



Information Handbook

Welcome to Blackwell Public School 2023



School Contact Information

Address: 58A Blackwell Avenue, St Clair NSW 2759

Phone: 02 9670-5080 - 02 9670-5082

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

Website: <https://blackwell-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/blackwellps>

School Directory

Principal	Mrs Kris Hudswell	
Deputy Principal	Mr Rodney Woolard	
Assistant Principal	Mrs Rachel Bulluss	Early Stage 1
Assistant Principal	Miss Heather Lane	Stage 1
Assistant Principal	Mrs Sharalynne Krensel	Stage 1
Assistant Principal	Mrs Paula Anderson	Stage 2
Assistant Principal	Miss Kellie Balloch	Stage 3
LAST	Mrs Peta Del Carmen	
APCI	Mrs Jeanette Sutcliffe	
APCI	Mrs Anna Hancock	
School Admin Manager	Mrs Ann-Marie Takami	
General Assistant	Mr Simon Bennett	

2023 Blackwell Staff

Principal	Mrs. Kris Hudswell
Deputy Principal	Mr. Rodney Woolard
Counsellors	Miss Aye Chan Khin (Tu & Th)
APLS	Mrs. Peta Del Carmen (Support Supervisor)
APCI	Mrs. Jeanette Sutcliffe
ACPI	Mrs. Anna Hancock (Tu/W)
KB	Mrs. Rachel Bulluss (ES1 Supervisor)
KM	Mrs. Alison Mumford
KV	Mrs. Milica Vlahovic
SUO - SUPPORT CLASS	Mrs. Anna O'Brien
SUV - SUPPORT CLASS	Mr Jeremy Dimech (M-Th) & Mr Rob Samuels (F)
S1L Year 1	Miss Heather Lane (M-Th) (Stage 1 Supervisor)
S1B Year 1	Mrs. Liz Parnell (F)
S1C Year 1	Mr Ashwin Berse
S1S Year 2	Mr Chris Brown
S1S Year 2	Miss Ronaz Saboori
S1M Year 2	Mrs. Kylie McIntosh
S1K Year 2	Mrs. Sharalynne Krensel (Stage 1 Supervisor)
S2A Year 3	Mrs. Paula Anderson (Stage 2 Supervisor)
S2B Year 3	Mrs. Tess Bratusa
S2S Year 3	Mr. Justin Sterjovski
S2K Year 4	Miss Taylor Kew
S2H Year 4	Mrs Cristy Dabic
S2T Year 4	Mrs Dyan Toledano
S3CD Year 5	Mrs. Kerri Cummins (M,Tu,W) & Mr Rod Woolard (Th & F)
S3F Year 5	Mr. Hani Farag
S3K Year 5	Mr. Kurt Bugden
S3B Year 6	Ms. Kellie Balloch (Stage 3 Supervisor)
S3H Year 6	Miss Tracy Harris
S3S Year 6	Mr. Eirwanshah Marwazi-Sinwan
Library	Mrs Kris Hudswell

LaST	Ms. Stephanie Coard (M/Tu/W)
Lit & Num/EALD	Mrs. Bev Reynolds (M/Tu/W/Th)
RFF	Mrs. Merryn Handley
RFF	Mrs. Liz Parnel (M (T3) W & Th)
RFF	Ms. Sanna Lazar (M/Tu/Th/F)
Sport & RFF	Mr. Rob Samuels (M – Th)
Social Skills	Mrs. Jenny Naglic (W/Th/F) – Mrs. Jo Wrigley (Th)
Admin Manager	Mrs. Ann-Marie Takami
Admin Officers	Ms. Rachael Ghobrial
Admin Officers	Mrs. Georgina Dunn
Admin Officers	Mrs. Cheryl Wolstencroft (M/W/Th/F)
Admin Officers	Mrs. Susan Baxter (M/Tu/W)
SLSO	Ms. Meredith Cooper
SLSO - Support Class	Ms. Angela Fleming
SLSO - Support Class	Mrs. Jacky Gavin
SLSO	Mrs. Renee Saia
SLSO	Mr. Michael McFadden
SLSO	Mr Peter Cartwright
SLSO	Miss Ava Ghobrial
SLSO	Mrs. Jade Bell
SLSO	Mrs Ashwin Prasad
SLSO	Mrs. Hazel Henderson (M/Tu/W)
SLSO	Mrs. Susan Baxter (Th)
SLSO	Ms. Elaine Natter (Th/F)
SLSO	Mrs Julieanne Lokeni (T/W)
AEW	Mr Dennis Giles
SSO	Miss Megan Hale (Tu – F)
Chaplain	Ms. Jess O'Brien (Tu/W)
GA	Mr Simon Bennett

Welcome to

Blackwell Public School

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you and your family to our school.

