MIMOSA PUBLIC SCHOOL Information Handbook
School Contact Information

Mimosa Public School
1 Mimosa Street
Frenchs Forest   2086

Phone:    9451 8049
Email:       mimosa-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website:   mimosa-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

School Hours

Our school day:            9:15am – 3:15pm
Recess:             11:15am – 11:40am
Lunch:   1:00pm – 1:50pm

Parents and Citizens Association (P&C)

The P&C meets in the school library on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm.

P&C Email: mimosapublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au
Principal’s Message

Welcome to Mimosa Public School. I am very proud to be the Principal of this wonderfully dynamic and innovative school.

It is a privilege for me to work with our students, our staff and our families to make our school the very best it can be. The whole Mimosa team - students, staff and parents - work collaboratively to achieve our plans and goals.

At Mimosa, we create a safe, nurturing yet challenging learning environment that is built on positive relationships and developing the whole student – emotionally, socially and academically. We value, care for and know each of our students as the unique individuals that they are, with distinct talents, interests and needs, and each bringing to school a vast range of experiences and backgrounds.

Our school is situated in a natural, leafy environment that provides a pleasant, peaceful setting for learning. We have a number of play spaces and outdoor settings that allow for a variety of games, explorative play and social development to occur. We are well equipped with sport equipment, play structures, sand pits, ovals, cubby houses, basketball court and cricket nets.

Mimosa caters for students from Kindergarten to Year 6 with 3-4 classes per grade and an enrolment of just over 500 students. Our classrooms are well resourced and our students have access to a range of hands-on materials, literature, technology and educational aids to support their learning.

Our experienced and dedicated teaching staff provide stimulating and challenging teaching and learning programs based on the NSW curriculum that are differentiated to meet the needs of every student. We are committed to everyone reaching their personal best in a supportive and respectful environment. We promote excellence and equity to ensure all students become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active informed citizens of the future. Technology is widely used across the school to support teaching and learning with each classroom equipped with a Smartboard or Interactive Panel. Students have access to laptops and iPads to support their learning in particular subjects as well as having the opportunity to develop skills in STEM education and engage in robotics and coding lessons.

At Mimosa, we offer a number of extra-curricular activities including inter-school sporting competitions, enrichment programs, band programs, choirs, dance groups, string ensemble, coding, chess, drama club and debating. We have an on-site Before School and After School Care Program (MOOSH), which is operated by Mimosa Kids.

We want each of our students to leave school with the values of respect, responsibility, resilience and effort. Our students develop responsibility for their own behaviour and the choices they make, and also a communal responsibility to assist their peers to do the same. We promote an anti-bullying environment and explicitly teach personal development programs to ensure students are well equipped with the necessary skills and understandings to be socially aware and respect the adults and fellow students with whom they interact.

Mimosa Public School is a friendly, vibrant, community-minded school, whose decisions always put our students first. We are very keen to involve our community in our learning, developing true partnerships that value each student. There are many opportunities for parental and community involvement. We hope that through your participation and interest you will also come to feel very much a part of our school and its warm and generous community.

We are always ready to help you and work with you to make your child’s time at Mimosa memorable and rewarding in every possible way. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to know more, have a question or to talk to us about how we can best support your child in their primary school journey.

Mathew Fuller

Principal
Welcome to Mimosa Public School

Mimosa Public School is a NSW co-educational school catering for students from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Our school motto is ‘Growth and Integrity’ and both of these values are embedded in all our school programs.

The school offers a wide variety of programs and opportunities to ensure successful learning for all our students.

At Mimosa Public School, we believe that everyone has the right to be safe and respected, in an engaging and positive learning environment. This is achieved through our school expectations:

Respect
Responsibility
Resilience
Effort
At Mimosa, we pride ourselves on meeting the academic, social, emotional and wellbeing needs of our students.

