



Murwillumbah Public School

Promoting Excellence in Education

Newsletter

10th February 2022 Term 1 Week 3



Principals Message

Dear Parents

Welcome back to all students, teachers, and families to the new school year. A very warm welcome is extended to all our new students and their families. It is a pleasure having you join the Murwillumbah PS community, and we look forward to your involvement in your child's education and whole school initiatives. We are very excited to have our new Kindergarten students starting. This week they will be involved in Best Start testing with Mrs Lack.

We are so proud of how all students have started this year given the current restrictions and couldn't be happier to be back. Things have started well with students settled into their new classes. Class routines are being established with students settling in well to their new structures. On occasions, it may take some students a little while to adjust to their new setting so it's really important that, as parents, we encourage our children to accept change by focusing on the positive aspects of their new environment i.e. a new teacher, new classroom and an opportunity to make new friends. All our teachers are very aware of this transition and manage it with care and understanding and are keen to work with children to overcome this initial challenge.

Our teachers have worked hard over the break in preparation for the start of the year. I want to thank them for ensuring a smooth start for all our students. Mr Williams has the school grounds looking terrific. He always makes sure things are kept neat and tidy during the holiday period. Congratulations to Mr Williams who was successful in picking up a full time General Assistant position at Banora Point Public School. Sadly for us at MPS, Week 4 will be the last week at MPS for Dave.

I want to thank those parents and visitors that have worn a mask to our gates when dropping and picking students up and for social distancing and moving on as quickly as possible. This helps to keep everyone safe. I ask you to follow the health guidelines and our requests so that we can keep our staff and students healthy, and school can operate as best it can. There are going to be days where your child will not have their normal teacher and classes might also need to be split. We will try and avoid this if we can but getting casuals to replace teachers is going to be very difficult. If you have any concerns at all or want a chat, I will be at the front gate each morning and afternoon as I have been for the last 2 years. If you want to come and chat, I would appreciate you wearing a mask. It is important that everyone has access to School

Principals Message Cont

Stream and reads our communication because if we have to give you urgent information, this is how we will get information out.

School Organisation for 2022

Based on our numbers, we have established 9 classes. This year we have 1 kindergarten class, 2 1/2 Composites, 1 yr 3, 1 3/4 Composite, 1 yr 4 and 3 5/6 Composites. A lot of work has gone into our organisation of classes and where students are placed. Thank you to those parents who sent in information around placement for 2022. We differentiate for every child and cater for their needs no matter what year or class they are in. I appreciate the support of all parents and students in settling into your new classes.

Based on our current numbers, we have formed 9 classes as follows:

KL Mrs Lynn Lack
1/2R Mrs Yolande Ross
1/2P Mrs Fiona Price
3B Mrs Natalie Barbagello
3/4H Mr Dave Halloran
4W Mrs Louise Watkins
5/6H Mrs Hill
5/6K Mrs Simone King
5/6S Mr Peter Stowe
Mrs Hayley Scott - Library/Computers and Executive support
Mrs Karen Kester - Support Learning Assistance Literacy/Numeracy
Mrs Belinda Hanson - Support Learning Assistance (M-Thurs) Lit/Num
Mrs Monique Williams - Support Learning Assistance (M-Thurs) Lit/Num
Mrs Samantha Huxley - Support Learning assistance (M-Wed) Lit/Num
Mrs Vikki Armour Music - (Mon-Wed)
Mrs Susan Richards - Hearing Assistant
Principal
Mr Tim Gamble - Curriculum Leader Assistant
Principal (Term 1)
Mr Nick White - School Counsellor (Tues/Wed)
Mrs Linda King - School Administration Manager
Mrs Helen Davids - School Administration Officer (2 days)
Mrs Tegan Murphy - School Administration Office (3 days)

Mrs Jennifer Jardine - School Administration Officer (1 day)

Mrs Deb Lowe - Canteen Supervisor
Mr David Williams - General Assistant
Mrs Kathy Heymann - Cleaner
Ms Alisha Neave - Cleaner
Ms Lara Heymann - Cleaner
Mr Brendan Green - Cleaner

Rapid antigen test (RAT) kits

These have been provided to all families to use with students to help monitor your child's health and minimise transmission of COVID-19 across our school. Four RAT tests per student have been distributed to families for the first 2 weeks of school. Staff have also been provided with tests to support their safe work and the learning environment for students and are testing twice a week. We encourage parents to test students twice a week preferably on a Monday morning and Wednesday morning. We have been delivered our next shipment of RAT tests. They will be sent home with every child this Friday the 11th February. These will be for the next 2 weeks of school. If your child is away Friday they will go home Monday with them. If you **DO NOT** wish to have these kits sent home with your child please contact the school.

Positive for Covid

I would firstly like to reinforce that our school treats all unwell community members with respect and confidentiality. If a student or staff member tests positive to Covid they should notify through the Service NSW App, notify the school and remain at home for the 7-day isolation period in line with Health guidelines. Under the new close contact rules, schools are no longer included in contact tracing. I will inform the school community when there is a positive case in our school and advise families on public health advice, including monitoring for symptoms.

