

PARENT INFORMATION



Mitcham
Primary School
thinkers | learners | leaders

Grade 1, 2026



MEET THE TEAM



Tilly Birkett
1A



Shea McFarland
1B
(Mon-Thurs)



Erena Cain
1B
(Friday)



Leah Stremski
1C



SPECIALISTS PROGRAMS

Students attend a 50 minute session every week for each specialist program. Students in grades 1/2 will also attend a level sport session every Friday afternoon.



Caitlin Kolokathis
Performing Arts



Laura Ellis
Physical Education
Learning Specialist



Bec Peters
Art
Physical Education



SPECIALIST PROGRAMS



Lauren Lamont
STEM
Specialist Coordinator



Emma Bates
Art



Lisa Cooke
LOTE
AUSLAN & STEM
on Fridays



Glenda Tjhin
LOTE
Indonesian





INTERVENTION PROGRAMS



Some students will be working with the below teachers to focus in on their specific point of need learning



Michelle Dybing
EAL Coordinator



Trisha Arblaster
MiniLit/Macqlit
Co-ordinator



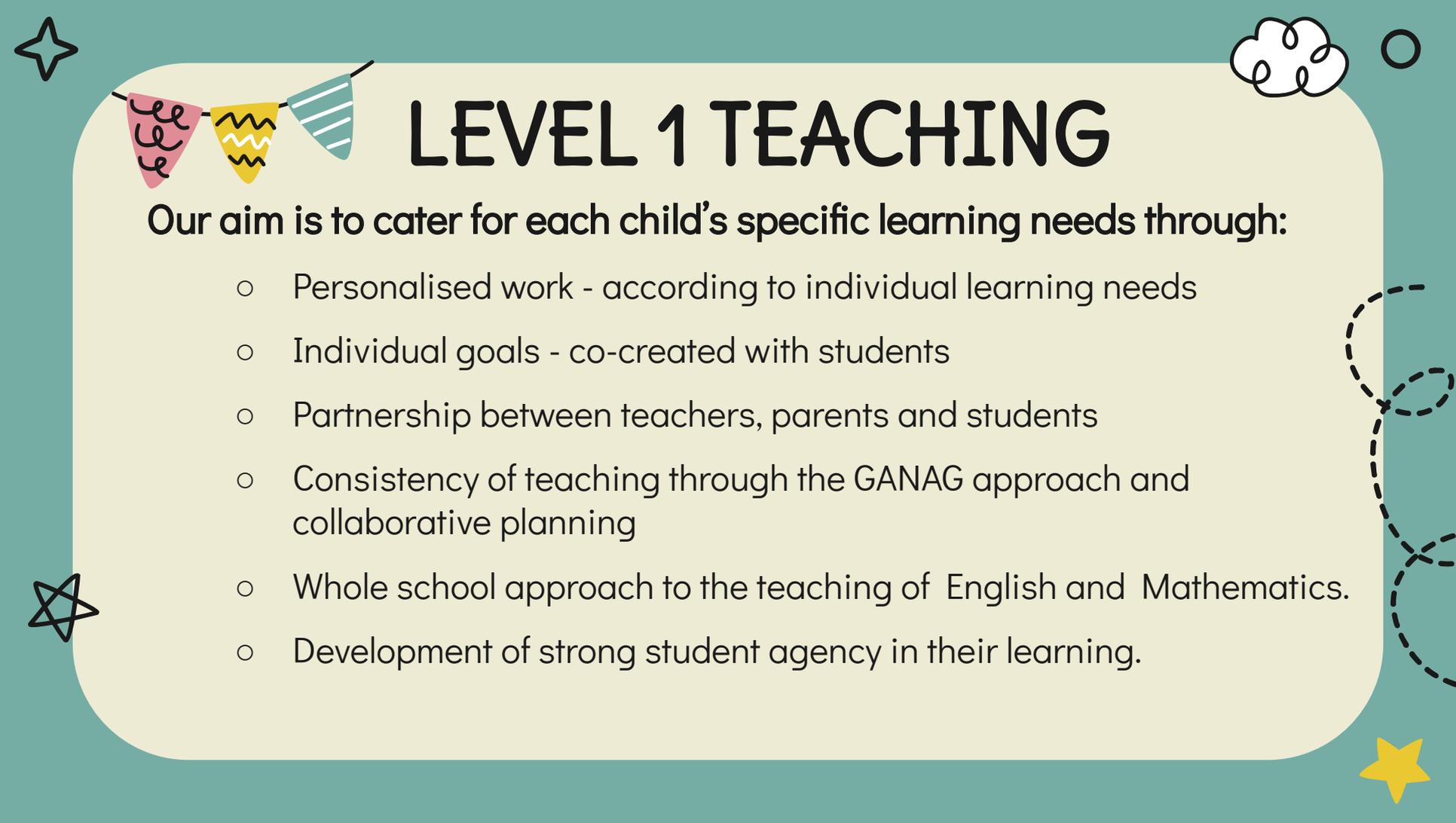
Katrina McGrath
Colourful Semantics





Child Safety

- We are committed to maintaining a safe environment for all students at Mitcham Primary School.
 - All Mitcham Primary School staff, volunteers, contractors, service providers, school council members and any other adult involved in child-connected work must follow the Child Safety Code of Conduct.
 - The Child Safety Code of Conduct applies to all physical and online environments used by students. It also applies during or outside of school hours and in other locations provided by the school for student use (for example, a school camp).
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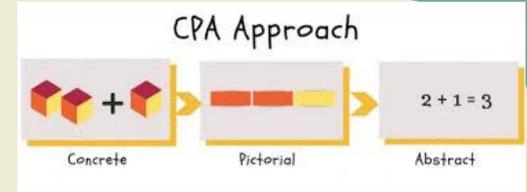


LEVEL 1 TEACHING

Our aim is to cater for each child's specific learning needs through:

- Personalised work - according to individual learning needs
 - Individual goals - co-created with students
 - Partnership between teachers, parents and students
 - Consistency of teaching through the GANAG approach and collaborative planning
 - Whole school approach to the teaching of English and Mathematics.
 - Development of strong student agency in their learning.
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MATHEMATICS



As of 2024, the Numeracy Curriculum has been split from what was previously 3 domains into 6: **Number, Algebra, Space, Measurement, Statistics and Probability** (which enters in Grade 3).

