



Mitchells Island Public School

1869 - 2016

Our School values RESPECT

- R - responsibility towards self and others
- E - excellence in personal achievement
- S - self discipline, skills and safety
- P - participation and pride in our school
- E - empathy towards others
- C - cooperation and care
- T - teamwork, teaching and trust



The symbol of Mitchells Island Public School is the
TALLOWOOD TREE.

The school's **MOTTO** is
"Living and Growing Together"
and this reflects our overall school aim.

The school colours of which we are very proud are
GREEN and **GOLD**.

2016 STAFF

At our school we have:

Principal

Mrs Kim Wallis

Teacher

Mrs Vicki Bevitt

Library/RFF/Teacher

Mrs Claire Brown

School Administrative

Mrs Genevieve White

Manager

as well as:

School Learning Support Officer/s

Mrs Mel Bingham

School Cleaner

Mrs Helen Atkins

General Assistant

Mr Warren Anthoney

School Counsellor

M/s Bettina Bettington

Director Public Schools

Mr Mark Youngblutt

SCHOOL TIMES

School commences	9.00 a.m.
Recess	11.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Lunch	1.00 p.m. to 1.45 p.m.
School finishes	3.00 p.m.

**REMEMBER - NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IF YOU CHANGE
ADDRESS/TELEPHONE NUMBER/
EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

Necessary Items for MIPS

- A school bag which is able to be opened by your child.
- Names on all clothing and articles brought to school.
- A hat to wear at playing time - wide brimmed school hats only.
- Uniforms - summer and winter.
- Workbooks - you will be advised of these early in the school year. Workbook fees are levied to cover the cost of same.
- Year 3 to Year 6 need coloured and lead pencils, textas, coloured writing pens, ruler, rubber and glue stick.
- A library bag to borrow books from our library.
- A piece of fruit/vegetable for daily fruit break.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND INVOLVEMENT

Parents and the School

At Mitchells Island Public School parents are actively encouraged to participate in a wide range of school activities. Parents are welcome in the school at any time and are expected to take an interest in the education of their children. Parents help with activities such as reading and writing, sporting, crafts, gardening and other activities.

Open contact between the school and parents is of the utmost importance. Functions that enable parents to meet teachers occur throughout the year, but if you feel there is some special concern, interest or problem you wish to communicate, do not hesitate to arrange a convenient time.

Parents seeking an interview with the Principal or any individual teacher should ring or enquire initially at the office. The office is open from 8.30 a.m. to 3.15 p.m. most days. For obvious reasons, teachers can only be interviewed when they are free of teaching or supervision responsibilities.

Weekly Planner

Monday	Homework given P&C meeting 1 st Monday each month
Tuesday	Library ES1/S1
Wednesday	Library S2&S3
Thursday	Student banking
Friday	Sport/homework returned



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Uniforms are available from Mitchells Island P&C. Shirts, shorts, jackets, tracksuit pants, hats and sunglasses are available at the office.

Girls

Skirts or Shorts

The skirt is available for purchase at DEAS Screen Printing and Embroidery, contact number 6556 4477 and 6557 7339 or Lowes Store in Taree. Skirts or shorts are to be worn with a gold polo shirt or shirt, white socks and black shoes.



Boys -

Gold polo sports shirt or shirt, bottle green long-legged rugger shorts, white socks and black shoes.

Sports Uniform - available to students for selected team sports.

A bottle green tracksuit may be worn in winter for sport and every day wear.

SCHOOL HATS -

Bottle green wide brimmed school hats with the school logo are a part of the school uniform.

White socks and black joggers are part of the uniform.

We have a school uniform and we expect every child to wear it daily. Please send a note of explanation when your child is out of uniform.

Uniform Pool

The uniform pool assists families to have clean, used uniforms at a fraction of new retail costs. Donations of used uniform items are essential for its success and may be left with the School Administration Officer at the school office.

SUNSAFE

The school strictly enforces its sunsafe policy of "no wide brimmed hat, sit in the shade". NO hat will result in NO play.

CONVEYANCE SUBSIDY

The Department of Transport pays a subsidy to parents who transport their child in excess of 1.6 km to school. Application forms are available from the school and must be updated upon change of residence or if the student repeats Year 6. This subsidy is paid each semester.

BANKING

School banking operates each Thursday with the Commonwealth Bank. Enquiries may be made at the school office.