**Programs and opportunities at Mimosa include:**

- a strong focus on quality teaching and learning, with literacy and numeracy clear priorities;
- access to a variety of technology to support all curriculum areas;
- leadership opportunities for students;
- performing arts has a strong tradition at the school;
- a rich curriculum offering varied opportunities for students including sport, music, chess, public speaking, debating; and
- a variety of enrichment programs giving students opportunities to develop talents and interests.

**In the Academic Domain, we have:**

- achieved outstanding results in the National Assessment Program, NAPLAN;
- developed and maintained effective student, teacher and parent partnerships;
- the use of interactive whiteboards, panels and other technology in every classroom;
- specialist teachers and programs to support learning in English and Maths;
- excellence in Performing Arts;
- extension programs.
To enhance Student Wellbeing at Mimosa:

- the needs of each child are considered and valued;
- a buddy program is implemented between Year 6 and Kindergarten students;
- our structured and supportive student leadership program includes an active Student Representative Council (SRC); and
- the philosophy and practices of Positive Behaviour for Learning is embedded in our school life and is based on sound values: Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Effort.

Our outstanding Facilities include:

- a beautiful bushland setting;
- large classrooms;
- a large state-of-the-art school hall;
- a multi-purpose netball, basketball and tennis court and cricket nets;
- specialist subject rooms;
- a large technology space;
- literature rich library;
- technology in all classrooms including equipment for coding and robotics;
- an on-site Out of School Hours Before and After School Care Centre (privately operated);
- synthetic oval and
- an on-site preschool and long day care centre (privately operated).

Our diverse Extra Curricular Activities include:

- leadership training;
- coding and technology;
- a quality school band program;
- structured public speaking and debating programs;
- interschool sporting opportunities;
- choirs across all stages;
- a dance program;
- a chess program; and
- sports carnivals.
General School Information and Procedures

Absences
Regular attendance is very important. For short absences a written note or a digital note via the School Enews app from a parent should be sent to the office stating the reason for the absence when the child returns to school. For longer absences please notify the school in writing about the nature of the absence and probable duration. If the absence is going to be for ten school days or more, an Exemption from School application must be completed. The Principal will determine if the exemption will be granted or not.

Partial absences – late arrival / early leaving
If your child arrives late to school please sign in at the office before going to the classroom. A late slip will be provided to hand to the class teacher.
If it is necessary to collect your child from school prior to 3:15pm please come to the office, your child will be signed out and a slip given to the teacher for their partial absence.
If your child leaves school for any period during the day he/she must be signed in and out at the office.

Accidents and Illnesses
A sick bay with First Aid requirements is located adjacent to the School Assistant’s office where students who are sick or injured are made comfortable and directly supervised until collected by a parent or caregiver.
You will be notified if your child becomes sick at school and will be expected to collect your child from school as soon as possible.
In the event of an accident, staff will take appropriate action and you will be contacted.
It is very important that ‘Emergency Contact’ details are kept up to date. Any changes in contact telephone numbers or relevant information during the year should be notified immediately to the school office.
Staff are trained in First-Aid, CPR, Anaphylaxis and Emergency Care. At Mimosa we have policies and procedures in place for students who fall ill or are injured during school hours.

Medication at school
We will administer medication during school hours for those students who require it for managing medical conditions. Parents should ensure the school is aware of any medical needs your child may have. It is the responsibility of parents to provide updated action plans and medicine to the school.
If your child requires medication during school time, it is very important that parents or carers complete a medical form in the office and discuss the administration of the medicine with the Admin team and/or the Principal. This must be done prior to the medicine being given to the child. Medication must be supplied to the office in its original packaging with a pharmacist’s label detailing student name, dose, medication name and expiry date. Students should not be tasked with delivering their own medication to the office or being responsible for taking it themselves. Medications of any kind should not be kept in school bags during the day.

Allergies/ Anaphylaxis
If your child has allergies to food, plants, stings etc. it is important for the school to be informed. A current ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis or an Allergy Plan must be supplied in colour and appropriate medicine or medical aids, eg. an EpiPen auto-injector, must be supplied and regularly checked to ensure it is replaced prior to expiration.