Blackwell Public School is a vibrant, well resourced school set in beautiful grounds. It has a proud history of providing a caring learning environment for all students. Everyone in the Blackwell Public School community is treated as family. Excellent academic programs, highly trained and dedicated staff and modern facilities offer our students the very best opportunity to excel. The staff is committed to providing the best possible education for all children within a supportive, safe and encouraging atmosphere. Our classrooms are well equipped and include up to date technology. Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard and has access to numerous desktop computers. Laptops and iPads are also accessed regularly to assist our students with their learning.

Our school is a Positive Behaviour for Learning School. The focus is on implementing systems that foster a positive learning environment. Our core expectations are: Good Manners, Good Thinking and Good Learning. These expectations are recognised through our Merit Certificates, Virtues Awards and Principal Awards. We want all our students to be resilient learners, have a sense of wellbeing and display good social expectations.

Student leadership is an important part of our school. An active Student Representative Council comprising of students from Year 2 to Year 6 meet regularly to plan a number of student based activities. A K-6 Peer Support program provides an opportunity for our senior students to exercise their leadership skills. Each year our students elect School and House Captains. These students play an important role in fostering our school's core values.

Blackwell Public School enjoys strong support from the surrounding community. Our P&C is actively involved in a range of school based activities. The P&C organises a variety of fundraising / social events in order to encourage a strong sense of community. They represent the parent / community providing input into different aspects of the school. Many parents and community members donate their time to assist us in the classroom.

We are proud members of the StePs Learning Community.

If you have any unanswered questions please do not hesitate to contact our friendly office staff for assistance.

Welcome to our community and thank you for choosing Blackwell Public School as your child's school.

Mrs. Kris Hudswell

Principal

Mr. Rodney Woolard

Deputy Principal

SCHOOL MOTTO

Educating for Tomorrow

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

Good Manners, Good Thinking, Good learning

At all times, in all situations.

SCHOOL PLEDGE

We are the students of Blackwell Public School

We are proud of ourselves and our school

We pledge to work hard, play fair and be kind to each other

Always remembering our **Good Manners, Good Thinking, Good Learning**

SCHOOL SONG

*Blackwell, Blackwell rise in song,
For we are proud of you.
Educating for tomorrow, Spirit strong and true.*

*Blackwell stand with pride,
We will always strive,
To cast our glory wide,
And hold our heads up high.*



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

All items of clothing must be clearly labelled.

Summer Uniform, Terms 1 and 4

Boys	Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Navy blue shorts✓ Blue short sleeve polo shirt with crest✓ White ankle socks✓ Black leather shoes or black joggers, black laces✓ Hat – bucket hat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Blue and red check on a white background a-line tunic<li style="text-align: center;">OR✓ Navy blue shorts/skort✓ Blue short sleeve polo shirt with crest✓ White ankle socks✓ Black leather shoes or black joggers, black laces✓ Hat – bucket hat

Winter Uniform, Terms 2 and 3

Boys	Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Navy long pants or track pants, microfibre or fleecy✓ Long sleeve sky blue skivvy, shirt or polo shirt with crest✓ Navy jumper (sloppy joe) microfibre jacket with crest✓ Hat – bucket hat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Navy slacks, track pants, microfibre or fleecy✓ OR✓ Navy skirt✓ Long sleeve sky blue skivvy, shirt or polo shirt with crest✓ Navy jumper (sloppy joe) or microfibre jacket with crest✓ Hat – broad brimmed or legionnaire

Please note that tracksuit pants or leggings must not be worn under a summer uniform.

All uniforms (except socks) are available from the **Excel Uniforms on 0405 506 383** or

Email: blackwell@exceluniforms.com.au Sizing is available at school office.

