

## MULBRING PUBLIC SCHOOL

Water Street, Mulbring NSW 2323 Ph: 4938 0135

email: Mulbring-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au web: www.https://mulbring-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/



## INFORMATION BOOKLET

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### School Contact Details



02 4938 0135



mulbring-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



https://mulbring-p.school.nsw.gov.au



APP Search for School Bytes App Download from either Google App store or the Apple App Store

### **School Hours**

9.00am - 3.00pm Kindergarten to Year 6

11.00am - 11.30am Recess

1.30pm - 2.15pm Lunch

Students should not arrive at school before 8.30am or remain in the grounds after 3.00pm as teacher supervision cannot be provided outside normal school hours.



## **Mulbring Public School Est in 1849**

Welcome to our school! MulbringPS is a small, rural school, situated near both Kurri Kurri and Cessnock.

We have a dedicated, enthusiastic school staff, and an active P and C Association. We also have a number of community volunteers, regularly participating in programs, to support student learning.

Our school is committed to providing rich programs to develop skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, collaboration, acceptance of self and others, and technology to enable all students to reach theirfull potential, educationally, socially and emotionally.

Our partnership with the Kurri Kurri Learning Community of Schools provides professional learning opportunities leading to enhanced teaching/learning practice and better structures for enhancing studentengagement and well-being.

We welcome you to Mulbring Public School.



## **General Information**



### Health and Safety

#### **Student Medication**

Parents/carers should inform the school on enrolment if their child has ongoing health needs.

An action plan (ASCIA or Asthma) and an individual health care plan should be developed for any student:

- diagnosed with severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis and/or
- diagnosed as being at risk of an emergency and/or
- requiring the administration of health care procedures.

Health care plans are developed in consultation with the school, parents/carers and the child's medical practitioner. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to notify the school of any change to the action or health care plan, for example, when medication is changed. It is also parents'/carers' responsibility to replace their child's medication when it expires.

Staff members are trained in emergency care, first aid and anaphylaxis awareness. With the exception of asthma puffers, students may not bring any medication to school for self-administration without school permission. If ill, students should remain at home.

Where there is a special need for medication to be brought to school, the teacher should be advised and parents/carers will need to complete a 'Permission to Administer Medication' form at the office. Medication will be kept in the school office and administered by staff.

Only the required dosage should be sent to school and it should be clearly marked with the student's name and class.

Staff will attend to minor injuries in sick bay. If there are any concerns parents/carers will be contacted. In an emergency the school will seek medical treatment for your child or call an ambulance if necessary. Parents/carers must sign their child out of sick bay if they take their child home.

#### **NSW Health Services-Dental Clinic:**

The school Dental Service is a free service providing assessment, treatment and education on dental hygiene for students betweenthe ages of 5 and 13 years. Services provided include:

- Examination of teeth, gums and mouth
- Oral hygiene education on an individual or group basis
- Treatment as requirede.g. X-rays, fillings, extractions

NSW Health Services Child Dental Clinic -appointments can be made on 1300 789 404.

#### **Immunisation**

Students enrolling should be immunised against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping Cough), Poliomyelitis and Measlesor (MMR). They should have:

Booster injection against Diphtheria, Tetanus (CPT) and Pertussis Oral booster dose of polio vaccine (Sabin)

Booster injection of measles/mumps/rubella vaccine.

Parents/carers with children starting school in Kindergarten must present an immunisation certificate at the time of schoolenrolment. These are available from your doctor, local council or community health staff. For more information go to; <a href="http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/Immunisation/programs.">http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/Immunisation/programs.</a>

In the event of an immunisation certificate not being produced your child may be excluded from school if there is an incidence of infection.

#### Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential and compulsory by law. Students should be present each day the school is open unless there is an acceptable reason, such as illness or special leave. Any students arriving late for school must be taken to the office reception for a 'late slip' before going to their class. Permission to leave the school early must be requested at reception and students will be called to the office to meet their parents/carers. Students leaving early should wait in the administration area until collected and be signed out by their parent or carer. No student is to leave the school grounds unaccompanied during school hours. Following an absence an explanatory note should be provided for the teacher. If the absence is likely to be prolonged, please advise the school by note or telephone.

#### **Parent/Carer Involvement**

Volunteer assistants in school learning programs such as reading, maths programs, library or computer are always in demand. This help is invaluable to the school and a great source of pride for the children of the parents/carers involved.

Parents/carers will need to sign in at the office before commencing work in the school. Volunteers will also be asked to complete a Proof of Identity that meets the 100 point check and a Declaration, as part of the procedures for Working with Children. This must be completed by volunteers who will have direct contact with children. The completed Declaration and Proof of Identity are to be filed in secure storage by the school.

#### **SchoolNewsletter**

A digital newsletter is produced and sent home via our school bytes app.

The Newsletter keeps parents/carers advised of approaching school activities, social events and matters of general educational interest. It is important to keep note of the calendar in the newsletter. The newsletter is available on the school website and the school app



#### **MULBRING PUBLIC SCHOOL**



#### **Visitors to the School**

All visitors to the school who are either contracted or volunteering should report first to the front office where they sign the visitor's book and collect their visitor or volunteer badge. This precaution ensures the security of school and personal property, as well as the safety of students and staff.