Asthma
The school has a supply of emergency Ventolin spray for use as required. However if your child requires Ventolin, a puffer spray pack, a spacer delivery devise and Action Plan should be supplied to the office. The child will be supervised when taking their Ventolin.
Infectious diseases
Parents are reminded that students with infectious diseases should not return to school until the required number of days has elapsed for them to be regarded as free from infection. Please contact the office so that the school community can be notified if necessary.

Assemblies
The school assembles in the quadrangle on Monday after lunch for presentation of awards and announcements.
Assemblies are held for students every Friday afternoon at 2:00pm in the school hall. Attendance at these assemblies alternates each week between students in Kindergarten to Year 2 and students in Year 3 to Year 6. Twice a term, the whole school assembles in the hall for a K-6 Values Assembly where students are rewarded for their efforts in demonstrating our four values, Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Effort.
At these assemblies, a more formal format is followed, including the singing of the School Song and the National Anthem.

Awards
Certificates are presented to students for demonstrating a wide range of positive behaviours, values and achievements. Certificates are awarded at the school assembly. Students are also able to collect the Values certificates and be awarded with a special Kirinari badge once they have collected the required number. Once they have collected all four Kirinari badges, one for each value Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Effort, students will be awarded a Kirinari medallion on Presentation Day at the end of the year.
**School Enews**

At Mimosa we use a communication system called School Enews to deliver newsletters, notes and information to your phone via an app and/or to your email. The app is available for iPhone, iPad, Android devices, Windows and Windows Phones. You receive an alert to your phone, you will also receive an email with the notice attached if you have subscribed. The notices will also be available on our school website, to ensure everyone is well informed about all school activities. This is the only way of receiving newsletters and other important information.

To get started, you will need to subscribe to School Enews via the website or to download the iPhone or iPad app, go to the app store on your device and search for ‘Mimosa Public School’. To download the Android app, go to the play store on your device and search for ‘Mimosa Public School’.

Visit our website at mimo-sa-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

1. Go to the ‘Newsletters and Notes’ tab;
2. Select the groups you want to subscribe to. To receive Newsletters and Notes via Email, tick on the ‘Newsletter List’ and the appropriate year lists (eg. Year 2) and any other groups from which you want to receive information. Please note that your child’s year group will automatically update at the beginning of each school year;
3. Enter in your name and email address;
4. Click Subscribe;
5. IMPORTANT: An email will be sent to your email address, you MUST click the ‘Activate Now’ inside this email that is sent to you.

**Flexischools**

Our school has an online ordering system called Flexischools. Online orders are faster and easier to process. At Mimosa we use Flexischools for canteen orders, uniform shop and special days such as Mother’s Day and School Disco to name a few.
Before and After School Care
Mimosa Out Of School Hours Care (MOOSH) is operated by Mimosa Children’s Centre. Hours of operation 7:00am – 8:45am and 3:15pm – 6:00pm. Telephone 9453 1162 for registration information, bookings or enquiries. Email: Moosh@mimosakids.com.au Vacation care also operates during the school holiday periods. Please contact MOOSH for more information.

Book Club
This activity supports literacy at the school and is co-ordinated by the librarian. Ashtons Scholastic Book Club forms are sent home for parents who wish to order from the selection of books for their children. The school receives a commission on purchases which can be used to purchase new books for the library. Orders and payments are made online or via The Loop app. Books will be delivered to the students in their classroom when they arrive.

Buses
**Bus Passes:** Students in K-2 are entitled to a free travel pass if required. Students in Years 3-6 who live 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking distance from the school are also entitled to a free student travel pass.
Applications are available online via Transport NSW – School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS). Please contact Forest Coach Lines or go to their website to obtain Timetable information.