F-6 → Lessons are high-impact and engaging to target students' sequential point of need.

We want students to share their reasoning and think out loud with one another, rather than working in silence. We want to see them using materials to record and explore their mathematical ideas, instead of simply memorising steps and algorithms before they understand the concepts. Our ultimate goal is to nurture a generation of children who grow into adults that still enjoy and value mathematics.

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LITERACY



Recent Victorian English Curriculum organised into **three interrelated strands** : **Language** , **Literature** , and **Literacy** .

Reading

- F-2 → Reading largely focuses on **learning to read**.
- 3-6 → Reading largely focuses on **reading to learn**.
- A chance to explore rich texts and unpack them as a class, in small groups and individually.
Allows students to deepen their understanding of texts

Writing

- Regular Free Choice Writing → Encourages motivation, passion and agency
- Taught in partnership with reading. Reading is input of knowledge, writing is output of our own knowledge and creativity.
- Regular conferencing to create individual goals with students.



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Initialit



- Evidence-based, whole-class literacy program
- Provides essential core knowledge and strong foundations for successful reading and writing
- Ensures consistent instruction across year groups
- Regular assessment checks to catch any gaps in learning
- Targeted differentiated instruction during small group instruction and activities.



Whole-class
scripted
lesson



Small-group
and independent
activities



Shared
storybook
lesson

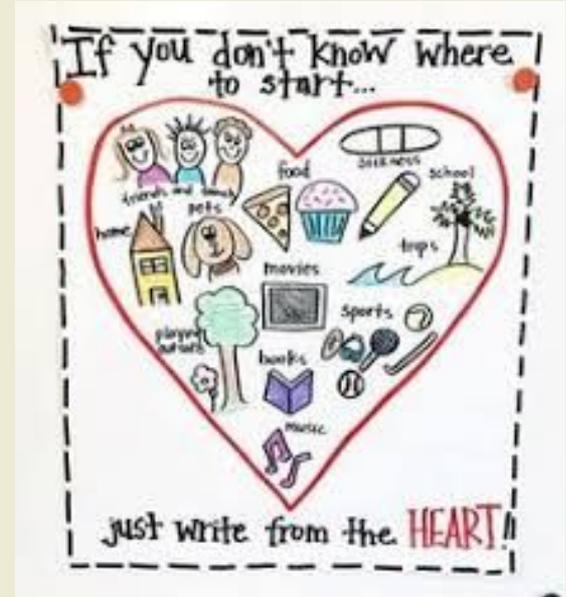


Writers Notebook



It is a place:

- To record things you notice, observe and think about
- To write about what matters to YOU
- That stores ideas that you can go back to later
- To experiment with language, to express yourself
- Where you can just WRITE. No marking. No worrying about spelling or punctuation (if you don't want to). Just a place to get your thoughts down on the page.