Last week we had 2 staff and up to 5 students away due to recovering, being a close contact or having COVID. The best way to protect your child is for them to wear a mask in class, sanitise regularly and social distance as much as they can. We encourage this but cannot

Principals Message Cont

enforce. If your child is away due to recovering, self-isolating due to being a family contact or actually have COVID please call the school so we can understand and support your situation. It's important to know how our school and community is coping and how we can best support.

Masks

Wearing of surgical masks indoors is required for all staff and students in Year 7 and above and strongly recommended for all primary students. I encourage everyone to do this to keep yourself and others healthy.

Approved Visitors to site

Only fully vaccinated visitors, essential to delivering and supporting learning or wellbeing, can come on a school site. This includes canteen, uniform shop, scripture and allied health service providers.

Starting and Finishing Times

All classes start at 8.55am. Finish times are: 2.55 for all students. The front, side and bottom gate will be opened each morning from 8:30am. There will be supervision in the playground from 8:30am and teachers at gates to support arrivals. The side gate will be locked at 9.00am sharp as teachers need to attend class. After this time the only access is at the front gate. Please complete drop offs and pickups as quickly as possible. The parking inspectors are doing random patrols so please follow the correct rules. The top gate and bottom gates will be open from 2:50pm for pick up. Older siblings will be supervised on the school grounds whilst waiting for younger siblings. We do not want students hanging around outside the gates waiting for younger siblings. We encourage everyone that is picking up or dropping off students to still wear a mask if you are coming around others for everyone's health and safety. Please all follow this simple request and health measure.

Visitors onsite

Parents and visitors are still not to enter the school grounds unless by appointment or are

invited and they need to be double vaccinated, QR code in and follow our safety guidelines. If you come to the office, please wait outside and do not just enter the office. The office staff will come outside to you and help with your needs.

No child or staff member is to come to school with flu like symptoms or sick in anyway. Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test. If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test. If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative, the student or staff member can return to school if they are symptom free.

I will continue to be at the front gate each morning to greet students and to answer any questions or concerns parents may have. Alternatively, if you have any personal concerns or questions, please feel free to contact the school and we will be happy to assist.

School Newsletter

Our Murwillumbah newsletter is published fortnightly. A paper copy is sent home on a Thursday with the eldest student in the family. All notes/newsletters will be posted on **MPS Website**. Newsletters are also sent out via school stream.

Family Court Matters

Please let the school know if your circumstances change in regard to any legal matters that impact upon your child such as AVOs and custody orders.

Allergies & Medications

Students who have asthma or allergy plans in place at school need to have these updated annually. You will be contacted shortly to arrange a new plan if your child's existing plan is more than 12 months old. We ask parents to keep the office updated with new student medical conditions as they arise.

School Welfare Policy

If at any stage you would like information

Principals Message Cont

to keep the office updated with new student medical conditions as they arise.

School Welfare Policy

If at any stage you would like information around our school welfare policy, you are able to view this on our school website under student welfare. The policy is broken into four sections. School rules, strategies to promote good discipline and effective learning, practices designed to recognise and support student achievement and strategies for dealing with unacceptable behaviour.

Please find attached to this newsletter a copy of the School Community Charter. This charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

Our parent code of conduct when entering the school can be found on our school website under the heading "About Our School".

Uniform

Uniform Wearing the Murwillumbah Public School uniform brings a sense of belonging and pride. We are fortunate to have such a 'good looking' uniform and we ask that you

adhere with our guidelines to ensure a positive identity for the school community continues. The 'uniform shop' is open Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8.30-9.00am.

Parent Information Sessions

Traditionally we host information sessions for each learning stage. In 2022, these will be available as virtual sessions. Further information about how to access the session and upload questions will be posted later this week. The online sessions provide an opportunity to get to know staff better and find out more about the school, stage and class information.

The Virtual Parent Information Sessions are scheduled for:

Tuesday 22nd February Kindergarten & Years 1 & 2 5-6.00pm

Wednesday 23rd February Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 5-6.00pm

Les Daley
Principal

Merit Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 2 TERM 1

KL:	Jake, Marnie, Violet	5/6K:	Jonah, Sophia, Nick
1/2P:	Saskia, Cliff, Ava	5/6S:	Lara, Kaylee, Declan
1/2R:	Alice, Koby M, Amelia	Mrs Williams:	James, Starlette, Oakley
3B:	Willow, Lochlan, Grace	Mrs Kester:	Kohan, Kyran, Willis
3/4H:	Codie, Amity, Mahli		
4W:	Annabelle, Levi, Charley		
5/6H:	Seth, Kalia, Eva		

