

Miranda North Public School Newsletter

Week 2, Term 1



Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back Miranda North community to a new and exciting year.

We have formed 11 classes which are quite full. Using the Department's formula for the number of students in the school, equalling the number of teachers provided by the department we will see 14.37 teacher positions.

Kindergarten - Mrs Hinde (Miss Dribbus)

1LB Mrs Lawson, Monday - Wednesday and Miss Barley, Thursday/Friday

1/2C Mrs Charlton

2SL Miss O'Leary, Monday - Thursday and Mrs Manson, Friday

2/3KJ Mrs Fifield, Monday, Thursday/Friday and Mrs Sapsford, Tuesday/Wednesday

3/4M Ms Mitsoulis

3/4S Ms Stefanski

4/5BV Mrs Butterfield, Monday- Wednesday and Mrs Violaris, Thursday/Friday

5/6CT Mrs Carroll, Monday - Wednesday, Friday and Mrs Jeffrey, Thursday/Friday

5/6J Mrs Whitmore

5/6M **Term 1** Mrs Egan, Monday/Tuesday and Mr Meades Wednesday - Friday

Term 2 - 4 Mrs Morrissey, Monday - Thursday and Mr Meades Friday

Term 1 Mrs Morrissey will be replacing Mrs Ferlazzo for supporting the staff with Teaching mathematics strategies.

Miss Barley will have Library on Monday - Wednesday

Mrs Manson will be the Learning Support Teacher Tuesday -Thursday

Mrs Loder will be supporting an English as a Second Language program Monday/Tuesday

This term we will be conducting our "Meet the Teacher" event in a different way. Initially we will distribute the information relevant to your child's class however in Week 5 the school will host a BBQ evening for all, welcoming new families, catching up with friends and having the chance to say hello to your child's teacher. There will be an inflatable obstacle course for the students to use, where they can race friends or compete against themselves.

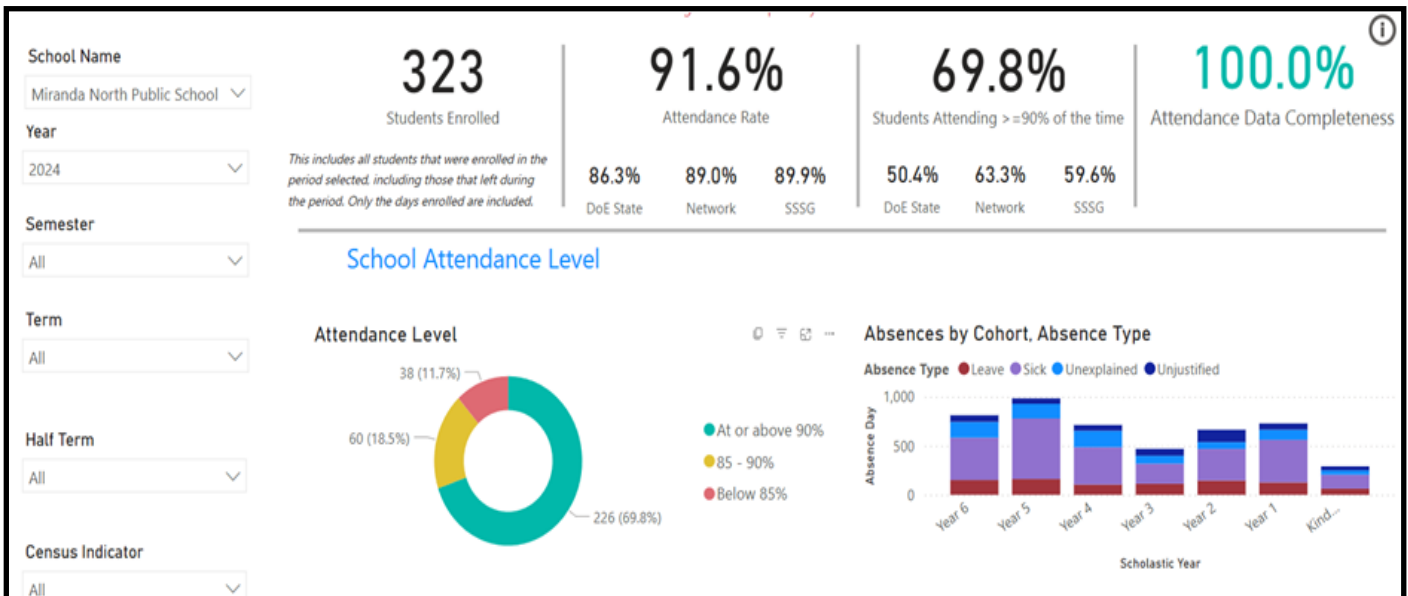
We acknowledge the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the nation.



