



M.I.S.S. News

PRODUCED BY MORNINGTON ISLAND STATE SCHOOL

Welcome to 2021 at MISS!

We've had a great start to the School Year with lots of students coming to School. It has been very rainy this last couple of weeks and some students have stopped coming. It's a good time to remind ourselves that **Every Day Counts**, and if you want your child to get a good education it starts with coming to school **every day**. The School bus is driving around Community every morning, so please watch out for it, and get your kids on the bus so they can get to school safe and dry.

Another way we keep your child safe at School is to know where they are at all times. Too many students are leaving school at lunch times and sometimes they come back late or don't come back at all. This is not safe, because we don't know what is happening to your kids at these times. Please remind your students that they are not allowed to leave School at any time. If your child leaves the school, we will not stop them leaving, but we will try to contact you. If you need your child to leave the school, please come to the School Front Office and we will collect them for you. If they need to leave school regularly, come in and sign a form for us so that we know where your child is going and when. I know this might seem like a lot to ask, but I am asking you to work with us to keep your child safe. Keeping children safe is our top priority at Mornington Island State School.

Principal, Mr Luke



EDITORS:

Deputy Principal
Alison Monaghan

Miss Cassie Roads

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Monday 22nd February 2021

SCHOOL TIMES

8.55am—3.10pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Wednesday 27th

January 2021

to

Thursday 1st
April 2021

I AM SAFE
I AM RESPECTFUL
I AM A LEARNER
I BELONG



Farewell Miss Ali and Constable Luke!

This week we are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Ali. Over the past 2 years Miss Ali has worn many hats as a leader within our school team but she has always kept one interest close to her heart: the children in this community. She has practised much patience, kindness and dedication in helping our children feel a stronger sense of belonging and wellbeing at school. Our community will miss Miss Ali dearly and we wish her and Constable Luke great health and happiness in their future in Sydney - we hope we'll see you again soon.



Our PBL focuses so far have been:

I BELONG

I am in the right place
at the right time

I AM RESPECTFUL

I follow
instructions first time
every time

I use the right words
at school

I AM SAFE

I keep my hands and
feet to myself

Our last few weeks IN PICTURES

I AM SAFE



I keep my hands and feet to myself



I make deadly choices about my health



Our last few weeks IN PICTURES



I use my 5 star listening



I AM RESPECTFUL



I am kind to everyone



Our last few weeks IN PICTURES



I learn by having a go



I stay on task



I AM A LEARNER

Our last few weeks IN PICTURES

I BELONG



I include others



I participate in all lessons



I show pride in my culture



Working with the Community

High school students continue to gain knowledge and experience through Community Connect on a weekly basis, with school staff working in collaboration with local members and local service providers like **Bynoe** and **Mission Australia**. Students engage with a variety of activities to gain exposure and experience work opportunities on and off the island.

Last week a group of high school girls visited the Women's Place to participate in an arts and crafts activity as part of Ochre Week. The girls created empowering canvas artworks inspired by strong women and strong families, an activity to combat and create awareness around the impacts of domestic and family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities. Thank you to Farrah, Ross and the teams at Mission Australia and Bynoe for your ongoing support and enthusiasm when it comes to our students.



Routines and Behaviour in 1/2B

In 1/2B, we have been working hard to establish routines so that we feel confident coming to school and being in the classroom. We have practised walking safely in a straight line between classes and sitting on the carpet showing five star listening. That means we have our eyes looking towards the speaker, ears listening, mouth closed, legs crossed and hands in our lap. During rotations, we have been practising taking turns and sharing with our friends, packing up and following instructions first time, every time.

This year, 1/2B will have 2 teachers: during 'even weeks' Miss Lisa will teach the class while Miss Eliza will take the class during 'odd weeks'. This is so that Miss Lisa can help the whole school to teach phonics and Miss Eliza can help Pa Johnny and Nanna Betty teach local language.



Engaging Local Staff

With the assistance of **Bynoe**, we have recruited great local staff to join our already outstanding local staff members. Local staff are our greatest asset when it comes to engaging, connecting and supporting our students and families.