THE PRIMARY CURRICULUM

Every student in the school will be provided with significant opportunities for learning in every year as he or she progresses through the school. These experiences will be provided in keeping with the stage of development and potential of each individual student. A sound basic education should be considered an accumulation from experiences in all aspects and not simply a narrow focus on the 3R's. Teaching and Learning is strongly focused on outcomes.

Students move through 4 Stages in primary schooling.

Early Stage 1-	Kindergarten
Stage 1-	Years 1 and 2
Stage 2-	Years 3 and 4
Stage 3-	Years 5 and 6

The curriculum is all of the learning experiences that take place under the guidance of the school. These learning experiences come under two headings:

1. Six Key Learning Areas (K.L.A.'s)
2. Across - Curriculum Perspectives.

ASSESSMENT

This is an ongoing process in every classroom with written reports shared each Semester.

THE KEY LEARNING AREAS (KLA's)

1. ENGLISH

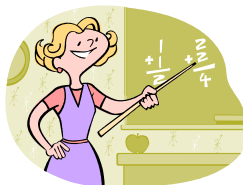
In English, students learn to read, write, speak, view and represent language. They learn about the English language and literature through working with a wide range of spoken, visual, multimedia and digital texts. Students learn how language varies according to context, and how to communicate with a range of audiences for different purposes. They learn to read for information and pleasure. Students gain a sound grasp of language structures, punctuation, spelling and grammar and learn to think in ways that are imaginative, creative and critical.

2. MATHEMATICS

Mathematics in K-6 focuses on developing students' mathematical understanding, fluency, communication, reasoning and problem-solving through their study of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. These capabilities enable students to respond to familiar and unfamiliar situations, using strategies to make decisions and solve problems relevant to their further education and everyday lives.

3. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science and Technology develops students' skills in thinking, investigating and problem-solving. It gives them knowledge and skills in scientific investigation and inquiry, design and applying technologies. Children pose questions, test ideas, and develop and evaluate arguments based on evidence.



4. HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

HSIE provides opportunities for students to explore the past and present to develop an understanding of their personal and community identity. They investigate the interactions between people, places and environments that shape their nation and world. They learn to participate in society as informed, responsible and active citizens.

History is now embedded in Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE). The aim of the History syllabus is to stimulate students' interest in and enjoyment of exploring the past, to develop a critical understanding of the past and its impact on the present, to develop the critical skills of historical inquiry and to enable students to participate as active, informed and responsible citizens.

5. CREATIVE ARTS

Creative Arts gives students experiences in the visual arts, music, drama and dance. They have opportunities to explore their creativity in each of these areas.

Students learn to appreciate the meanings and values that each artform offers. They perform and express themselves through the visual arts, music, drama and dance.

6. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PDHPE)

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) develops the knowledge, skills and attitudes students need to lead healthy, active and fulfilling lives. Students learn about the importance of good food and regular exercise and develop positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle. Students learn how bodies grow and change over time. They learn skills to play individual and team sports, and the values of sportsmanship and teamwork.

ACROSS - CURRICULUM PERSPECTIVES

(Aspects of these areas are connected, where appropriate within normal lessons in Key Learning Areas).

Multicultural Education

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Non-Sexist Education

Environmental Education

Anti-Racism

Information Technology Education

Anti-Discrimination

Mass Media in Education

Asia and Australia's Engagement

Sustainability

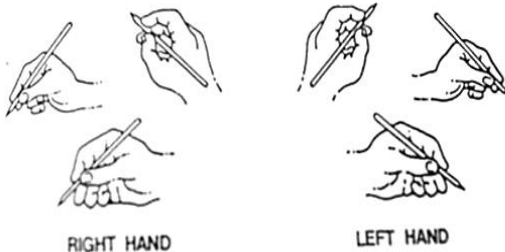
Civics and Citizenship

Difference and Diversity



HANDWRITING -

Please encourage use of lower case letters, not capital letters of the alphabet when your child wants to write (sheet below for reference of correct formations).



M.I.P.S. SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND INTERESTS

21st century LEARNING

PUBLIC SPEAKING

DEBATING - Stage 2 & 3

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION including recycling

PEER TUTORING and SUPPORT

GARDENING

EXTENSION LITERACY GROUPS

EXCURSIONS AND PERFORMANCES

To enrich children's school experiences, a wide variety of half or whole day excursions will be arranged for all children K-6. Participation in these excursions should not be seen as an "extra" but as an important part of the total curriculum.

