

# Miranda North Public School Newsletter



## Welcome to the new school year from Ms Orlovich

A warm welcome to the 2019 school year. 2019 is shaping to be a wonderful year of learning for our students and we are excited to share some of our initiatives over the next few weeks at Meet the Teacher and Parents as Partners workshops.

This year, we will welcome a larger than usual enrolment of kindergarten students who join us from the catchment area of Miranda North. We are expecting around 70 new students entering kindergarten this year. Welcome to our new families. It is wonderful to have you join us. We are forming 14 classes in 2019, which is one class more than 2018.

A very friendly welcome to the new families and students who are joining our school community in other grades this year. We know that you will be welcomed into our learning community with warmth and acceptance and it won't be long before you feel completely at home at our wonderful school!

Students were very excited to see each other in the school playground this morning and joined their new classes today. It was wonderful to hear about their holiday experiences and how they are greeting the school year with such enthusiasm. As with any start to the new year, classes are finalised once all students return to school and the Department of Education confirms our staffing allocation for the school year. We anticipate minimal changes with overall student numbers and classes however, there may occasionally be changes to class structures as final student numbers are actualised.

Teachers have worked together over the last few months of last year to place students into classes for 2019 and have considered friendships, learning needs, social combinations and class structures to make decisions to best meet the needs of each student. As with any change, students may be feeling a little unsure of their new class and teacher in the early weeks of the year. This is completely normal and your encouragement and support in reassuring them is appreciated. Teachers will be working closely with students over the next few weeks to build positive classroom environments, settle students into school and learn more about each student. We acknowledge your support in being positive and reassuring in your discussions with your children over the coming weeks.

We encourage you to assist your child to embrace the challenge of adapting to a new classroom, with a fresh combination of peers to meet and learn alongside, as well as a new teacher to explore with. If you notice that your child is taking longer than expected to settle, make a time to speak with your child's class teacher so you can work together to settle your child into their new learning environment. Teachers are positive and excited about their new classes and have spent much time in the holiday break preparing for an exciting, engaging and fulfilling year of learning.



## Our school structure for 2019

### Classroom Teaching Team: Kindergarten:

KF Mrs Finney (Assistant Principal)

KO Miss O'Leary

KMN Mrs McHugh/Mrs Nicholls

K/1D Miss O'Donnell

### Stage One:

1C Mrs O'Connell (Stage One Co-ordinator)

1/2B Miss Barley

2C Miss Chen

2S Miss Short

### Stage Two:

3J Mrs Jeffery

3/4D Miss Dribbus

3/4S Miss Smith (for term 1-appointment of Assistant Principal expected in term 2)

### Stage Three:

4/5NK Mrs Morrissey/Mrs Fifield

5/6S Mrs Sherwen

6M Ms Mitsoulis (Stage Three Co-ordinator)

### Library:

Mrs Atkins (Monday-Thursday)

Students are supported through a variety of school programs by the following staff:

### Learning and Wellbeing Support Staff Team:

Mrs Butterfield (Assistant Principal)

Mrs Jackson (Monday-Wednesday)

Ms Walker (Mon-Tuesday)

Ms McCosker (Monday)

Mrs Manson (Wednesday-Friday)

Mr Meades (Friday)

### Learning and Support Officer:

Mrs Black

### School Counsellor:

Mrs Mc Dougall

Student Wellbeing Support Officer: Mrs Leanne Ewell

### Administrative Staff Team:

School Administration Manager: Mrs Metters

### School Administration Officers:

Mrs Van Vliet and Mrs Sabbagh

### General Assistant:

Mr Rasborek

## New and returning staff for 2019

We have welcomed some new staff to the school this year and other staff have returned from leave. Mr Meades has retired from his assistant principal role and will be at school each Friday, teaching some of the sport programs. Mrs Walker is returning to the MNPS learning and support team in 2019. In the classroom teaching team, we welcome Miss Smith (3/4S) in term one (until the assistant principal position is filled by merit selection), Miss Chen (2C), who has been appointed to replace Mr Ford and Miss O'Donnell (K/1D). Our new staff bring a high level of expertise and commitment to our students and we are looking forward to having them join the teaching team at Miranda North.