All jewellery is to be discouraged, with studs or sleepers the only earrings to be worn.

**** Uniform shop is available every Tuesday from 2:15pm to 3:15pm and Thursday from 8:30am – 9:30am. Located in the Admin building.****

ATTENDANCE

Morning Lines

School gates open from 8.30am each morning when staff are out on duty to supervise. Our children line up at 8.55am each morning.

Kinder line up each morning, under the COLA (Covered Outdoor Area Learning), that is near the canteen.

Stage 1 and **2** line up outside their classrooms.

Stage 3 line up under the awning / COLA outside the library.

Should your child be upset it is advisable for you to reassure them that you will return to collect them and leave promptly. If your child is extremely distressed we advise you to bring them to the main office where staff can assist you.

Absences

Please encourage your child to attend school regularly. Regular school attendance is vital in your child's academic and social development.

When your child is absent from school, an SMS alert will be sent to your preferred mobile contact. Please ensure you reply to the SMS with a response or send a note to the class teacher on his/her first day back. If your child will be absent for more than three days, please let us know as soon as possible. If you are planning holidays, which cannot be arranged during holiday periods, please send written information of the dates of absence. Students taking leave in excess of fifteen (15) school days need to complete an application for exemption, obtainable from our office.

Continual absence is referred to the Home School Liaison Officer who is responsible for visiting schools and checking attendance registers.

Late Arrivals/Early Departures

If your child arrives late to school or needs to leave early you must first call to the office to:

Provide a written explanation for the late arrival.

Provide a written explanation before collecting your child from the classroom.

A SMS will be sent to your nominated first contact at 10am when you child is absent from school.

No child is allowed to leave the school grounds during the day without the written consent of a parent. He/she must also be accompanied by an adult, a sibling under the age of 18 is not permitted to collect your child.

Contact Updates

It is extremely important that you keep the school informed of current contact information such as work telephone numbers and changes to mobile phone numbers.

Interview with Class teachers

Your child's class teacher will always be happy to speak to you but please arrange an appointment. Doorstop interviews are rarely satisfying for you or the teacher. The teacher's primary obligation at this time is to the class.

If there is a change in your child's life, that affects his/her emotional well-being, please let us know. Children's behaviour and ability to work will be affected by disturbances in their lives.

If a problem arises at school please discuss it with the class teacher, Deputy Principal or Principal. We are eager to work with you to make his/her school life happy.

Reporting to Parents

A report is sent home each semester. You are invited to discuss your child's progress at a corresponding interview. This interview will provide information regarding your child's strengths and areas for future development. Your child will also participate in part of, or the entire interview.

Facebook

You may access this for school newsletters, news and updates. This is regularly updated. We are moving over to Social media for parents and community to access what is happening at Blackwell.

You will be invited to join our page group. We update our Public page each week.

School Notice Board and Website Page

We regularly update the School Notice Board, on Blackwell Avenue as well as the school Website Page: <https://blackwell-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>. Which highlights coming events or celebrates success experienced by our children.

Blackwell Post goes out every Week 2, 6, 10 on a Wednesday. You are encouraged to read this regularly as this is the main way of staying in touch with school news. A frequently updated school calendar can also be viewed through our Website.