School Attendance

Attendance is one of our School Improvement Measures reported on, in the Annual Report.

Our goal is to raise the attendance rate to 93.8%. I will be sharing data throughout the year, keeping everyone informed of our progress and a comparison to similar schools, our network of schools and the state averages. In 2024 our rates were considerably better than the others however we still have a long way to go. You may note that 38 students had attendance below 85%. This is more than a month of school missed or a day every week.



BYOD

On Monday 3 March we have a specialist technology expert attending the school who will be able to help any of the Year 5/6 students who are still having issues with their device, connecting to the school wifi or any other school functionality.

Opportunity Class or Selective High School

This message is for Year 4 or 6 students seeking placement in 2026 to these classes. Applications are made online <https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/choosing-a-school-setting/selective-high-schools> and before February 21, 2025. This site allows you to apply for placement in selective high schools and opportunity classes for high potential and gifted students, while applications are open. The parent who lives at the same address as the child for most of the time should submit the application.

School Bytes App

All of our notes for all activities are published on School Bytes. Please ensure you have access to the **School Bytes for Parents App**. You can give permission and pay for activities also using School Bytes.



Morning Drop Off

Teachers commence duty at 8.50am. Parents are asked to drop children off to school anytime after 8.50am each day. Prior to this time, there is **no supervision** and the safety of the students is a concern. Please consider OOSH if you are unable to make suitable arrangements before school.

Afternoon Pick Up

We ask parents to ensure they park their car according to the signage to avoid fines and keep everyone safe. All school staff are walking their students down to the gates for dismissal. We are trying to ensure that all children leave the school safely, and this can only be done if everyone follows the safety advice given to us by Sutherland Shire Council, the RMS, and NSW Police.

School finishes at 3.25 pm if you are collecting your children, please be on time to avoid them becoming distressed.

Gates Around the School

During the school day, all gates will be kept shut. This is for the safety and security of our children and staff. We have a number of children that are deemed as flight risks, and keeping the gates closed can ensure all of our children are safe. If parents need to access the school throughout the day, please use the gate intercom and the office will release the lock. When you hear the release push the gate. It will swing closed after you enter. Please do not adjust the drop bolt as this should be up to allow the gate to be opened. Please walk directly to the school office.

Driveway gates in the morning are open to allow teachers and staff cars to enter the carpark. **Please do not walk or enter through these gates.** At the western end, the driveway gates are for student bike riders only to enter and leave. This will make all student's exit out of the school safer.

Riding Bikes to School

This opportunity is only for our senior students in Year 5 and 6. The students will be doing a bike safety program aligned with the Department of Education Road Safety to support their safety. Senior Students who bring their bikes are to:

- place and lock their bikes in the provided bike racks
- always have a helmet
- walk their bikes when inside the school fence
- enter and leave the grounds via the western driveway
- only mount/ride the bike after you have left the school fence line at either end

School Photos

Our **School Photos** will be taken on **Thursday, 13 March**. We will be using The School Photographer.

Envelopes for school photos will be sent home in the coming weeks. Family photo envelopes will be available from the front office.

Financial Assistance

Miranda North PS would like all our families to know that we make every effort to keep costs to a minimum. We often absorb part costs, or even whole costs to excursions, incursions and other activities so that all students can access learning no matter their financial situation. We would like all families to know that we can offer financial assistance when needed. All requests for financial assistance are dealt with in the strictest confidentiality. Please know that this offer is available to all families.