## Meet the teacher opportunity

An opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and hear about the programs and organisation for the year will be on Tuesday 12 February -Thursday 14 February. The meetings will be held at the following times:

### Tuesday 12 February 2019

4:00pm-4:45pm: Parents and carers of students in (KO, KF, KMN, K/1D) (Kinder parents only)  
Where: in Hall

4.30-5:15pm: Parents and carers of students in 4/5NK, 5/6S and 6M  
Where: 6M classroom

### Wednesday 13 February 2019

4:00pm-4:45pm: Parents and carers of students in K/1D (Year One parents only), 1C, 1/2B, 2S and 2C  
Where: Hall

### Thursday 14 February 2019

4.00-4:45pm: Parents and carers of students in 3J, 3/4S, 3/4D  
Where: Hall

## Our staff teams for 2019







## Online Lunch Orders

The flexischools online ordering system proved very popular with our community last year and we are pleased to advise that student lunches can be ordered again this year commencing tomorrow.

Students are able to order their lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays through the canteen provider for Endeavour Sports High School. Orders are made and paid for online at [www.flexischools.com](http://www.flexischools.com). There is an information section of the website which explains how the online ordering system works and how to set up an account. It can be accessed by this link:

<https://support.flexischools.com/support/how-flexischools-works>

**Orders must be made before 6pm on the evening before (ie: 6pm on Monday and Wednesday).** Orders are prepared at the commercial kitchen at Endeavor Sports High and then delivered to the school in time for lunch each Tuesday and Thursday. A menu is available on the website.

## Volunteers needed!

### P and C Friday snack canteen

The Miranda North Friday snack canteen will reopen on Friday 8 February. Our lovely Canteen Coordinator Helen Hwang has asked us to let you know that the Canteen Committee are looking for volunteers to help out on Friday afternoons. If you are able to assist, please see Helen at the Canteen from Friday 8 February or contact her via the MNPS Volunteers facebook page or alternatively






### Swimming Carnival

Date: Thursday, 21 February




Venue: Caringbah Leisure Centre

A note with all details will be sent home shortly.

## REGISTER

-  1 Go to [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) and select the **REGISTER** option and enter your email address.
-  2 You will be sent a registration email. Click on the link in the email to complete the registration.
-  3 Fill in your details on the Registration Form and click "submit".
-  4 Add your students, select their school and class.

## ORDER

-  1 Go to [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) and select the **LOGIN** option. Click on "Start an order" for your student.
-  2 Select the service you wish to purchase from. You can also set up orders in advance.
-  3 Add each of your items. Extras and options will appear where relevant to the item.
-  4 Select your payment option. Pay for the one order or "top up" your account. Complete payment to place order.

## Traffic safety around our school

Our school is situated on a busy road and traffic safety around the school is paramount for our students. Please ensure that traffic signs are adhered to when dropping off and picking up children. Note that parking is not permitted on school grounds and entry to the staff car park is not permitted. Disabled parking for students with a physical disability is provided at drop off and pick up time upon consultation with and approval by the principal. We thank parents and carers for assisting in making the school surrounds safe for our students.

## School Community Charter

At the end of 2018, the Department of Education released its School Community Charter which outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

### **Respectful communication is a right**

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.

### **Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:**

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time-wasting communication.

### **Communication with the school**

If you have questions or concerns, in the first instance, make contact with your child's class teacher. Please be aware that your child's teacher may not be able to meet with you before school due to professional/meeting commitments and so it is preferable to make an appointment for a mutually convenient time. This can be done by speaking with the teacher, phoning the office or visiting the office to make an appointment.

Your child's year/stage leader or member of the leadership team may also be available to meet with you.

In 2019 the leadership team is:

Kindergarten: Mrs Finney (Assistant Principal)

Year 1 and 2: Mrs O'Connell

Year 3 and 4: Mrs Jeffery

Year 5 and 6: Ms Mitsoulis

RFF and Support Programs: Mrs Butterfield (Assistant Principal)

In term 2, a third Assistant Principal will be appointed following the merit selection process.

Communication with Ms Orlovich, the principal, can be made through the office for issues related to the whole of the school.



## School Community Charter cont'd.

### Sources of Communication:

1. Keep abreast of the news that occurs at school by downloading the school app from the app store. The app is called "school stream" and contains the calendar of events and notes. You will also receive information and updates via the app to keep you informed.
2. Read the school newsletter for fortnightly updates. It is emailed to you if we have your email address or download it from the school website or app.
3. Check out the Miranda North Public School Official Facebook site for news items about our school.