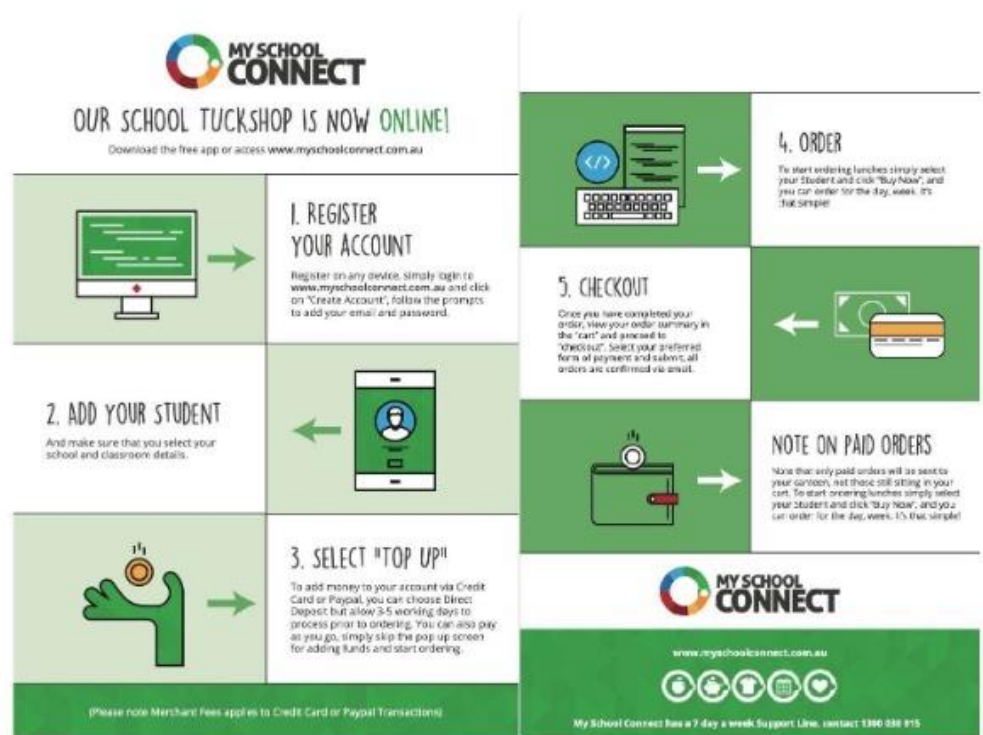
COVID Information

COVID Restrictions have placed many of our events, especially those involving our parents, on hold at present. The Education Department has a list of current guidelines that are regularly updated. We keep our parents informed on any changes that may impact on our events and activities.

Canteen

Blackwell is proud to be a 'Healthy School Canteen'. The menu has a variety of Vegetarian and Gluten Free items available for purchase.

Lunch orders are able to be made over the counter with cash payment. Online orders can be made till 9am on the day, except FRIDAY which is slightly earlier at 8am.



Parents and Citizens' Association

Blackwell Public School has a very active P&C Association, which does much to enhance the well-being of the school community.

The P&C is a forum for parents and community members to discuss issues relating to the school. Parents are encouraged to play an active role in management teams working with the school staff.

The P&C provides funds and expertise for developing equipment, facilities, policies and curricula to support school needs.

Meetings are held in the staff room on the first Monday of each month, starting at 7.00pm. All parents and citizens are most welcome to attend. A member fee of \$1.00 per year is applicable, which allows members voting rights.

Classroom Volunteers

Volunteers help in many different ways throughout the school. Their time and assistance is greatly valued by both students and staff.

Many parents work in classrooms with individuals or small groups of students in an effort to improve literacy and numeracy skills across the school. Other parents who have talents in specific areas have helped to coach sporting teams or taken on active roles in the area of creative arts.

Parents find this a rewarding experience for both themselves and their children.

Volunteers must complete a Working with Children Check obtained from a RMS Centre to ensure Child Protection procedures are known and followed.

There is an information book for any parent who would like to volunteer. This will address any questions you may have.

Attending Special Events

Parents are invited to attend many events throughout the school year, including:

- ✓ Combined Assemblies
- ✓ Sporting Carnivals
- ✓ Education Week; and
- ✓ Other celebrations showcasing the talents of our students.

Parents are always welcome to join with us in recognising our children's achievements.

ALL VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL MUST SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE AND WEAR A VISITOR OR PARENT HELPER LABEL.



Crunch and Sip

We take a short break between 9.00am to 9.30am each day to allow students to drink water and eat small pieces of fresh fruit or vegetables. The children remain in class for this break. Please note water is our only option at this time.

Assemblies

K-6 Combined Assemblies are held in weeks 3, 6, 9 on Monday at 2.00pm in the hall. Principal Awards are given at this time. You will be notified if your child is to receive an award.

Class awards are presented at a Stage Assembly each week.

Library Borrowing

All students attend weekly library lessons. Borrowing commences in Term 1. You will be notified by your class teacher of your child's library day. To borrow, your child must bring a bag to hold the library books.

The library is open each morning at 8.30am, except Tuesday, and at lunchtime, so students can look at books or borrow.



Discipline and Welfare

A Positive Intervention Plan is implemented at our school, highlighting "Good Manners, Good Thinking, Good Learning". This terminology can also be applied to appropriate student behaviour at home. Children's familiarity with these prior to commencing school would be very helpful.