Humanities



Topics we are covering this year:

Term 1: Personal and Family history & Ancient Egypt

Term 2: Community History & Ancient Greece

Term 3: Australian Geography & Space

Term 4: Aboriginal Nations/Languages & Oceans





Things you can do at home!



- Reading
- Writing lists, diaries, notes, etc.
- Asking questions as your child reads such as, 'What do you think will happen next?'
- Number hunts - Finding numbers around the house, on letterboxes, cooking and adding change at the supermarket etc.

- **Don't forget to check the Grade 1 Website!**

It's full of helpful links to maths games, reading support, and lots more to support learning at home.



Wellbeing

The wellbeing approach at Mitcham Primary School aligns with the Positive Psychology approach to wellbeing. Wellbeing is at the centre of all we do.

Respectful Relationships

Friendology

Mitcham Mates

Restorative Practice

Zones of Regulation

School Values

Mitcham Primary School's values are;

Kindness

Respect

Resilience

Love of Learning

These values are incorporated across the whole school and are part of the language that is used consistently across the school.

SWPBS

School wide positive behaviour support



ALL AREAS 

WE ARE KIND

- We listen and follow instructions
- We show that everyone belongs
- We are kind to ourselves

We use manners

We remember personal space

We care for our school environment

WE ARE LEARNERS

- We are okay with mistakes
- We show curiosity
- We have fun!

We have a growth mindset

We are upstanders

We seek help if needed

WE ARE RESPECTFUL

WE ARE RESILIENT



KINDNESS



RESILIENCE



RESPECT

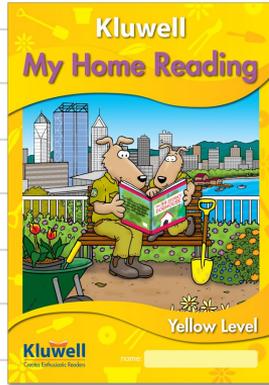


LOVE OF LEARNING

What to bring to school daily



Drink Bottle



Reader with reading log
signed



Brain Food



Hat (Terms 1 & 4)



✧ Take Home Readers



Monday : Take home book from school and practise decoding words

Tuesday : Keep same book at home and practise for fluency

Wednesday : Bring book back and swap over for new book.
Practise at home to decode

Thursday : Keep same book at home and practise for fluency

Friday : Bring book back and swap over for new book. Take book home to practise over the weekend.



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Toys from home



- Toys such as Pokémon cards, Beyblades ect, are welcome at school, however, trading or swapping toys is **not** permitted under any circumstances. During learning time, toys must remain in students' bags or hutches and may be used during playtime only.
- **Students are responsible for any items they choose to bring to school. While we do our best to support students, the school and staff cannot be responsible for lost or damaged items.**



Communication



COMPASS is the primary platform we use for communication between staff and parents. This is now the preferred method. If you would like to speak with your child's teacher, email is the best way to organise a meeting. This allows us to schedule a time that works for both you and the teacher and ensures we can give you our full attention, as teachers have supervision and teaching commitments throughout the day.





Term 1 Key Dates



5th Feb	Community Afternoon/ Open Classrooms
13th Feb	Welcome to Country at Mullauna
6th Mar	Pupil Free Day
9th Mar	Labour Day
11th Mar	NAPLAN Writing
12th Mar	NAPLAN Reading
16th Mar	NAPLAN Conventions
17th Mar	NAPLAN Numeracy



18th Mar	Harmony Evening
27th Mar	Easter Dress Up Day
30th Mar	Parent/Teacher Interviews
31st Mar	Parent/Teacher Interviews
1st Apr	Parent/Teacher Interviews
2nd Apr	Whole school cross country Last Day Term 1



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Punctuality and Attendance

We start our morning classes at 8:45am on the dot.

If students arrive after or on 8:45, it can slow up our morning routine. Gates are unlocked from 8:30.

Late Arrival

If your child is going to be late head to the office



Early Departure

If you need to pick your child up early please head to the school office at the pick up time.