### Label all items:



Please take time at the beginning of the year to label all items (hats, jackets, lunchboxes, drink bottles and snack containers) with your child's name and class. Items can be easily returned if they are labelled. Lost property is situated at the front of the outdoor assembly.

### Attendance:

Students are expected to attend school each day. If your child is absent from school, please let the school know by either sending a note to the teacher or contact the office to explain the absence.

### Starting and finishing times:



#### Before school:

Please ensure that your child is in attendance by 9.20am each day. Students must not be at school prior to 8.55am when a teacher is on supervision duty. The school day commences at morning assembly.

Parents are welcome to watch the morning assembly and toddlers and pre-schoolers need to be standing with parents at this time. If parents and carers stay for assembly it is appreciated that parents watch quietly and model facing the flag for the raising of the flag as a sign of respect. Please allow students to walk independently to the classroom with their teachers at the conclusion of the assembly. This allows students to focus closely on teacher instructions and show independence.

#### After school:

At 3.25pm, students are expected to leave the school with care and attention to pedestrian safety. Students are not permitted to use the play equipment without parental supervision. Students and their parents should vacate the school by 3.35pm each afternoon and by 4:00pm on Fridays after the P and C Canteen. Primary students without a parent or carer must not stay at school after the bell as supervision is not provided.

### Mobile Phones:

It is Department of Education Policy that students are not permitted to use mobile phones whilst at school. It is preferable for students not to bring the devices to school. If students are required to bring the device to school, the phone must remain turned off during school hours and not be taken out of the schoolbag. No responsibility is taken for mobile phones that are brought to school.



# FACT SHEET

# SAFE SCHOOL TRAVEL

Welcome back to a new school year! Sutherland Shire Council Parking Officers will be out at all schools again this year helping you to ensure that all children get to and from school safely.

## DROPPING OFF OR PICKING UP YOUR CHILDREN

Schools are areas where there is a lot of interaction between cars and pedestrians: your children. Children are small, hard to see, behave unpredictably, and are extremely vulnerable.

Their lack of road experience means it is difficult for them to judge dangerous situations. Boys are twice as likely to be involved in pedestrian accidents as girls and children 10-14 years have the highest rate of child pedestrian casualties (RMS).

- Children up to eight years old should hold an adult's hand on the footpath, in the carpark or when crossing the road.
- Children up to ten years old should be actively supervised around traffic and should hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.
- Take the time to make sure your children are aware of, understand and follow traffic safety regulations when they are walking.

## HAVE A PLAN

Plan with your son or daughter how you will collect them. When and where will you be after school? Where should they wait? Make sure they know not to try and get into your vehicle while it is still in

traffic, even if you are stopped; they should wait until you have parked at the side of the road.

Plan to arrive AFTER the school bell goes in the afternoon, so your children are ready and waiting for you and you are not blocking traffic.

## NO PARKING ZONES

A No Parking zone is a pick up and drop off area: you can stop here for a maximum of two minutes to drop off or pick up passengers and must remain within three metres of the vehicle. When parents park in a No Parking zone for longer than two minutes they prevent other parents from stopping to drop off or pick up their children, creating frustration and dangerous situations. If you arrive before the school bell and block the pickup areas, you risk a fine.

Parking offences in school zones carry heavier fines and loss of demerit points. Sutherland Shire Council makes no apologies for fining drivers who break the law around schools and in school zones.

See the Roads and Maritime Authority website at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au) for more about Australian Road Rules and other road safety information.

## SIGNS YOU WILL SEE AROUND SCHOOL



### NO PARKING

#### What does it mean?

You CAN stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

#### Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for older children to be set down and picked up without endangering other children.



### NO STOPPING SIGNS & CONTINUOUS YELLOW EDGE LINES

#### What do they mean?

You CANNOT stop in these areas FOR ANY REASON.

#### Why are they there?

To keep sight lines clear for drivers AND children so both have more time to avoid crashes.



### BUS ZONE

#### What does it mean?

You must NOT stop or park in a bus zone unless you are driving a bus.

#### Why is it there?

To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up. Cars parking in bus zones put lives at risk by forcing buses out of 'their' safety zone.

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