Manners

Each student at Blackwell has a Manners Licence which carries 12 points, much like a driver's licence. All students are issued with their Ls in Term 1. In Term 2 they have their 'P' Plates, reaching a Gold Licence at the end of the year.





Scripture

Scripture classes are held each Wednesday. Volunteer teachers from the local community attend to instruct the classes. Children not attending one of these groups are supervised by a teacher at this time.

Sun Smart Policy

Students are required to wear a wide brimmed hat when playing or participating in class outdoor activities. Students without a wide brimmed hat are required to play under covered and sheltered areas.



‘Good Manners, Good Thinking, Good Learning’

What does this look like?

	Good Manners	Good Thinking	Good Learning
What does it look like in Stage 2&3?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Speak respectfully ✓ Work quietly and consider others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Show initiative and keep the area tidy ✓ Use equipment responsibly ✓ Move sensibly through the buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do your work - be organised ✓ Follow directions ✓ Work co-operatively
What does it look like in Kinder & Stage 1?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Speak kindly ✓ Work quietly and consider others ✓ Move quietly through the buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep the area tidy ✓ Use equipment safely and correctly ✓ Move sensibly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do your work ✓ Follow directions ✓ Work together
What does it look like in the Library?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Speak kindly ✓ Work quietly and consider others ✓ Move quietly through the buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep the area tidy ✓ Use equipment safely and correctly ✓ Move sensibly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do your work ✓ Follow directions ✓ Work together
What does it look like in the Canteen?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Kinder and Stage 1 - speak kindly ✓ Stage 2 and 3 - speak respectfully ✓ Stand behind the yellow line quietly until it is your turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep the area tidy ✓ Speak clearly and loudly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Know what you want to buy ✓ Know how much an item costs ✓ Have enough money
What does it look like in Assemblies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Walk in quietly ✓ Sit and listen attentively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Allow for personal space ✓ Remain focused 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Listen actively ✓ Participate appropriately
What does it look like in the Playground?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Follow all teachers' directions ✓ Show respect to all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sit to eat ✓ Wear a hat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Be aware - play safely ✓ Remember to look after our environment

STUDENT WELFARE

‘GOOD MANNERS, GOOD THINKING, GOOD LEARNING’

Student Welfare encompasses everything that the school community does to meet the social and personal needs of students to enhance their well-being.

This involves recognising, valuing and developing each student as a whole and unique person in the context of this school and society.

Our Code of Behaviour outlines the expectations for our students in both the classroom and playground. A booklet is sent home at the beginning of each school year.

Licences

We follow a licence points system much like our real licences.

Licence levels - move each 5 weeks starting with learning the school rules in Term 1 to gold licences by the end of Term 4. Each licence has 12 points.

Virtues

At Blackwell Public School the following VIRTUES are a focus of our student welfare. These are behaviours that make our school a good place to be.

**Self Discipline,
Respect,
Tolerance,
Responsibility,
Kindness,
Honesty and
Patience**



At Blackwell Public School I have the right:

- ✓ To an environment in which I feel safe and happy.
- ✓ To be treated with respect and courtesy.
- ✓ To use school equipment provided to help me learn.
- ✓ To expect my property will be safe.
- ✓ To learn in a classroom that is productive.

My responsibilities at Blackwell Public School are:

- ✓ To allow others to feel safe and welcome.
- ✓ To treat others with respect and courtesy.
- ✓ To use school equipment safely and with care.
- ✓ Not to damage or misuse the property of others.
- ✓ To work effectively in the classroom and not spoil the learning of the other students.

There is also a very structured system for monitoring behaviours that are causing concern. The school and home working closely together best promote positive behaviour.

Rewards are many and varied. Positive achievements are recognised by:

- ✓ “Caught You Being Good Awards”;
- ✓ Merit Certificates;
- ✓ Principal’s Awards;
- ✓ Privilege Days;
- ✓ Publication of names in the newsletter;
- ✓ Sporting ribbons and medallions; as well as
- ✓ Achievement awards and medallions at the end of the year.



