

Miranda North Public School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 2



Welcome to our families and students and a very warm welcome to new families who have joined us this term. Please note the information in the newsletter regarding planning for next year. We appreciate your support and co-operation to assist with planning for student numbers in 2021. We have many exciting events planned for the term. Here are some dates to note:

Upcoming events for students

K-2 swim scheme each Tuesday

Stage 3 Dance to be fit each Tuesday

Awards presentation each Thursday

Week 2

22/10 Kinder 2021 transition information session 1

Week 3

28/10 Kinder 2021 transition information session 2

Week 4

4/11 Kinder 2021 transition play date visit group 1

Week 5

12/11 SRC Green Day fundraiser/awareness day

Week 6

18/11 Kinder 2021 transition play date visit group 2

20/11 Kinder incursion and dress up day

Week 7

25/11 Stage 3 led Gala Day and mufti day

Week 8

2-4 /12: Stage Three adventure camp

Week 9

8/12 Presentation Assemblies during the day

10/12 Year 6 Farewell evening

Week 10

15/12 Christmas Activity Day

16/12 Last day for students- Farewell to our Year 6

The school will close on 16/12 for the summer break.

COVID-19 update

Parents and carers and other non-essential visitors are not allowed on the school site. Parents should ensure school pick up and drop off arrangements enable them to physically distance from one another and from staff. Drop off and pick up arrangements at the school remain the same with parents waiting in the designated grass or asphalt areas for students to be dismissed. If you wish to finalise a payment for a school activity or speak with the office, please do so over the phone. The school phone number is 9524 6842. Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Kindergarten transition program

Our kindergarten transition program commenced this week with our first information session for families. Thank you to Mrs O'Connell and the kindergarten team for their flexibility and effort in planning for a differentiated transition program for 2020. Our newest students will be visiting for their first time a little later in the term. Our stage three students are also very excited about taking on a buddy role next year and we look forward to welcoming all new students and their families to Miranda North.

Class formations in 2021

In 2021, we are expecting to form either 14 or 15 classes, depending on the actual student numbers who attend at the commencement of the new school year. In some years, the number of classes can be confidently determined the year before, as a small difference in student numbers may not result in a reduction or addition of a class. In other years, like the last 2 school years at Miranda North, the enrolment numbers are very much on the margin of either forming an extra class or reducing the total number of classes by one and as such, a small fluctuation of student numbers will impact the total number of classes in the school. Schools are experienced in managing this variable and there a couple of helpful ways that families can assist.

Firstly, to assist us in finalising the number of classes and staff we will have for 2021, please notify the office via email if you are not planning to return to Miranda North next year (excluding year 6 students), so that enrolment numbers can be more confidently determined and planning for classes can be undertaken.

Additionally, if circumstances are that your child will not be in attendance in the first week of school next year, an application for leave needs to be completed prior to the end of the year. This allows us to include your child in the enrolment numbers for 2021 if they have not yet returned to school.

As our anticipated student numbers could be either 14 or 15 classes, when students return on the first day in 2021, they will commence the school day in their 2020 class. This allows time for the school to finalise enrolment numbers and determine how many classes will be formed for the year. This is common practice in many schools and students enjoy the opportunity to regroup with their teachers and classmates and refresh their learning and expectations for the year. Once class numbers are finalised, students will be placed into classes accordingly.

New return to school date for students in 2021:

Please note that the Department of Education has issued an updated return to school date for students in 2021. Students will commence on Friday 29 January, 2021. Teachers return on Wednesday 27 January, 2021 for 2 school development days.

Sharing information for consideration during class formation:

If parents and carers have specific information about their child that they wish to be taken into account when planning for classes takes place, please provide the information via the school email. This information is treated with confidentiality. Many factors are taken into account when placing students into classes and information provided by parents and carers is considered during the planning process. Student learning and wellbeing needs are of the highest priority when placing students into classes and the staff works to build classes that promote a successful environment for learning. If you have extenuating circumstances and wish to provide information for consideration, it needs to be provided to the school email by 15 November, 2020.

Welcome to Mrs Jenny Lawson

In 2021, we will welcome Mrs Jenny Lawson as one of the assistant principals at Miranda North. Mrs Lawson was successful through merit selection and is currently the assistant principal at Malabar Public School. She brings with her a wealth of experience and expertise and we are excited to welcome her to the school. Mrs Lawson will visit the school throughout term 4 and will commence in term 1, 2021.