Teacher Aides

Gaye
Toneisha
Jenny
Martina
Ryleigh
Shanley
Hazel
Marissha

Teacher Aides

Toneisha
Betty
Johnny
Christina
Marissha
Hazel
Mary

RSAS

Nicole
Alberta
Helen
Dawn
Margo
Richard
Mickita
Coreen

Support Services

Derrick
Georgette



School & Community Engagement

This year has brought new and exciting possibilities for our students as the hard work of school staff and service providers to engage and connect with students' learning comes to fruition. The school will continue to thrive for the greatest connections with all service providers, as we understand the significance and importance for our students to connect, grow and learn in a supportive environment both in and out of the school environment.

Below are some examples of projects and highlights for this year, with many more to come:

Culture Lessons: In collaboration with **Mirndiyan Arts Centre**, our students now receive their culture lessons at the Arts Centre, with the support and guidance of local staff members Lawrence, Roxanne and Berylene, as well as the elders, artists and John the Centre Manager. **Mornington Shire Council** and the **Dragon's Den Butchers** have also been very supportive in the development of a sustainable transport schedule for the students.



Language: Our long term employees and valued contributors to student learning, Betty & Johnny, continue to work alongside school staff to create and deliver the language lessons. Along with Ms Eliza, they will continue to collaborate with local elders to develop, implement and maintain the delivery of local Language lessons for students in Kindy to High School.

Technology Bush Trips: Even with the wet weather conditions, staff are doing their best to connect the high school students with local traditional owners and elders, delivering technology lessons specific to our environment and community. Ross and his staff from **Bynoe** have been one of our key service providers to assist, and we are keen to connect and engage with other service providers as the year progresses.



Alternative & Pathway classes: The school acknowledges the need to cater for all levels and types of student learning needs, so have taken the innovative step to include three extra classes this year. Ms Georgie, Ms Cassie & Mr Des are responsible for these classes; catering and delivering to the individual needs of their students, with the intention of re-engaging students into mainstream classes.

Boarding School: School staff continue to work alongside boarding schools to assist in enrolments and engagement of families with boarding schools off the island. The choice of boarding school and age of enrolment is at the family's discretion; school staff are able to assist with documentation and communication relevant to the family's choice of boarding school.

Sports: School staff have been working tirelessly to coordinate sporting activities for the students with lunch time sports, potential Basketball & AFL Gulf district trials, as well as upcoming Athletic carnivals. School staff acknowledge that teaching in a small community means being part of that community, and often volunteer to engage.

No School, No Shop!

Furthering our community engagement, Gununamanda Store are always keen to donate, promote and support the school whenever required, from promoting school attendance to offering prize donations. Most importantly, the shop support '**Every Day Counts**' for attendance - meaning unaccompanied children should not be at the shop during school hours.



Attendance Matters

Good attendance at school is linked to greater success, we are therefore asking for all parents/carers support to ensure that students achieve the highest possible attendance. You can do this by bringing your child to school EVERY DAY unless your child is too ill to attend. We have dedicated members of staff that support families who experience difficulties in ensuring their child's full attendance. If you are experiencing difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact our dedicated staff who can offer you support.

Tips to help you get children to school on time every day:

- Make sure your child understands why school is important
- Show your child that you are interested in what they have done at school
- Get everything ready the night before school
- Arrange appointments before or after school or during the schools holidays
- Set your alarm and your child's alarm clock - see who can beat the clock!
- Join breakfast club at school
- Catch an earlier bus or set off a little bit earlier if you walk

Important times:

8:00am - Breakfast Club (Pancake Fridays)
 8:30am - Be ready for Bus
 8:55am - School day begins
 2:40pm - Monday School parade -
 Weekly attendance awards, GREAT PRIZES
 3:10pm - School finishes (Monday - Thursday)
 1:35pm - School finishes (Friday)

Is your child going to miss school today?
 Please let one of our friendly bus drivers know!
 Or call us on **4747 9333**



COMMUNITY PROFILE

Get to know some friendly new faces in our school!

Miss Savannah

What is your role at the school?

I'm the 5/6A teacher.

Where are you from and what is your cultural background?

I'm from Brisbane but have lived in Mackay for the last four years. My family has roots in Scotland and England, but we have lived in Australia for many generations now.

Why did you move to Mornington Island?

I was excited to learn about the rich culture and experience island living. Miss Eliza encouraged me to come here and I'm so glad I did.

What do you enjoy about living in our community?

I love how kind and welcoming everyone is in Gununa. The natural beautiful around us on Mornington Island is so special and I feel very lucky to be here.

Advice for children still at school?

Make every day count. Every day at school opens up a world of possibilities.