HEALTH

A child who isn't healthy cannot concentrate on his/her work at school. If your child is unwell, please keep him/her home until he/she is completely well enough to return to school. A note to explain any absence is required upon a student's return to school.

These conditions may keep your child at home:

Chicken Pox: excluded for seven days after spots appear. Medical Certificate required.

Conjunctivitis: excluded re-admitted to school with medical certificate.

German Measles: excluded for seven days from appearance of the rash.

Head Lice: Hair needs to be treated and all eggs should be removed.

Hepatitis: Re-admitted to school with a medical certificate.

Impetigo: excluded may return with a medical certificate if sores are completely covered by a clean dressing.

Measles: excluded for four days after onset of rash or until a medical certificate is produced.

Ringworms: excluded until all evidence has disappeared or medical certificate is produced.

Meningococcal: contact your doctor immediately. If your doctor is not available, go straight to the casualty department of your nearest hospital. If it is meningococcal, early treatment with antibiotics is vital. ***DO NOT SEND TO SCHOOL.***

Medication at School

If your child is on regular medication or temporary medication and needs to have this medication administered while at school, please collect medical forms from the front office, which will need to be signed by yourself and the doctor. Medication cannot be administered at school without this written authority. Students who suffer from Asthma, or any form of severe medical condition, must have a Health Care Plan completed by the doctor. Again, this health proforma is available from the front office. Medical Plans need to be updated each year so please notify us of any changes. As well, it is important to keep emergency contacts current and update these particulars when circumstances change. If your child suffers from any allergies, please inform the office and class teacher.

CURRICULUM

The Primary School curriculum is divided into the following six Key Learning Areas:

- **English**, which encompasses:
 - reading and viewing
 - writing and representing
 - speaking and listening
 - spelling
 - handwriting and using Digital Technologies

The aim is to make meaning through language where students respond to and compose texts and to think in ways that are imaginative, creative, interpretive and critical.
- **Mathematics**, which is further divided into the strands:
 - Number and Algebra
 - Measurement and Geometry
 - Statistics and Probability
 - Working Mathematically
- **History and Geography**, which is further divided into the strands:
 - Change and Continuity
 - Cultures
 - Environments
 - Social Systems and Structures
- **Science and Technology**, where the strands, Natural Environment and Made Environment are divided further into:
 - Living World
 - Material World
 - Physical World
 - Earth and Space
 - Digital technologies

- **Physical Development, Health and Physical Education**, which is further divided into the strands:
 - Movement Skill and Performance
 - Healthy, Safe and Active Lifestyles
 - Health, Wellbeing and Relationships
- **Creative Arts**, which is further divided into the strands:
 - Visual Arts
 - Music
 - Drama
 - Dance



SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Blackwell Public School accesses a number of specialist school based personnel to support the needs of identified students. These include:

- **The School Counsellor** –attends the school two days a week. Teachers and parents who are concerned about a child’s academic, social or emotional needs can refer student by completing a referral form. Our counsellor are Ms Rebecca Fairall Lee.
- **Chaplain Commonwealth Grant** – provides funding 2 days each week. Our Chaplain Jess O’Brien provides additional welfare support for our students and their families.
- **EALD Teacher** - attends this school and supports children from a non-English speaking background in the development of Literacy skills. Our current EALD is Mrs. Bev Reynolds.
- **LaST Teacher** – Learning and Support Teacher attends this school five days a week. This teacher supports those children who are having difficulties in Literacy and/or Numeracy. Currently Mrs. Peta Del Carmen.
- **The Integration program** –supports students with a diagnosed disability. Funding is used to employ personnel such as Student Learning Support Officers (SLSO) in order that children with a disability can have access to and success in mainstream classes. Under the “Every School, Every Student” initiative the school receives additional funding to support students with diagnosed disabilities.
- **Levelled Literacy Intervention** – supports students in Year 3 and 4 with an intensive reading and comprehension program.
- **MiniLit and MultiLit programs** – support students in Years 2 -6 with intensive reading.
- **Peaceful Kids Mindfulness** – support students in Year 4 to 6 with anxiety & resilience difficulties.

A variety of programs also exist to cater for the extra curricula interests of our students. These could include:

- Choir
- Dance troupe
- Dance Sport
- Debating
- Public Speaking
- Gardening
- Guitar
- Martial Arts