Canteen
The canteen is operated by the P&C, who employs a Canteen Manager and Canteen Assistant. The canteen is open each Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for morning tea and lunch. The canteen maintains a high standard of nourishing food at reasonable prices and is guided by the Healthy School Canteen Strategy. It makes an important contribution to the school community life. A current canteen price list can be found on the school website.
We have an online system with Flexischools for ordering lunch and morning tea, and snacks can also be purchased over the counter at recess. To sign up for online ordering, go to www.flexischools.com.au ‘Specials Days’ are held from time to time. This is for one-off food and drinks not normally sold at the canteen. These days are advertised in advance in the school newsletter and are ordered via Flexischools prior to the day.
Parents are encouraged to volunteer to assist in the daily running of the canteen. Volunteer hours are 9:15am to 2:00pm although shorter shifts are available. A roster is prepared on a one-day per month basis, where possible. If you are able to assist, even in a limited basis, please contact the school office or Canteen Manager on the school number.
**Class Parents**

Every class has a class parent, who volunteers to take on the role for the year. This role includes disseminating information via email to families in the class from the teacher or the P&C and coordinating social events for the class. Class parents are encouraged to attend the P&C meetings.

**Classroom Assistance**

During the year many parents provide valuable assistance to teachers by helping in the classroom. They supervise activities, listen to the students read and help with writing, practical math activities and for particular class events and activities. Parents are encouraged to share their own strengths and skills in partnership with the school.

**School Fees**

Each family receives a term expense sheet outlining the expenses and subsequent costs early each term and payments are expected by the end of that term. On occasion, payments may be required upfront. These costs are for activities the students partake in during this period. Preferred method of payment is via the Parent Online Portal (POP) but we also accept EFTPOS, cash or cheque via the school office. Class teachers cannot accept payments for school activities or expenses. Consideration and assistance is provided for any family experiencing financial difficulties, following confidential information being conveyed to the Principal.

**Environment**

The natural bushland environment is a unique feature of Mimosa and one that is highly valued by students, teachers and parents. The responsibility for the native vegetation rests with the Duffy’s Forest Vegetation Management Strategy, which is a joint agreement between the school, Northern Beaches Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. There is always a strong focus on students developing responsible and proactive attitudes and habits to care for the environment. The vegetable gardens and grove of fruit trees are maintained by our students, teachers and the P&C Committee with produce being used for lessons, cooking and the school canteen.

**Lost Property**

All items found are placed in our lost property boxes located outside the canteen. Parents are requested to label all belongings. The Uniform Shop offers ‘RagTag’d’ which is a Smart Tag embedded into your clothing items. Pair your phone to the tag and when your item is placed into the lost property boxes you will be notified via SMS.
Newsletter
The school newsletter is distributed by School Enews every Wednesday. Parents are encouraged to read our newsletter carefully, as it contains a wealth of information that allows parents to keep up with:

- educational matters;
- school organisation and events;
- student achievements; and
- P & C and committee news.

‘Meet the Teacher’
In Term 1 parents are invited to attend an Information Evening. This gives parents the opportunity to meet their child’s teacher and gather information relating to class routines, organisation and expectations. This is a valuable forum that paves the way for teachers and parents to work together in partnership, for the benefit of each child.

Parking
At all times, parking in school grounds is restricted to teaching staff, administration staff, cleaners and visiting personnel. This is for safety reasons. Parents are asked not to drive into the school grounds when dropping off or collecting their child, except in emergencies (e.g. to collect a child from Sick Bay). Parents are also requested to observe traffic regulations (40km/h zone) and parking regulations in Mimosa Street and Blackbutts Road. The safety of all students is paramount.

Photographs
Class group and individual photographs are taken annually by professional photographers. Sports teams and ‘special’ group photos are also taken. Parents are given the opportunity to order the photographs of their children and classes.