Assessment and Reporting

As staff, we continue to modify our Assessment and Reporting practices, so we can ensure parents obtain feedback throughout the year on their child's progress, from their child's classroom teacher. At any time, if parents have any concerns or issues about your child's learning, you are encouraged to contact the school to make an appointment to speak with your child's classroom teacher.

The Assessment and Reporting schedule for 2025 is:

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|-----------------------|---|
| Term 1, Week 5 | Thursday, 27 February – Social Meet the Teacher Event |
| Term 1, Week 9 | Tuesday 25 or Thursday 27 March – Parent Teacher Meetings (bookings through School Bytes) |
| Term 2 | Semester 1 Reports sent home (early July) |
| Term 3 | Parent/Teacher Interviews |

Food Allergies

We do have several children at our school who have peanut and nut allergies and who have severe reactions if exposed to this food. Parents are asked to be mindful of this when packing recess and lunch. We also request that you reinforce the school's message of not sharing food.

General Reminders

- All items of clothing and personal belongings should be **clearly marked with your child's name**.
- All children require a broad-brimmed hat each day as our school has a **"No hat, play in the shade"** policy.
- When parents, friends and visitors come to the school during the day, they should **QR code before entering the premises**. This is a Legal and Health and Safety requirement and is followed for the safety and security of all children and staff. There are no longer pen and paper sign in sheets; the QR coding is now an electronic visitor register for each school.
- We continue to encourage parents to **make appointments** to come and talk about your child's progress, problems that may arise, ideas etc. It is reminded that the education of your child is a team effort with teachers and parents being the main stakeholders. With this in mind, it is an important reminder that the parent/teacher relationship always needs to be cohesive and supportive and one of mutual respect. We are sure we will continue to work with one another in a positive manner for the betterment of every child at our school.
- All permissions and payments for activities can now be made via School Bytes.
- If any parent has any concerns regarding any aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Wellbeing Program

In line with the school's emphasis on Wellbeing, the school has engaged Zingactiv (<https://www.zingactiv.com/wellbeing>) to support our students from the very beginning of the school year. By participating in a wellbeing program, children can develop coping mechanisms to manage their emotions, improve their self-esteem and build resilience to overcome challenges they may face throughout the school year. This can be especially beneficial for children who have experienced academic, social or personal challenges during the school year.

Our program focuses on providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for children to explore self-regulation tools and strategies to cope with everyday challenges. Children explore ways to relax their minds and body for increased concentration, calm their emotions and leave our lessons feeling calm, quiet, balanced and ready to learn more.

Flexischools - MNPS Lunch orders

Lunch orders are made using the Flexi Schools App. Lunch orders are available on Tuesday and Thursday.

Lunches are prepared at Endeavour High School and delivered to Miranda North PS for 11.30 lunch.



Our school offers online ordering with Flexischools

Order and pay in seconds

-  Quickly re-order family favourites
-  Buy uniform items when it's convenient
-  Make payments for school events

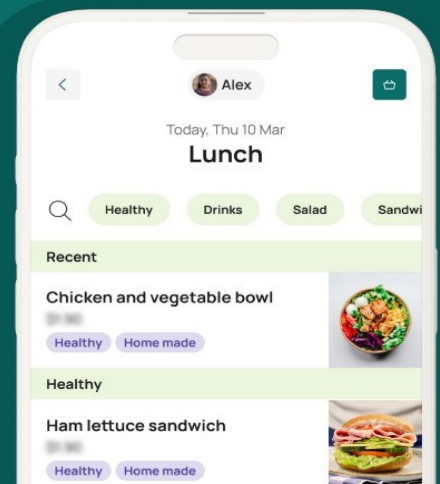


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Sport Carnival Information for 2025

We are excited to share the key dates for our school sport carnivals in 2025. We look forward to seeing our students showcase their talents, sportsmanship, and school spirit!

Term 1

Swimming Carnival

Wednesday, 12th February (Years 3 - 6, including Year 2's turning 8 years old in 2025)

Location: Caringbah Leisure Centre

Cross Country Carnival

Friday, 4th April (K - 6)

Location: Miranda North Public School

Term 2

Athletics Carnival

Wednesday, 2nd July (K - 6)

Location: Sylvania Waters Athletics Track

Swimming Carnival Details

To ensure a smooth and safe event, the permission note was sent via School Bytes on Monday 18th November 2024 (Term 4, Week 6). Please note, due to the tight turnaround time at the start of the year, payment is strictly due by Friday 7th February 2025. No payments/permission notes will be accepted past this date, as this could impact the safety and planning of the event.

