenge staff when they are doing their best every day to help your children.	
School community issues	Contact the school's P&C president or secretary. You are welcome to attend P&C meetings each term. Also look out for invitations to attend parent workshops and consultation sessions.	



If you have not already done so, please register for the **School Bytes** portal at: <a href="https://portal.schoolbytes.education">https://portal.schoolbytes.education</a> to make payments, receive emails and communications and complete permission notes. This app complements the parent portal and makes it easier for parents to use School Bytes on their mobile devices:

- App Store https://apps.apple.com/us/ap p/school-bytes/id6463097826
- Google Play https://play.google.com/store/ apps/details?id=education.sch oolbytes

#### **P&C Association Meeting - CHANGE OF DATE**

The P&C Association's Annual General Meeting and first 2024 ordinary meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 March from 7:00pm – 8:30pm. This is a great way to get to know other families, learn what is happening in the school and help to enhance the school experience for all the students. We look forward to seeing you there.



#### **Attendance at School**

Regular attendance and punctuality at school is essential for students to succeed in their learning and develop positive friendships and self-esteem. There is no "safe" limit to the number of absences a students may have each year. Every day matters.

#### Parents must ensure:

- Their children of <u>compulsory school age</u> are enrolled in a government or registered non-government school or, they are registered with the <u>Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES)</u> for Home Schooling.
- Their children who are enrolled at school attend every day the school is open for their instruction.
- They provide an explanation for absences by means such as **through School Bytes**, or a written note or email to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence.
- Contact the school if your child will be away for more than one day.
- They work in partnership with the school to plan and implement strategies to support regular attendance at school, including communicating with the school if they are aware of issues impacting on their child's attendance or engagement with school.

If you **need** to make **medical appointments during school hours**, please ask the **practitioner** to state **when the student attended, and that the appointment cannot be made out of school hours.** If this is done, the absence may be marked as approved leave.



https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/going-to-school/school-attendance-information-for-parents#Why0

#### **Mobile Phones and Smart Watches are Banned in Schools**

Mobile phones and smart watches are banned in public schools. They are expensive, fragile, and not needed by most primary students, so they should be left at home.

If, for some reason, you need your child to carry a mobile phone to contact you after school, (e.g.: to let you know that they have arrived safely at another venue), then the phone must be switched off while your child is on the school premises. All mobile phones and smart watches must be signed in by your child at the school office in the morning, where they are stored safely and signed out again in the afternoon. Students must not turn their phones on again until they have left the school grounds. Many students have similar phones so please ensure that the phone is clearly labelled. The school is not responsible for lost or damaged phones.

Set your children up for success: If we find that phones are being used inappropriately at school, they may be confiscated, and other disciplinary actions may need to be taken.

#### Leave Bikes and Scooters at home. It is not safe to take them to school.

Due to the high volume of traffic and narrow uneven footpaths surrounding the school, students are <u>not</u> to ride their bikes and scooters to school. This decision was made in consultation with the NSW Police Youth Liaison Officer.



Eleanor and Lochy (2 Quartz) shared their writing with Mr Duffy. Mrs Button (teacher relieving for Mrs Attard) was so proud of them for using great adjectives and organising their complex ideas on paper.

#### Parking around the school

There are about 220 families in the school, but only 15 parking spots in Sylva Avenue. Sylva Avenue is regularly patrolled by parking rangers and the police, so drivers who choose to ignore the road rules will get caught out eventually. To keep all our community safe and avoid a fine, we suggest that you:

#### DO

- Park in the Westfields Wandella Road carpark next to the Miranda Library. It is less than a two-minute walk from this carpark to our school hall.
- Walk to school if/where possible.

- Park further away and walk to and from the school with your children.
- Read and heed the road signs posted around the school.

#### **DO NOT**

- **DO NOT** drive into, or park in the school carpark or in the Miranda Education Office. The Department of Education takes no responsibility for cars parked/driven on its property and you risk voiding your cover.
- **DO NOT** drive/reverse across footpaths that are used by small children accessing the school. Children can be unpredictable and hard to see. Our community would never recover if a child was hit ... or worse.
- **DO NOT** stop, wait, pick up or drop off children on the roundabout/cul-de-sac or **NO STOPPING** areas at the top of Sylva Road. This blocks up the road, reduces vision and annoys other drivers, who may then not think properly. You may never forgive yourself if you were the driver responsible for causing harm to a child.
- **DO NOT** approach other drivers. Road Rage is an offence and our school students and staff do not deserve to witness this. If there is an issue call the police.

#### **Staff News**

Congratulations to our wonderful staff.

Two weeks ago, the staff held a small presentation for Mrs Towers, who received a well-deserved Certificate of Service for her many years of dedication to NSW Public Education students. During the same ceremony, Miss Szeles and Mr Thode (now teaching at Undercliffe PS) received their NESA Accreditation Certificates of Proficiency. Mrs Romeyko was also presented with her NESA Accreditation Certificate of Proficiency three weeks ago.







