



# MUDGEE PUBLIC SCHOOL

44 PERRY STREET  
MUDGEE NSW 2850

Phone: (02) 6372 2036

Email: [mudgee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mudgee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

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

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As Mudgee Beginners comes close to the end, we have compiled some information to hopefully answer a lot of your questions concerning your child's start to school. If after reading this information you have any further questions, please email them to [mudgee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mudgee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or bring them with you to next week's Mudgee Beginners session. After the children have gone into their Beginners session on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> or Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November, we will have a brief 10-minute Q&A time for families to address your further questions. This will be held onsite, please meet at the front of the school after Beginners drop off.

## **Best Start**

During the first 3 days of Term 1, 2022 (Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February) Kindergarten students are required to engage in the **Best Start screening program**. **Best Start** is a one-on-one interview used across all schools to identify each student's literacy and numeracy skills prior to starting Kindergarten. **Best Start** will take place in the kindergarten classrooms and will be administered by MPS staff. The interview will take approximately half an hour. You are welcome to drop your child off and return in half an hour to pick them up or you may choose to stay with them (either in or out of the room) for the half an hour. The children will only require a bottle of water and do not need to wear school uniform for this interview. During late December 2021 you will receive a letter in the mail informing you of your child's allocated **Best Start** time and where to meet the teacher. This letter will also include information about their allocated temporary class placement as well as a letter from your child's year 6 buddy for 2022.

## **First Day Information**

Kindergarten students will commence school full time from **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022**. The children will be placed in temporary classes initially. This is due to the unpredictable nature of enrolment numbers and reduced amount of transition to school time that we were able to have due to Covid-19 restrictions. Official kindergarten classes will be settled by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

**Day One** - 4/2/22 - Kindergarten will commence at **9:30am**. Children can be picked up from **3:00pm**. From **Day Two** - 7/2/22 onwards - School will commence at the regular starting time of **9:15am**. Children can arrive from 8.45am and are to be picked up at **3:15pm**.

## **School Times**

School commences at 9:15am with children able to play with teacher supervision provided from 8:45am.

- If your child arrives at school after 9:15am please take them via the front office to sign them in and to receive a "late note" to be given to the teacher upon arrival at the classroom.
- Recess time is 11:15am to 11:40am (Teachers supervise children eating 11:15-11:20)
- Lunch is 1.10pm to 2pm (teachers supervise children eating 1:10-1:20)

Buses – Kindergarten students are picked up for the first few weeks by a teacher, from their classroom, taken to their bus line and shown where to go to line up for their bus. Each child is given a bus tag with their name, class and the bus that they catch.

\* Changes to routine – Please do not rely on your child to verbally pass a change of routine message onto their teacher. Changes to routine need to be written on a note to be handed to your child's teacher at the start of the day or via a phone call to the office by 2:00pm. Usual home routines will be followed unless we hear from you via a written note or a phone call.

## **The first few weeks**


The first 5 weeks of kindergarten are centred on colours. The children will spend a week working in their classrooms on all sorts of activities about colours. This is a fun engaging way to start to learn the routines of school. Each Friday, the children will be able to dress up in the colour for the week and will have some special food within the colour theme and special visitors such as the fire engine and Ambulance. Further notes will be sent home about this once the children start. We find the colour theme days are exciting and help the children get through to the last day of a tiring school week a little easier.