Competitive Swimmers – Students who can confidently swim 50m unassisted may compete in races and will be given a blue wristband. Competitive events available include 50m, 100m, 200m, and medley. Please think carefully which events your child should enter.

Novice Swimmers – Students who are unable to swim 50m independently will have fun, supervised activities with two novelty game sessions in the pool during recess and lunch time. These students will wear a yellow wristband to indicate their participation in non-competitive pool activities only.

Non-Swimmers/Spectators – Students who may have no swimming experience or prefer to attend as a spectator may still join in the excitement of the carnival but will be strictly prohibited from entering the water. These students will be provided with a red wristband.

We look forward to a fantastic year in 2025 and appreciate your cooperation and involvement!

Ms Stefanski

Sport Coordinator

School Calendar - Term 1 2025

2025 T1 Week 2	3/2 Staff Development Day	4/2 Staff Development Day	5/2 Staff Development Day	6/2 K-6 Return to School Junior Dance Group Auditions (Yrs 1-3)	7/2
Week 3	10/2	11/2	12/2 Swimming Carnival Caringbah Leisure Centre	13/2	14/2
Week 4	17/2 Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	18/2	19/2	20/2	21/2 Term 2 PSSA Trials Years 3-6
Week 5	24/2 Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	25/2	26/2	27/2 Meet the Teacher Event	28/2 Term 2 PSSA Trials Years 3-6
Week 6	3/3 Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	4/3 Zone Swimming Carnival	5/3	6/3	7/3
Week 7	10/3 Sydney East Swimming Carnival Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	11/3	12/3	13/3 School Photos	14/3
Week 8	17/3 Uncle Shane Incursion Stage 1 Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	18/3	19/3	20/3	21/3
Week 9	24/3 Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	25/3 Parent Teacher Meetings	26/3	27/3 Parent Teacher Meetings	28/3
Week 10	31/3 Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4 Cross Country Carnival
Week 11	7/4 Zing Activ Wellbeing Program	8/4	9/4	10/4 State Swimming Carnival	11/4 Easter Hat Parade State Swimming Carnival
April School Holidays. Return to School Wednesday 30 April 2025					

WINTER REGISTRATION OPEN!! JOIN SYLVANIA HEIGHTS NETBALL TEAM IN 2025!



**NETTA, U/8 & 9 NEW
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**



**JUNIOR 10 -17: FORMER DIAMOND
APRIL BRANDLEY TRAINING
PROGRAM**



18 & SENIOR TEAMS

**REGISTER WITH
SYLVANIA
HEIGHTS NETBALL
IN 2025 AND
UNLEASH THE
BEST YOU CAN BE!**



*Our NetSetGo
program is
guaranteed to
operate in all
weather
conditions.*



**JOIN SYLVANIA
HEIGHTS NETBALL
CLUBS NEW
DIRECTOR OF
COACHING & PLAYER
DEVELOPMENT
APRIL BRANDLEY &
BE PART OF THE
FUTURE OF NETBALL**



WWW.SYLVANIAHEIGHTSNETBALL.COM.AU

Urgent care is now available in Caringbah



In-person service.
Available 365 days per year, 8am-8pm.

Call healthdirect
on **1800 022 222**
to get free* urgent
care. Your call
will be answered
by a nurse.

For language support call TIS on
131 450 and ask for healthdirect.

*Free for Medicare card holders and
community-based asylum seekers.

**When you have an injury or illness
that can't wait for an appointment with
your regular GP but is not life-threatening.**

- Minor infections
- Minor fractures, sprains, sports injuries
and neck and back pain
- Urinary tract infections (UTIs)
- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Minor cuts
- Insect bites and rashes
- Minor eye and ear infections
- Respiratory illness
- Gastroenteritis
- Mild burns

In an emergency always
call Triple Zero (**000**)

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Find out more