Playground Supervision
The playground is supervised by teachers before school from 8:45am. Parents are requested to use the ‘Before School’ care service, located in the school grounds if a child needs to be at school before this time. Similarly, parents are requested to use the ‘After School’ care service or make other arrangements if they are unable to collect their child by 3:15pm at the end of the school day. Please refer to ‘Before & After School Care’ for further details.) Teachers also supervise the playground at recess and lunchtime. Students are expected to remain in the designated playground areas that are under supervision.
Parents and Citizens Association – ‘P&C’
The P&C Association is the major forum for discussions between the teaching staff of the school and all interested parents. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, during term, at 7:30pm in the school library.
The Mimosa P&C is responsible for the Canteen, Uniform Shop, Band, Grounds, Social / Fundraising, Environmental sustainability and Fireworks.
New parents are always made welcome and encouraged to attend meetings and be involved in committees.
Elections for the P & C executive take place at the Annual General Meeting, where all members can vote. A membership fee of $1 per person per year makes you a voting member of the P & C.

School Crossing
The crossing at Blackbutts Road is supervised each morning from 8:45am – 9:30am and each afternoon from 2:45pm – 3:45pm by a trained School Crossing Supervisor employed by the NSW Roads and Maritime Services.

School Tours
Visitors to Mimosa are offered an organised School Tour conducted by the Principal or a member of the administration staff. Please contact the school office for tour dates and times. An Information Evening is held annually for incoming Kindergarten parents to find out about the school and its programs.

Security
Unauthorised persons are not permitted in the school grounds. All parents and community members are asked to help protect our school by reporting suspicious unauthorised activities to Frenchs Forest Police Station 9452 9599 or contact school security on 1300 880 021.
Uniforms
Mimosa Public School takes pride in the appearance of its students. Students are expected to wear their uniform at all times. Hats are a compulsory component of the uniform with a playground policy that says “No hat – shade play”.

Uniforms are available from the Uniform Shop which operates at the school from 8:45am – 9:30am on Friday. Online orders can be placed via Flexischools and will be delivered to the classroom.

At Mimosa, we show respect by wearing our uniform with pride.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls – Summer Uniform</th>
<th>Boys – Summer Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School dress</td>
<td>White short sleeve shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White ankle socks</td>
<td>Grey shorts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black school shoes</td>
<td>Grey socks - green &amp; yellow stripe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green school hat</td>
<td>Black school shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional – green shorts with</td>
<td>Green school hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short sleeved Peter Pan Blouse</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls – Winter Uniform</th>
<th>Boys – Winter Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter tunic (with Tab)</td>
<td>White long sleeve shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White long sleeve Peter Pan Blouse</td>
<td>Grey long trousers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black tights or white socks</td>
<td>Grey socks – green &amp; yellow stripe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black school shoes</td>
<td>Black school shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacket with school emblem</td>
<td>Jacket with school emblem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional green pants</td>
<td>School tie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls – Sports Uniform</th>
<th>Boys – Sports Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green netball skirt or shorts</td>
<td>Green shorts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport shirt with Mimosa emblem</td>
<td>Sport shirt with Mimosa emblem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runners &amp; short white socks</td>
<td>Runners &amp; short white socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green tracksuit pants (winter)</td>
<td>Green tracksuit pants (winter)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Optional accessories
School backpack with Mimosa Public School Emblem
Nylon library bag with school crest
Green rain jackets

Mandatory accessories
Green School hat
Educational Information

Syllabus
Subjects are organised into six Key Learning Areas (KLAs). The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) is responsible for setting the core curriculum in New South Wales by developing syllabuses for Kindergarten to Year 6.

Schools in New South Wales use the K–6 syllabuses listed below.

English
Reading and Viewing, Speaking and Listening and Writing (including handwriting, spelling, grammar and punctuation).

Mathematics
Students will develop knowledge and understandings in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry and Statistics and Probability. Working Mathematically (communicating, problem-solving, reasoning, fluency, understanding and justification) are incorporated into all sub-strands.

Science and Technology
Knowledge and understandings will be developed in Natural Environment (Physical World, Earth and Space, Living World and Material World) and Made Environment (Built Environments, Information, Products and Material World). The skills of Working Environments, Information, Products and Material World). The skills of Working Scientifically and Working Technologically are incorporated into all units of work.