Private transport is used in the majority of excursions and the safety of students is paramount. Evidence of a current driver's licence and car registration must be sighted annually and a copy kept by the school in a secure location to fulfil DET requirements.

All parents who are not driving their child/children need to nominate a designated driver.

From time to time, requests will be made for your permission for your child/children to travel on an excursion or to attend a performance by selected visiting cultural or interest groups.

Generally a special fee will be charged for transport and/or admission. Details of such variations to our normal routine will be forwarded to you in writing, and require your written consent. All such excursions or visits are proposed by teachers and formally approved by the Principal.

Longer excursions may be organised for primary students.

STUDENT SUPPORT

One of the highlights of MIPS is the very successful Learning Support Program, which assists students with learning difficulties or delays in Literacy and Mathematics.

A Learning and Support Teacher and Student Learning Support Officer help students on an individual basis using school-developed programs.

SUPERVISION

Active playground supervision by the school staff is provided during recess and lunch periods. Between 8.30 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. playground supervision is provided while students take bags and equipment to classrooms, and prepare for the school day. Supervision is also provided for students to the car park from 3.00 p.m.

NO supervision, nor responsibility, is taken by the Department of Education and Community for students in school grounds before 8.30 a.m. nor after 3.00 p.m. except under special circumstances, previously arranged.

Students are not to be at school prior to the 8.30 a.m. bell unless permission has been obtained by the Principal.

MOBILE PHONES

In an endeavour to minimise distraction from class lessons and to avoid the possibility of Cyber bullying, the school, in conjunction with the P&C, has banned students from bringing mobile phones to school.



In certain extreme or emergency situations an exception to this policy may be made. This should be discussed with the school's principal.

DELIVERY AND PICK UP OF STUDENTS

Please take particular care when delivering or picking up your children as safety, especially on wet days, requires special care because of the awkward nature of the roads.

A 40 k.p.h. speed zone operates on Manning Point Road between the hours of 8.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

CAR PARK

Entry to the car park is on the Manning Point side.
Exit from the car park is on the Old Bar side.

Parents must give children clear instructions **NOT TO RUN ACROSS THE CAR PARK** (to cars waiting to pick them up).



In the mornings

All children are to be dropped off in the top car park between 8.30 a.m. and 9.00 a.m.

In the afternoons

All children are to be collected at the top car park near the green shed by their transport provider. Parents are asked to park "rear in" to enable visibility for student safety.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework - help, but not too much!

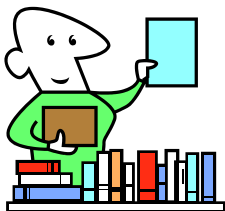
Children, like adults, naturally ask for help with difficult problems. Parents will find it rewarding to share some homework problems, - but they must resist the temptation to "do it all" for the children.



To help you to encourage your child to do his/her homework we would like you to be aware that teachers often set homework on a regular basis but this is determined by each classroom teacher. Activities may include completion of work, additional formal bookwork and tasks, reading, research, observation and data collection, designing, making and practising.

LIBRARY

All classes have a weekly library lesson. Lesson time includes borrowing and returning books, literature activities as well as a library skills program. Children are encouraged to borrow and return weekly. Overdue notices are issued for items past their due date.



Individual children and small groups have access to the library at most times.

Children from Kindergarten to Year Six may borrow fiction and non-fiction books. Items borrowed may be kept for two weeks and reference items may be borrowed on an overnight loan.

All students require a Library Bag to transport their borrowed items to and from school.

Students are expected to be conscientious in returning their books on time or renewing them when they become overdue.

It is our library policy that any items, which are lost or damaged beyond reasonable repair, must be paid for by the borrower responsible.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The school's annual calendar is liberally sprinkled with special events, special days and even special weeks. It is anticipated that all students and their families support these focus occasions so that a greater variety and richness of experience is brought into the school's total curriculum.



These special occasions are particularly important for the valuable links they form between the school and its community.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

School Development Days, one at the beginning of Term 1, Term 2, and Term 3, are special student free days where staff and interested parents focus on specific areas of school improvement. There is **no student free day at the commencement of Term 4**, however two School Development Days occur after students have left for annual holidays. These may be varied to weekend dates.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Primary and Infants students attend Scripture lessons on Wednesday mornings each fortnight. These lessons are provided by Special Religious Instructors drawn from Clergy and Parish volunteers. Scripture lessons are ecumenical with Special Religious Instructors conducting lessons in the students' regular classes.