#### **PSSA Sport Trials**

PSSA sport trials for next term are currrently taking place. The school's procedures have been emailed to all parents and carers of students in Years 3 to 6.



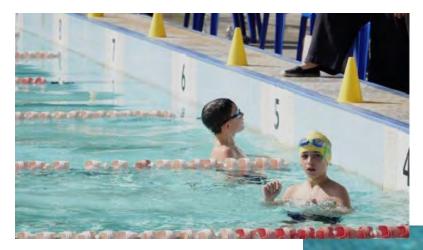
#### **Cronulla Zone Swimming Carnival**

On Tuesday 5 March, 21 swimmers represented Miranda at the Cronulla Zone Swimming Carnival. Our swimmers were competing against students from 15 other schools in our zone and all swimmers tried their very best in their races. All swimmers showed great sportsmanship by encouraging and cheering each other on. Congratulations to all swimmers on a great job at representing Miranda! Thank you to Suzan Walker for our photos.



























#### **Thank you Woolworths!**

We need to acknowledge and thank Woolworths at Miranda Fair for their very generous sponsorship of our Welcome Barbecue for new families this year. Woolworths organised the order for us so we could collect it quickly and also donated one third of the total cost of the food.

#### **Student Representative Council**

The 2024 SRC members were announced at our week 5 special awards assembly. They are working on fundraising ideas and projects to help make Miranda a better school for all. Each class has a suggestion box and the SRC welcomes ideas and suggestions from all students that can be discussed and workshopped in fortnightly meetings. Congratulations to the 2024 semester 1 SRC members.

Class	Name
K/6 Amber	William B
K/6 Opal	Maia V
K/6 Topaz	Lucas Y
K Ruby	Ingrid G
K Sapphire	Daisy W
1 Diamond	Isaac B
1 Pearl	Brock C-H
2 Jasper	Scarlett Z
2 Quartz	Alex G
3/4 Amethyst	Dylan M
3/4 Emerald	Marli D
4/5 Onyx	Oscar Z
5/6 Garnet	Sonny E
5/6 Zircon	Bridget B



#### 2024 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Please complete your 2024 Student Reading Record by Friday 23 August https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home



Challenge level	Total number of books to be read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books
3-4	20	10	10
5-6	20	10	10

PRC Certificates are awarded at the Presentation Day Assembly in December.

#### Welcome to the 2024 Premier's Reading Challenge!

If you'd like to enter, please record the books you have read either online - <a href="https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home">https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home</a> or complete this reading log and return it to the library by 23 August 2024. PRC Booklists are available online or check in with us during library if you need help getting started or finding books to enjoy.

READING LOG - NAME : \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_

Organising teachers: Mrs. Cairnduff and Mrs Leavold

PRC ID	Title	Author
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# **Every Day Matters**



When it comes to attending school, every day matters

If your child misses as little as

1 day per fortnight, they will
miss 4 weeks of school per year,
which adds up to over 1 year
missed over their school life.



Scan the QR code to learn more

Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:



Learning



Strengthening friendships



Build skills through fun



#### SYDNEY SOUTHEAST SYMPHONIC WINDS 2024



2024 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sydney Southeast Symphonic Winds ensemble (formerly known as the Sydney Region Band). Our goal is to provide advanced music education and performance opportunities for children in years 5-8 who are currently enrolled in public schools in and around the Sydney area. Students are auditioned from all across the greater Sydney area to form a 100+ piece concert band.

The band has regularly performed at leading performance venues including the Sydney Opera House, Angel Place, Sydney Town Hall, Parliament House, Verbrugghen Hall and the Sydney Entertainment Centre, also representing the Department of Education at official events throughout Sydney.

We hold a yearly camp where the students work with experienced conductors and tutors, with regular rehearsals held at Caringbah North Public School. We also provide music teachers with professional development opportunities both as a part of the camp as well as through rehearsals and auditions.

#### WHO CAN APPLY?

Students in year 5, 6, 7 or 8 who are enrolled in a Public School located in the greater Sydney area. Year 9 students who were a member of the 2023 ensemble are also welcomed to apply.

#### **AUDITIONS**

Auditions will be held on May 4-5 at Caringbah North PS. For more information regarding auditions please see the Audition Requirements information available on the following page. Alternatively, all information can be viewed on our website – <a href="https://www.gspsensembles.com">www.gspsensembles.com</a> or on the Arts Unit website.

#### CAMP

The 2024 camp will be held Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June at The Tops Conference Centre.

#### **FEES**

Fees for 2024 total \$600. These fees pay for camp accommodation/meals/activities, music, expert tuition, administration, auditions, supervision, and band polo shirt (if required).

#### **REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE DATES**

Please see the calendar on the following page or on our website for the proposed 2024 schedule.

#### HOW TO APPLY:

Teachers, conductors, and tutors are to provide information and dates to suitable students. Applications are to be made online at <a href="https://www.gspsensembles.com">www.gspsensembles.com</a> or via the Arts Unit website. Please ensure that all information is read carefully prior to applying. Times and dates for auditions will be sent by Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April with auditions held the following weekend. An attempt will be made to honour special requests for audition allocations.