History
Through investigation of key inquiry questions students will study familiar topics, such as: Personal, Family and Community Histories in Early Stage 1, Local Community History in Stage 1, British Colonisation and Indigenous Peoples in Stage 2 and The Development of Australian Democracy in Stage 3.

Geography
Students will undertake inquiry-based learning to explore and understand the world. They will investigate environments and communities across local to global scales and will develop an understanding of being informed, responsible and active citizens.

Creative Arts
Music, Visual Arts, Craft, Drama, Dance.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
Through the study of Personal Development, Health and Physical Education, students develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes needed to take action to protect and enhance their own and others’ health, safety and wellbeing in varied and changing contexts. Physical education is fundamental to the acquisition of movement skills and concepts to enable students to participate in a range of physical activities – confidently, competently and creatively.
**Teaching in Stages**
At Mimosa there is an emphasis on a stage structure of teaching, which reflects the organisation of the syllabus and student achievements of outcomes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Year(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 and 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5 and 6</td>
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Organisation occurs within the stages for a range of learning opportunities.

**NAPLAN Program**
The NAPLAN Program - National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy - is designed to assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. This program assists teachers to identify students’ strengths and needs in literacy and numeracy. The NAPLAN results for each student are provided to parents and the overall school results are reported to the school community in the Annual School Report. Since 2018, students have completed these assessments online, with the exception of Year 3 writing.

**Year 6 Leadership**
Students and teachers elect two Captains, two Vice Captains and two Prefects as school student leaders for the year. Year 6 students are also able to take on leadership roles and responsibilities in the school, including Sporting House Captains, Band Captains, Library Monitors and Technology Monitors.

Leadership is a strong focus in the school and is developed in all students.

**Computer Technology and Connected Learning**
Every classroom at Mimosa is equipped with an interactive whiteboard or interactive panel. Mimosa is highly resourced with computers in each classroom and in the library, as well as a newly refurbished technology room with a bank of PCs, laptops and iPads. Students have access to the internet for research in every classroom, the library and the computer room. Students use various forms of technology to support their learning. During the year students also participate in lessons on coding and robotics.

**School Counsellor**
The school counsellor is a Registered Psychologist and can provide students, teachers and parents with educational and personal advice and support. The counsellor can administer educational assessments and assist with acquiring support for students with specific needs. Appointments to see the counsellor are necessary and can be made through the office.
Excursions and Special Activities
Excursions and special activities are a part of the school’s educational program and are closely linked to current classroom practice. Overnight excursions occur in Years 5 & 6. All students are expected to participate in excursions and special activities as they are part of the school education program. Excursion costs are closely monitored. Consideration and assistance is provided for any family experiencing financial difficulties, following confidential information being conveyed to the Principal. Parental permission is necessary before a child can participate in any school excursion or special activity.

MultiLit and MiniLit
Literacy programs for students requiring additional intensive support for their learning are administered at school. The school’s Learning and Support Team determines the students who are eligible to participate in the programs following teacher recommendation and assessment. Community volunteers and teachers provide one to one assistance via a systematic, detailed literacy program that is based on sound research and practice. Parents are provided with communication about their child’s participation and progress in the programs. Selected students usually participate in the program for one semester (two school terms).

Gifted and Talented Programs
Catering for the learning needs of gifted and talented students is a priority at Mimosa. Our school and class programs are varied and include a broad range of interests including music, drama, dance, mathematics, science and technology, writing, problem solving, visual arts and computing. Different focus areas are chosen during the year with a view to giving students opportunities to foster their talents.
In addition to enrichment programs, the individual needs of students are met in the classroom through extension activities and implementation of an outcomes based approach which ensures students are working at their own level of development.
During the year a wide range of opportunities are also offered to students to compete in various competitions and contests at school, district and state levels.
These include: Interschool chess tournaments, Maths Olympiad, Art Competitions, ICAS Competitions and Young Communicator Competition.
The school also participates in a range of cultural festivals which gives students opportunities to develop their talents and performance skills.