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 3 TERM 1

KL:	David, Oakley, Katie	5/6K:	Damon, Ivy, Lara
1/2P:	William, Elenin, Evy	5/6S:	Sienna, Hayden, Alexander
1/2R:	Jah'zara, Logan, Branaby	Mrs Hanson:	Kalia, Jonah, Marie
3B:	Eydi, Lucas, Freddie	Mrs Armour:	Wilson, Codie, Quentin
3/4H:	Blake, Flynn, Alese		
5/6H:	Jayden, Lalita, Elisha		

Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday the 8th Of February we held our 2022 Swimming Carnival. The carnival was a combined carnival with Murwillumbah East Public School. Due to the restrictions, we had a 'competitor only' carnival which saw approximately 40 competitors from our school. Although this was on a smaller scale than previously planned, the day was a huge success with some great swimming results and plenty of cheering for both schools. The students across both schools demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, kindness and excellent behaviour with pool staff commenting on how beautifully our schools combined together for the day. Ribbons will be distributed next week and the notes for those students who have qualified for the Murwillumbah District Swimming Carnival on Friday 18th February.



Canteen News

LIMITED MENU ON THURSDAYS

Commencing Thursday 10th February 2022
for approximately 4 weeks

Recess menu as normal

Lunch only

CHICKEN NUGGETS WITH CHIPS

\$5.00

There will be no other items available on a Thursday for lunch.



Around the School with KL

The Kindergarten children have enjoyed a very positive and productive start to the school year.



They have been busy making friends and learning school and classroom routines. Well done everyone!

This week we will begin phonics, reading and maths groups. The children will also participate in their weekly music and library/technology lessons.



Murwillumbah Public School is a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) school. This means children are rewarded for positive behaviour. When a teacher observes a student doing the right thing, they are given a Chance Card. These Chance Cards go into a class box. Two Chance Cards from each class are drawn out every Wednesday and the children receive a prize (canteen voucher).



A few things to keep in mind.



Monday- Library/Computers & Music

Wednesday- Stage Assemblies

Friday- Sport

The canteen is open Monday to Friday for lunch orders and other purchases.



CALENDAR

Term	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1					
3	7th February	8th February SWIMMING CARNIVAL	9th February	10th February Limited Lunch Menu Canteen	11th February
4	14th February	15th February	16th February	17th February Limited Lunch Menu Canteen	18th February District Swimming
5	21st February	22nd February Parent Information Sessions Yr K, 1 & 2	23rd February Parent Information Sessions Yr3, 4,5,6 P&C AGM 6:30pm	24th February Limited Lunch Menu Canteen	25th February
6	28th February	1st March	2nd March	3rd March Limited Lunch Menu Canteen	4th March

This Calendar is updated as new information becomes available, so please continue to check over the course of the Term.

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will be open every Wednesday and Thursday morning 8.30am - 9am. Alternatively, order forms can be sent home and payments made online.

Community News



READY TO PLAY?

MURWILLUMBAH J AFC

Rabjones oval, Elizabeth St, Murwillumbah

Tuesday afternoons, 8 week program - Starts 1st March 2022
4pm - 5pm. Cost only \$90, use your active kids voucher!

Julian.vandendriest@afi.com.au 0439003721
REGISTER FOR 2022 NOW AT

play.afj/auskick

nab AFL Auskick

NAB AFL Auskick is one of the best, first experiences kids aged 5-12 will have learning Australian Football.

In weekly sessions, Auskickers and their families will run, jump, kick, laugh and create their own special moments playing footy.

No matter their skill level, ability or knowledge of the game, Auskick is for everyone!

Registration is this simple!

- 1 **WWW.**
Visit play.afj
- 2 **SELECT**
Select 'Where to play'
- 3 **ENTER**
Enter your suburb
- 4 **REGISTER**
Find your local club and register!

play.afj/auskick



Murwillumbah Football Club (MFC) is looking for players with teams in all ages from Under 6 up.

Based at Jim Devine Field in the heart of Murwillumbah, soccer is a great way to stay active, make lifelong friends and learn the world game.

Come and try a training session each Thursdays starting 10th February from 4pm to 5pm.

All new players welcome. Contact the club at admin@mfcwarning.com.au or on Facebook at @mfcwarning.



School Community Charter

 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

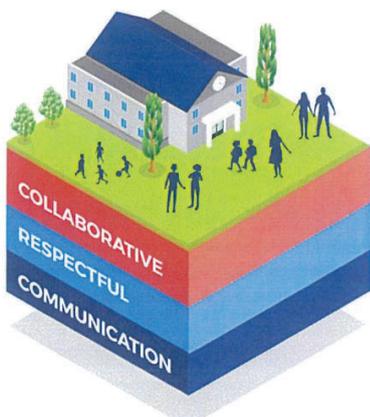
The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022.



Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- To be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- Communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- Professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- To be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

We treat each other with **respect**

We **prioritise the wellbeing** of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work **together** with the school

Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.



We create **collaborative** learning environments

We all play **our part**

We work **in partnership** to promote student learning

Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process:
education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students

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.



School Community Charter

education.nsw.gov.au