

Northmead Newsbreak ... Principal's Update



Our school acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which Northmead P.S. was built: the Burrumattagal people of the Darug nation. We honour their deep connection to Country. Always was, always will be. We pay our respects to present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Islander people. We ask all people that walk, work and live on traditional Aboriginal lands to be respectful of culture and tradition of Country. We also extend our acknowledgement of and respect to all First Nations people of the world who have always been the traditional custodians of their lands across the world.



DEAR NORTHMEAD FAMILIES

**HAPPY NEW YEAR AND
HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR
TO OUR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES FOR 2023**

Welcome back to our students and families for a wonderful 2023 school year! All the N.P.S. team and I were overjoyed to welcome back our students' smiling faces as we said "hallo" to them on Tuesday morning and our students may have been a little nervous about the year ahead but were generally happy to see their friends, their 2022 teachers and all the N.P.S. team.

We warmly welcome our new families starting at Northmead P.S. in 2023 who have arrived from different schools or areas. We look forward to getting to know you! Please bring any questions about your child's class and school routines to your class teacher or contact the school Executive via the school phone and email.

Welcome also to our 2023 Kindergarten students who commenced Best Start assessments this week and will have their first class day next Monday 6 February including a photo opportunity in the Kleins Road entry driveway. We are excited you are beginning your first day of your school life here at Northmead! I have two grandchildren starting school this year as well. You and your parents will remember this special #Day 1 forever!

2023 CLASSES | STUDENT NUMBERS

As we monitor student numbers returning to school throughout this week, students will remain in their 2022 class groups. Once we have confirmed all current, leaving and new students at Northmead P.S. we will make the necessary adjustments to school planning and build our 2023 classes. Our student numbers determine the number of teachers the school is staffed with and we have already had a reduction in the number of classes for 2023. 2023 class placement for students in Years 1-6 is likely to occur next week after the Swimming Carnival. Once students are in their new classes, we will release a staff list and a school map identifying the location of each class teacher and the assistant principals supervising each stage. The number of classes are based on our actual student numbers and we have already had new arrivals as well as receiving advice from parents about students not returning due to families moving during the holidays. We appreciate your understanding so class organisation for the 2023 school year remains stable for every student.

PRINCIPAL'S "P.S."

I still remember clearly starting my very first day of "big school" at Ryde Public School with my Kindergarten teacher, Miss Medley. The start of every school year will be a memory as you grow up and your teachers and all the Northmead school team want you to have very happy memories of school year, right from Day 1! Always remember that every staff member at N.P.S. is here to help! So share your hopes, dreams and goals with us. Help us to help you **be your best self**, everyday! WELCOME TO A WONDERFUL 2023!

"And suddenly you know: it's time to start something new and trust the magic of beginnings."

Meister Eckhart

I look forward to chatting with you in our next Northmead Newsbreak:

Mrs Anne Eddy | Principal

IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHAT'S AHEAD @NORTHMEAD



KINDERGARTEN START IN 2023 CLASSES ON MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY

Kindergarten students DO NOT ATTEND school tomorrow on Friday 4 February. 2023 Kindergarten students' Day 1 in their classes is Monday 6 February.

There will be a beautiful screen in the Kleins Road Driveway where you can create a photo memory of this very special first day of school. All families will have received their starting time for Monday as **students will be arriving at staggered times as advised in your note.** They can be accompanied to their 2023 classroom by 2 parents only, but parents must drop them at the classroom entry and cannot come into the classroom.

Kindergarten students will be picked up at **2:45pm for their first week** from the COLA at the end of the Kleins Road driveway (as you have done during their Orientation/Best Start visits this week).

SWIMMING CARNIVAL | MON. 6 FEB

A Swimming Carnival note was sent home at the end of Term 4 and updated this week with carnival guidelines. If your child is to be withdrawn from a competitive event they have entered, please email the school **with attention "SWIMMING CARNIVAL". Payment and permissions are now closed.**

ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS CURRENTLY UP TO DATE?

Please ensure the school has any changes to your current mobile phone and/or email contact or nominated emergency contact details. You can email your details to the school. We need these to contact you should your child be injured. All Newsletters, excursion notes and invoices are sent via School Bytes which needs your current and accurate email address. **Take a sec. to check!**

PARENT/TEACHER STUDENT GOALS IN 2023

We will be holding parent/teacher meetings in the **Week Beginning 13 February** so parents can meet their child/children's 2023 class teacher/s and also share their hopes and goals for their child and what they hope to achieve and/or improve upon by starting a positive, productive and proactive relationship with their child/children's teacher/s. Stay tuned for dates for each Year Group when these meetings will be scheduled.

STARTING THE 2023 SCHOOL YEAR

As we start back for the new school year it may be timely to have some reminders regarding school procedures so your child has a calm, organised day – everyday!

- **Please label all uniforms, school hats, drink bottles, lunch boxes etc.** (Every hat looks the same, every jacket looks the same. Find a label for your child on-line that is distinctive!);
- Each child brings their own water bottle to school which can be refilled in our water stations (with more water stations to be installed!); child brings their own water bottle to school;
- Please ensure that all medications that need to be administered by office staff (*including Ventolin, EpiPens, antihistamines such as Claratyne*) **have a valid use by date. (continued next page)**

STARTING THE 2023 SCHOOL YEAR

- All Health Care Plans where applicable are valid and current. Each year we seem to find that we have a LOT of out-of-date medication notifications. If your Health Care Plan is not current (such as Anaphylaxis and Asthma) ***your child cannot attend school until it is updated by your Dr.***
- Daily prescription medications are required to be in a blister pack. Your local chemist can provide these packs so your child's medication/s can be administered safely by our dedicated admin officers in accordance with both the Health and Education Departments' guidelines.

NO MOBILE PHONES | STUDENTS IN NSW PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Remember that all students in NSW primary who bring a phone to school must hand in their mobile phone every morning at the school admin office. If you need to provide information to your child during the school day, please ring or email the school and we will pass on the information to your child and their class teacher. Thank you for your cooperation.



STARTING 2023 IN A POSITIVE WAY FOR YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN

What hopes and dreams do you and your children have for the 2023 school year? Sometimes it can be challenging to start those conversations with young children. Here is a link to some great, easy to share questions and thoughts to start talking you're your children in age-appropriate groups from the website: "**Responsive Classroom**".

<https://www.responsiveclassroom.org/our-hopes-and-dreams-for-school/>

STARTING 2023 IN A POSITIVE WAY FOR YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN [CONTINUED]

How can you support your child to adjust to a new class and a new teacher in 2023? Perhaps they are starting here at Northmead as a new school which is a big change for children to deal with.

You can model calm, positive responses. Reassure them and tell them that everyone feels a little anxious when it comes to change. If you are being calm and positive about school and the year ahead and express that all will be well, your child will feel reassured and start their new school year with a positive approach, a more resilient attitude and plug into their growth mindset.

You can find great information and links on the Department's A-Z parents' guide – see the link below:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/a-z-parents-guide>

Topics include:

- Attendance
- Bullying
- Counselling
- Excursions
- Health and safety
- Homework
- Immunisation
- Starting school
- Uniforms

The Department also provides links to "**Top parenting websites**". These are worth bookmarking for parents and carers information, advice and links. These can be found at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/initiatives/parent-and-carers-toolkit/top-parenting-websites>