Homework Policy
Homework at Mimosa is considered important to develop regular work habits. At all times, the policy of the NSW Department of Education and Communities is followed. Homework is an opportunity to consolidate class work and provides valuable practice and reinforcement of basic skills.
All homework is marked and followed up by the class teacher. Homework is a home-school partnership in the teaching and learning process, with the child being responsible for his/her own work while parents provide a supportive, encouraging role.
Library
Mimosa Public School Library is an inviting and engaging space that seeks to instil a love of reading and learning in the school community. Students are encouraged to collaborate, communicate, investigate and learn in a comfortable, safe and enjoyable environment. We participate in many exciting literature-based events such as National Simultaneous Storytime, Book Week dress up parade and activities, author and illustrator visits, KOALA awards and the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Weekly Lessons
The Library is an important part of your child’s education. Each class has a weekly library lesson where students are encouraged to borrow books from our wide selection of fiction and non-fiction texts. The library is open during the second half of lunchtime for student use. Students can participate in activities such as board games, reading, drawing, craft and Lego.

Family Library Time
The library is open after school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3:20pm to 3:35pm. This time is for families to share their love of reading and for book borrowing. Students must be accompanied by a parent or carer after school.
Primary and High School links
Being situated next door to Davidson High School has many advantages, including opportunities to be involved in a wide range of educational initiatives and the sharing of facilities. Our students have the opportunity to participate in enrichment programs and our teachers work together for professional development.

Reading Recovery Program
Reading Recovery is an intensive program available to students in Year 1 who have not yet met the milestones expected in literacy for their stage of development. It is an intensive, well-supported program in which students are given a daily half hour lesson, on a one-to-one basis, with the trained Reading Recovery teacher. This can be for a period of between 10 and 20 weeks depending upon the need of the individual child.

Reporting to Parents
Parent-Teacher Interviews are held in Term 2. These meetings allow parents to hold a private discussion with their child’s teacher. Specific interview days are set aside for this purpose. Should you wish to discuss any matter affecting your child at any other time, an appointment can be arranged by contacting the classroom teacher or the school office.
Mimosa encourages open and ongoing communication as a commitment to our partnership with parents. A written report of individual student progress is provided to parents at the end of Term 2 and at the end of Term 4.

Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Education in Ethics (SEE)
The NSW Education Act 1990 requires that, ‘In every government school, time is to be allowed for the religious education of children of any religious persuasion.’ Scripture lessons are kindly provided by volunteer teachers, on Wednesdays. Protestant, Catholic or Jewish instruction is available. If any child does not attend they are supervised and provided with alternate activities. Ethics is offered to students where a trained Primary Ethics teacher is available.
School Events
The school highlights special events each year specifically involving our students. These can include:


Performing Arts
All students at Mimosa participate in performing arts programs during the year. A biennial school concert is held where all students have the opportunity to perform. In addition to the opportunities for each class specific groups are also formed in the school.

Band Program
The band program at Mimosa is very comprehensive and enjoys an excellent reputation. The program caters for students’ musical development in three bands, Training Band, Intermediate Band and Senior Band. Towards the end of Year 2, students apply to enter the Training Band for the following year. After one year, students progress into the Intermediate Band and then into the Senior Band (Years 5 & 6). The three bands offer members a wealth of performance opportunities and collegial musical experience. The bands perform at a variety of venues throughout the year. An annual Band Tour is held for band members in the Intermediate and Senior Band. The P&C Band Committee and school work in partnership to ensure the band program is run efficiently and effectively under the professional care of a band director.
Choir
Students at Mimosa receive many opportunities for participation in choir. Performances take place at a wide range of functions both in the school and further afield. Currently there are two choirs operating, a Junior Choir for students in Year 1-3 and a Senior Choir for students in Years 4-6.