## **What will my child need to bring to school?**

- **School uniform** including a hat – please label everything as it all looks the same!
  - You can order uniforms online at [www.quickcliq.com.au](http://www.quickcliq.com.au) or the uniform shop is open each week in the Residence building (corner of Perry and Douro Streets) on Wednesdays from 2:30pm – 3:30pm. EFTPOS and credit card facilities are available.
  - On 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 from 10am till 2pm the uniform shop will be open for new kindergarten students only. This is a good opportunity to try the uniforms on.
  - 10% off all purchases from *1st December - 31<sup>st</sup> January!*
- **Equipment** – At the end of Mudgee Beginners, the children will receive a library bag to use at our school library. The children do NOT need their own pencil case in kindergarten, the school will provide most of their equipment needed for school.
- **School bag** – Any school backpack is suitable, please be mindful of the size and amount of storage that the bag has. The bag will need to be large enough for the children to easily put their own lunch box in as well as an A4 size homework/notes folder and other pieces of work. Outside pockets for a drink bottle and small notes work very well.
- **Lunch box** and a water bottle – please do not over pack food. Children starting school usually do not feel like eating a lot as they are usually overrun with emotions from excitement, to anxiety or just wanting to play. Some children feel obliged to eat all their food and it can become a little overwhelming. We encourage healthy eating - lollies and cordials are not allowed. Teachers sit with the children for the first 10 minutes of eating time at lunch and encourage children to take home their leftovers, so families are aware of what their child has eaten.
  - *Crunch and Sip* is a short snack and water break in your child's room. Cut up fruit or vegetables or a small quantity of dried fruit is preferable. Muesli bars, fruit sticks and processed food is not appropriate in this time. If possible, please put crunch'n'sip in a separate container to the children's recess and lunch.
  - *Recess* can be small amounts of cheese, biscuits, yoghurt and water etc.
  - *Lunch* can be a sandwich, fruit and water.
- **Canteen - How to order:** The easiest way to order is online at [www.quickcliq.com.au](http://www.quickcliq.com.au). Simply set up an account for your child, transfer funds to your account and select from the online canteen menu. If preferred, you may order by writing your child's name, class and order on a paper bag, placing money in the bag and asking your child to place the order in the canteen basket in their classroom. Recess food may be pre-ordered, or children can go down to the canteen to choose from a range of freshly prepared recess specials at the counter. We ask that lunch is pre-ordered. Recess orders need to be collected by your child from the canteen (lots of children forget so please remind them if you have pre-ordered their recess). Lunch orders are sent to the classrooms.
  - If your child has money to buy something from the canteen at recess or lunch time, they need to listen for the teacher on duty to say that it's canteen time. The children line up near the infant's toilet block to be walked to the canteen by the teacher.

### ➤ Communication with School

It is very important that you stay in regular contact with your child's teachers. It is not usually an appropriate time at drop off or pick up to start a detailed conversation with the teachers, however, you can always make an appointment to meet with them at a time that is mutually agreed upon.

- A direct call to the main office on 63722036 can be made during school hours and the office staff will be able to assist you with getting a message to the appropriate staff member.
- You can also email the school email address and the office staff will be able to forward your message to the appropriate staff member.
- If your child is responsible and can remember to hand in notes, a note written for your child's teacher can also work.
- Parent Liaison network – each class has an allocated parent liaison who will be in regular email contact with families about what is going on in the classroom, materials that might be needed, reminders of what's on etc. This network is a great way to keep up to date with what's going on! Look out for the note about this fabulous initiative at the start of next year.
- Please also *like* **Mudgee Public School P&C on**  **Facebook** for constantly updated information.

### ➤ Parent Involvement

- Parent involvement at school can benefit your child in several positive ways. There are many ways that you can become involved for example, in the classroom itself, by helping the class remotely, in the canteen or via the P&C. If you are interested in helping in your child's classroom, please contact your child's teacher. Generally, this starts closer to Term 2 for kindergarten as the children become more settled with separation and school routines.

Hopefully this information has been helpful to you. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask, no question is a silly question! If you can make it, we will see you at the Q&A session on the 16<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> Nov, otherwise you can call or email with any further questions.

We hope that your child has enjoyed their time at Mudgee Beginners, and we look forward to seeing you all at the start of the new school year in 2022!

Please contact the school on 63722036 if you have any further questions about this information.

Kind Regards  
*Mr John Carters*  
Principal

*Mrs Lisa Smith*  
Assistant Principal ES1 (relieving)