### CLOSING DATE: Friday 26th April, 2024

Questions regarding applications or information regarding the 2024 SSSW ensemble should be directed to adam.t.robinson@det.nsw.edu.au



# AUDITION INFORMATION & PROPOSED CALENDAR 2024



Auditions for 2024 will be held Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May at Caringbah North Public School. Students will be allocated a time and day following the close of applications on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. If no information has been received by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April regarding audition allocation, please contact us. If there are any special requests regarding audition allocation, we will do our best to accommodate.

#### On the day of the audition, students will be required to:

- Perform one short unaccompanied piece (or an excerpt from a longer piece) between 1-2 minutes long, with a focus on the players' musicality and technique. Special attention should be paid to phrasing, articulation, and dynamic contrast.
- Play one major, minor, or chromatic scale. The scale should demonstrate as much of the students'
  playing range as possible and be played "all tongued" or "all slurred".
- Play a short passage of sight reading. The piece will be different for all instruments and will reflect the level of music to be played in this year's ensemble.

All students will need to bring is their instrument, music, and a smile @

#### \*\* SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR PERCUSSIONISTS \*\*

The percussion audition process is slightly different in that it will be an open audition, with all applicants attending at the same time. They will need to demonstrate 4 styles (Rock, Swing, Latin & March) as well as auxiliary and mallet ability if studied. Creativity is greatly encouraged within the various beat patterns. These auditions will be held on the afternoon/evening of Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

Day / Date	Details	Venue
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Auditions Times TBA	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	First Rehearsal 2.30pm – 5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June – Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Camp 9am Monday – 7pm Wednesday	The Tops Conference Centre
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 30th June	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 11th August	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 18th August	Dress Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> August	Cantabile Festival Times TBA	Sydney Opera House
Sunday 8th September	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 13th October	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 27th October	Rehearsal 2.30-5.30pm	Caringbah North Public School
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Showcase Concert Times TBA	Sydney Conservatorium of Music – Verbrugghen Hall

<sup>\*\*</sup> This is a proposed schedule only and is subject to change. \*\*

## MPS Breakfast Club is back for 2024!

Now OPEN on Wednesdays & Thursdays 08.40 - 09.00 am Canteen area - Primary side

Starting Wednesday 21 February

Supported by Miranda PS Brought to you by Parent/carer helpers

To volunteer or support, contact Jessica (parent) 0422 865 300







# All students welcomed for a free breakfast

Serving Choice of:

Fruit

Cereal (eg. Cornflakes, Rice bubbles, Weetbix, Cheerios or similar)

With milk (cow or soy), sultanas, honey

Juice of the day (only served to students when eating a breakfast)

**Generously Sponsored by:** 







This is a new and exciting event, taking place on Sunday 24th March at The Ridge Sporting Complex, Barden Ridge and **we'd** love to have you and students, all abilities involved in this community event!

Our school is already loaded on to the online registration process, simply select your school from the dropdown menu when completing registration.

The times of the fastest FOUR (4) runners from each school in each category for the relevant scoring distance (see below) will be accumulated. School placings and prizes will be based on this accumulative time (i.e. school with fastest FOUR combined times awarded 1st place, etc.).

CATEGORY	SCORING EVENT
Male Junior Primary Schools Challenge (8-10 Years)	1500m
Female Junior Primary Schools Challenge (8-10 Years)	1500m
Male Primary Schools Challenge (11-13 Years)	3km
Female Primary Schools Challenge (11-13 Years)	3km
Male Junior High Schools Challenge (12-14 Years)	3km
Female Junior High Schools Challenge (12-14 Years)	3km
Male High Schools Challenge (15+ Years)	6km
Female High Schools Challenge (15+ Years)	6km

#### ALL EVENT INFORMATION and FAQ'S can be found at this link:

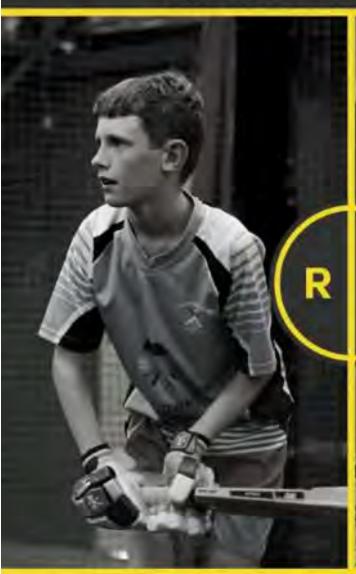
https://www.shireruncarnival.com.au/schools-challenge-1





# COME PLAY JUNIOR INDOOR CRICKET & BASKETBALL







- O ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME
- TINDOOR VENUE NO WASH OUTS
- JOIN A TEAM OR GRAB SOME FRIENDS



REC CLUB -THE SHIRES
HOME OF INDOOR SPORTS
W: RECCLUB.COM.AU P: 02 9525-5499
A: 8/2-4 KUMULLA ROAD, MIRANDA