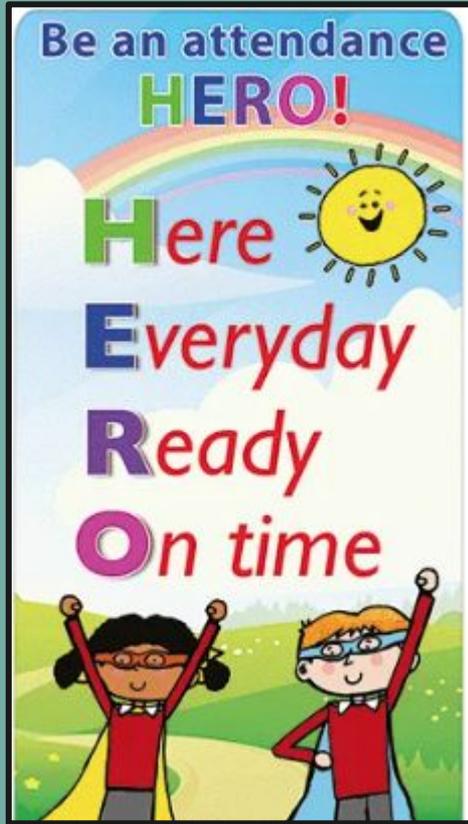
Absence

If your child is going to be away for the day for any circumstance. Please go to Compass and log the reason for their absence through **Compass** .

Drop off and pick up

Expectations in Grade 1 are slightly different from Prep as we focus on fostering independence. Students are encouraged to say goodbye at the car gate or line-up, carry their own bags into the classroom, and complete their morning routine independently. These small steps help students grow confident and capable as they start the day.

At the end of the day, teachers will walk students to the basketball court **nearest the staff car park**. When students see the person collecting them, they can give a wave or a high five.



Attendance

This year, teachers will be contacting parents for any unexplained absences.

We encourage students to be attending school every day!





Star Student



Instead of Show and Tell, we will be celebrating a **Star Student of the Week!** Each week, one student will be chosen and invited to bring **three** special items to share with the class on **Monday**. These items will stay safely at school for the week and be returned on **Friday**.

Families will be notified the week before their child is selected so you have plenty of time to prepare. We can't wait to celebrate each of our stars!

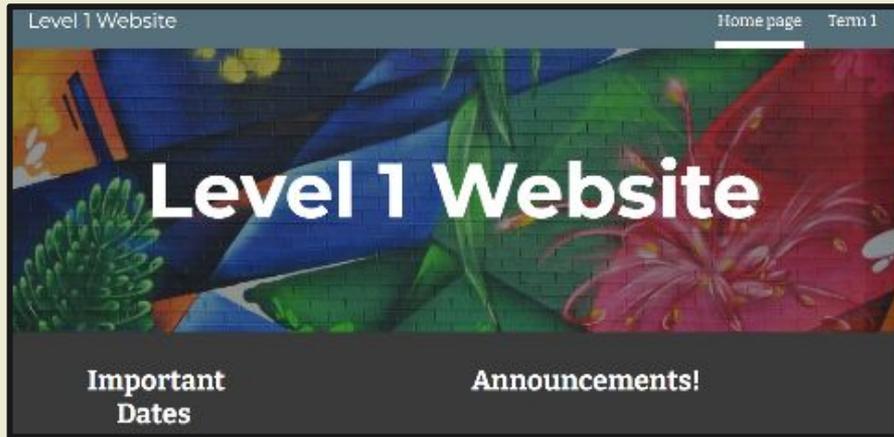




Level 1 Website



Our Grade 1 website will be updated weekly, so please keep an eye out for information about what your child has been learning in the classroom, as well as important updates and reminders. You can click the link to access our Grade 1 website [HERE](#).



Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held during the last week of Term 1. The dates are the following:

Monday 30th March 3.30 - 5.30

Tuesday 31st March - 3.30 - 5.30

Wednesday 1st April - 3.30 - 4.30

This will be an opportunity for us to have a chat about your child's progress so far in the year. There will be link to book, closer to the date.

Money!

Our preferred method of payment is through Compass - If you choose to send the payments to school, any money should be put in sealed envelope with child's name, grade, amount and purpose written on outside.

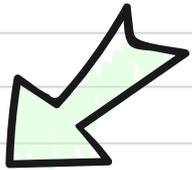
E.g.

Name: Joe Blog

Grade: 1/2H

Reason: Excursion

Money : \$6





Parent Helpers 2026!

We are so grateful to have such a positive and supportive school community. New families wishing to assist and to be involved in classrooms and events in 2026 are required to have completed 'Parent Helper Training', have a **current WWCC** and complete the **2026 Helper Expectation Form**.

Date: Tuesday, 10th of February 2026

Location: Library

Time: 2:30pm

*Information slides will be available if you are unable to attend.
It is suggested that Parents who have attended in previous years read the slides for a refresher!*

Ways you can help the school!

- Cross Country
- Athletics
- Swimming
- Library
- Book Fair
- Stalls for Christmas, Mothers/Fathers Day
- Excursions
- Working Bees



Thankyou