Music and Drama
Drama activities take place across the school, following the format in the Creative and Practical Arts syllabus. Currently a drama club operates with students participating in weekly drama activities at a lunchtime club.

The Annual Opera House Choir Performance
A Kindergarten Performance

Dance
Students are given the opportunity to audition for school dance groups, which perform at Dance Festivals at Regional and State levels. Currently the school has four specialist dance groups.

Intermediate Dance Group
Senior Dance Group

Public Speaking
Each year we hold a Young Communicators Public Speaking Program to encourage excellence in public speaking. This event encourages all students in the school to prepare and deliver a speech to their class and several students from each stage are chosen to present their speeches in front of the school and guest adjudicators. Debating skills are also encouraged in the senior classes and interschool debating is held regularly.
Sport and Physical Education

Sport and P.E. are an important part of the curriculum. Students at Mimosa take part in sporting activities from K-6. Mimosa provides an extensive sports program catering for all levels of ability. Interschool sport is organised through the Primary School Sport Association (PSSA) and games are played against other schools in the Forest area. Students in Years 3-6 may try out for a PSSA team.

PSSA summer sports are cricket, Eagle-tag football, softball, and T-ball. PSSA winter sports are soccer, AFL and netball. These weekly competitions are held on Friday mornings.

School Sport is held at the same time as the PSSA competition. The school sport program is designed to maximise the fundamental movement skills of the students and develop skills in sports that are played in the PSSA competition.

Annual carnivals are held for athletics, cross country and swimming and all students who are aged 8 years or over may compete at these events.

K -2 Athletics

Following these carnivals, eligible students are selected to compete at Warringah Zone, Sydney North Area and State Carnivals. A special Sports Carnival day is held for students in K-2 with age races. Parents are encouraged to attend these exciting days to cheer on their children and to assist with events where required.

The school runs a sport house competition during the year. Every child and teacher belongs to one of the four sport houses: Acacia – yellow, Banksia – green, Waratah – red, Boronia – blue

Years 2 students participate in an Intensive Swimming Program run by trained coaches.
Student Wellbeing

Student Wellbeing programs at Mimosa foster a climate where the students feel safe and valued, are encouraged, trusted and accepted, enabling students to relate to others and take responsibility for their learning. This environment allows students to take risks in order to do quality work.

Our Student Welfare Policy is focused on meeting the needs of each child and developing each child as a responsible school citizen. The school has a program of Positive Behaviour for Learning. The four values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Effort are embedded in all aspects of school life and students are specifically taught how to demonstrate these values in all settings around the school.

Mimosa aims to develop a positive and respectful relationship amongst all members of the school community in an atmosphere of mutual respect where parents, teachers, students and those of the wider community will support the decisions and responsibilities exercised by each group.

Strategies for maintaining and enhancing a positive and caring environment are used. The aim is to empower students towards self-discipline by making better decisions and using sophisticated problem solving skills. The school community believe in satisfying the needs of all students and nurturing the notion that every child is unique.

The whole school is involved in social skills and values programs called ‘Bounce Back’ and ‘Strong Minds’. As a result:

- Students know bullying is unacceptable and there are consequences for this behaviour
- Students are given the power to say ‘No’
- Students take responsibility for their own behaviour
- Students feel safe, encouraged, resilient, respected and valued
- Students take risks that improve the quality of their learning and social interaction.
- Students are able to identify their own character strengths.

Elected class representatives form a Student Representative Council (SRC) which meets regularly to raise issues and discuss matters put forward by other students. The councillors also canvas student opinion on proposed changes in policy or routine. The SRC trains students in advocacy, communication and representation, and provides an area for the exercise of leadership skills taught through class programs and school activities.

To encourage the students to respect themselves the Life Education program is taught across all stages. This program discourages the use of drugs, teaches students about cyber safety and encourages a happy and healthy lifestyle. ‘Healthy Harold’ is a fun learning part of this program for the younger students.