All students are encouraged to attend the non-denominational lesson, however, if you do not wish your child to participate in these lessons a note is to be provided to the classroom teacher.

PARENT GROUPS

Parents and Citizens Association

The Parents and Citizens Association meet in the school on the 1st Monday of the month at 2.30pm where possible. All parents/carers of all students are welcome to attend. Meeting dates are advised in the school newsletter. The Mitchells Island P&C Association has a tradition of discussing issues of educational interest affecting our school, as well as organising various functions for the benefit of the students.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

Advice of custody arrangements

The school should be advised in writing of any special custody or access arrangements concerning students. If a family is separated, or a divorce has occurred, or one parent is denied, through **COURT ORDER**, access to a child, this information must be passed on to us at school **IMMEDIATELY** to avoid embarrassing/or conflicting situations occurring at school. Confidentiality will be maintained unless otherwise advised.

REMOVAL OF CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Any person wishing to take a child from school during school hours must complete a note (available in the office foyer), or personally come to the school to inform the staff.

CHANGE IN ROUTINE

If a child is to go home with a friend or is to be picked up by someone other than their parents/carers, a phone call/letter advising the school of this is required. Otherwise the child will go home the usual way.

NOTES EXPLAINING ABSENCES



All absences must be explained by note, or by the parent telephoning the school office, or calling into the school to advise the class teacher or the office. The reason for absence is important for class rolls to be correctly notated e.g. sick, holiday. Students arriving at the school after the 9.00 a.m. bell or who leave the school during the day will have their absence recorded as a partial absence.

ILLNESS AND INJURY

Your child's academic progress will not be significantly affected by staying at home when he/she is ill.

Students who become sick during the day are cared for in the sick bed by the School Administrative Manager or Classroom Teacher. You will be then notified by telephone, if possible, so you can take your child home. If contact cannot be made with you, the nominated contact person on your emergency form will be contacted to take the child home. Please ensure that the school office is advised of any change to telephone numbers for work places and emergency contacts.

Should your child be injured in the playground the following actions are taken:

1. If the injury is minor, cut, graze etc., the child is treated by the School Administrative Manager or the Classroom Teacher.
2. If the injury is more serious you will be notified as soon as possible.
3. If considered necessary, emergency medical assistance will be sought immediately, with the Principal's approval.

Medication (prescribed only)

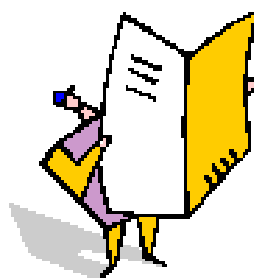
Prescribed Medication (if essential) may be administered to your child at school after parents/carers complete mandatory documentation. If approved, all medication must be clearly labelled with child's name and class, date and dosage and will be administered with documentation and supervision.



COMMUNICATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL

From

School Newsletters containing information concerning events to occur within the next week are sent home with the eldest in each family (these are handy on the refrigerator or note board). Every effort is made to provide specific notes giving details of events/day excursions. Notes requiring your signed permission are usually sent with this newsletter.



Newsletters are published weekly on the school website at www.mitchellsip.schools.nsw.edu.au

To

See the staff member in person if it is a simple, easy matter. Arrange an appointment in class-free time if the matter needs discussion. Ring or make an appointment with the Principal if the matter is serious. Send a note if unable to manage the above, but remember that notes can and do get lost. All matters concerning your child at MIPS should be resolved with the school in the first instance - not with acquaintances, the Department of Education and Communities (who will refer you back) or other agencies



MITCHELLS ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL

1222 Manning Point Road, Mitchells Island 2430

Telephone: 02 6553 2623 Mobile: 0457 502 314

Fax: 02 6553 2600

Email: mitchellsi-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Web: www.mitchellsi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Kim Wallis

MIPS SCHOOL SONG

We all live on an island
Around Taree way
The Island is called Mitchells
Great place to stay
We're learning life's lessons
And playing by the rules
We're here on Mitchells Island
It's a great little school.

We pack our bags in the morning
Throw the books in too
Add the lunch and the recess
And the sun hat too
Put our green and gold clothes on
Strap our seat belt too
Everybody's go'en learning
Mitchells Island School.

MIP's is the place for learning
Fun every day
Maths, Art and Poetry
And still time to play
Library, Science and Literacy
Playground like a jewel
Here at Mitchells Island
It's a great little school.