Staffing updates—Term 4

Ms Mitsoulis will be on leave from week 4 until the end of the term, with Ms Dribbus replacing her on Monday-Thursday and Mr Meades on Friday. Mrs Carroll will oversee years 3-6 for the remainder of the term. Mrs Morrissey will be returning an extra day from week 4, taking 5/6NK on Monday-Thursday. Ms Walker has returned from leave this term.

Band for Term 4

Congratulations to the band students and the band tutors for their grit and resilience over the year. It is wonderful to hear the sounds emerging from the hall again each week! Band families received an email from Mrs Thorp on 8 October regarding specific band organisational details for tutorials and practice. Please check the timetable for advice as well as band and tutorial times. Drumming Troupe is not offered this term as a new tutor has not been secured.

Seeking your input and feedback for our new school planning cycle

Next year marks the commencement of a new school planning cycle, one which will run from 2021-2024. In 2022, the school will also undertake an external validation process. This will be where the school undertakes an external validation of evidence of our school self-assessment. The school will engage in discussions with an external panel and have our self-assessments validated using the School Excellence Framework.

Each year, we undertake a self-assessment of practice and development, using the School Excellence Framework to identify areas of strength and areas to improve. The School Excellence Framework is a statement of what is valued as excellence for NSW public schools, both now and into the future, and provides guidance on achieving this. It identifies quality practice across the three key domains of learning, teaching and leading.

Community engagement is a critical factor for improving the progress, achievement and wellbeing of our students. When schools, families and the broader community work together to develop positive connections, students thrive. There will be an opportunity a little later in the term for a zoom parent consultation meeting where we will share our school progress data collected over recent months, our school targets for student learning improvement and seek your input towards our school vision and direction for 2021-2024. Keep an eye out for details in upcoming newsletters.

Applications are now open for Selective High School

Placement in selective high schools for Year 7 entry

in **2022**

Information for applicants

Thinking of applying for a government selective high school for Year 7 in 2022?

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



Key Dates

Application website opens:
13 October 2020

Application website closes:
16 November 2020
You must apply before this date.

Test centre and test authority advice released:
25 February 2021

Selective High School placement test:
11 March 2021

Placement outcome information released:
2 July 2021

Please read this booklet carefully before applying.

From this year, you will be able to log into your application to send and receive messages and notices.

There may be changes to the procedures in this document. Check the website at education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc regularly for updates throughout the application and placement process.

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

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

Great things happening around our school lately

Our super proud students after receiving their merit awards.



Stage Three exploring fractions....



School app

Have you downloaded the school app? Keep in touch with the school information by having the app on your phone.



Download our school app for free!

Why download the app?

- Receive instant notifications for important news.
- Easily register absentees and excursions.
- Keep up to date with events and set reminders.

Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.
2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.
3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.

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P&C FUNDRAISING FOR OUR SCHOOL

Our Fundraising Partner Ritchies IGA Taren Point, are launching their new Ritchies Card this week, incorporating the Community Benefit Program and this will not only benefit our school, but also all its members. Featuring monthly promotions, cheaper prices for you, Collect and Win as well as games and lots more fun things to do, this is a great opportunity to support our community.

Every month, our school P & C will receive 0.5%* of our members' spend in Ritchies stores! Which we will in-turn put back into the school community. Please see below for instructions on how to join the Ritchies Loyalty program.

Ritchies Loyalty

Join today

The Ritchies Community Benefit Program has been supporting clubs, schools and charities since 1993. Over \$50 million has been distributed to date.

- Nominate your favourite club, school or charity (more than 5000 to choose from).^{*}
- Use the app every time you shop and Ritchies will reward a % of your spend to the organisation of your choice.^{*}
- Monthly promotions, cheaper prices for you, Ritchies dollars, collect and win, as well as games and lots more fun things to do.^{*}
- We will send you weekly specials, and our catalogues are on the app.

R Download the Ritchies App and join today



Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

#Terms and conditions apply.
See www.ritchies.com.au/ritchiescardterms

Download the App and register in 3 easy steps

- 1 In the Ritchies App, register by clicking on the Sign Up button. Complete the registration.
- 2 A verification email will be sent to the email address you register. Click the link in the email to activate your account.
- 3 Login to your newly created account to select your favourite club, school, or charity from the Community page.



You can also use the Ritchies Loyalty Card. Pick one up in store and link your card to the Ritchies App

For more information please visit www.ritchies.com.au/loyalty

Ritchies Stores Pty Ltd ABN 61 005 041 814

Not only are you helping your club, school or charity, you'll also get extra benefits.

BENEFITS:

- Supporting clubs, schools and charities made easy
- Special offers and savings exclusive to members
- Digital Ritchies Card with an easy-to-use app
- Free to join - start saving instantly