#### Parentsand Citizens Association-P&C

The P&C Association is a vital organisation for the successful operation of the school.Its meetings are held once a term, in the school library. The Annual General Meeting is held in March each year. The P&C serves to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation; and to assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school.

Through fundraising, it generates extra income for the school to enhance targeted educational programs and through its work, provid esessential services to the whole school community.

#### **Approaching the School**

From time to time parents or other members of the school community may need to approach the school in order to;

Discuss the progress or welfare of your own child. Express concern about actions of other students. Enquire about school policy or practice.

Express concerns about staff.

This may be done informally, before or after school or by making a formal appointment through the school office.

#### **Road Safety Information**

Safety of students as they travel to and from school each day is important. It is expected that parents/carers will support the school through role modelling safe road use behaviors. These include:

Using designated footpaths or walking in areas away from the road.

Holding children's hand (for those up to 8 years of age) and actively supervising all children as they walk to and from school.

Teaching children to Stop, Look, Listen, Think every time they cross the road. Walking with children to cross roads (please do not call children across the road). Crossing roads away from parked cars.

Parking correctly in designated areas.

Getting childrenin and out of the car on the footpath side. Using seatbelt restraints for all passengers prior to driving away.

#### **Recess and Lunch**

Mulbring Public School promotes a healthy lifestyle. Parents are encouraged to provide a healthy lunch and recess daily. Generally this includes fresh fruit, sandwiches (not fairy bread) yoghurt, dried fruit, water and juice. Highly processed foods are not nutritional and affect your child's health negatively. Soft drinks are not allowed. We have a daily fruit break during the morning and all students are required to have fresh fruit each day for this.

From time to time during the term, the P&C will hold hot food days/special food days for lunch.

Lunch orders are available on a Friday. Lunch is ordered through the "Flexi schools" app, the P&C pick up the lunches on a Friday. There can be no late orders.

#### **Lost Property**

All items of personal property found, but not immediately claimed, are stored in a lost property tub in the hallway of the main, front classroom building.

It cannot be emphasised too strongly that all clothing, lunch containers and drink bottles, etc. should be clearly labelled so students' property can be identified.

Unnamed property not claimed after a period of time is donated to charity, the school second hand clothing pool or disposed of.

#### **Permission Notes**

A note will be sent home at the beginning of each year, requesting permission to; publish your child's photo, participate in video-conferencing, participate in Child Protection lessons, walk to/from the school in the local area. You will also receive a Medical Form, requesting information about your child. This information will be kept on record for excursions and needs to be updated by you if conditions or needs change throughout the year.

#### **Security of Grounds**

Entry to school grounds and use of school equipment out of hours is not permitted unless students are involved in an approved supervised activity. Parents/carers or community members who observe people behaving suspiciously in the grounds are requested to notify Kurri Kurri Police, Phone: 4937 1593. The Department of Education school security phone number is; 1300 880 021.

#### **Birthday Cakes**

Birthday Ice Block boxes are available, \$20—two days notice required. All students in the birthday child's class receive an ice block.

#### **Paint Shirts**

Every student needs to have a paint shirt at school to protect their uniform when using paints and glues. An old adult sized shirt will do.

#### **School Bytes App**

School Bytes is the only app used for all school-related communications and administrative tasks.

The School Bytes portal provides flexibility for you to conveniently:

- Make school payments online (including paying for multiple siblings at once).
- Use a family credit to pay for an activity or school contributions.
- Download a receipt for payments made.
- View all historical payments in one place.
- Complete and submit digital permission notes.
- View the status of all permission notes and check event details.
- View the School Calendar.
- See your child's attendance.
- Create planned absences.

This can be done where you want at any time: day or night.

Through the portal, you will easily be able to download a receipt once a payment has been made and have access to view all historical payments when needed.

School Bytes portal is available for you to register and begin using.

https://portal.schoolbytes.education/auth/login

Please use your child's official name (preferred names will not link you together). When creating a new account use your email address you have provided to the school.

#### **School Uniform**

Unisex School Polo Shirt Unisex Sport Shorts

Unisex (lightweight) Tracksuit Jacket

Unisex (lightweight) Tracksuit Pants

**Boys Shorts** 

Girls Skorts

Fleecy Bomber style jacket

Fleecy tracksuit pants

Sizing-4-16, then S/Men's

All above items can be purchased from;

Flanagans Menswear in Cessnock; 90 Vincent St, Cessnock

School Hats are available at the school office \$15 - cash only



#### **School Bus**

Details of students eligible to catch the bus are available from the school. There is no charge for eligible students. The service is operated by Hunter Valley Buses - Toronto Bus Service. For further details regarding the bus route, please refer to the following website;

http://www.cdcbus.com.au/Hunter-Valley-School-Timetables.html

Opal cards can be applied for online: https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/applyNow

#### **RULES FOR BUS TRAVEL:**

Children must be seated at all times whilst travelling on the bus.

Children must not move from the footpath to cross until the bus moves well away.

Children must not talk to the driver while the bus is moving.

Children must wait until the bus has stopped before leaving their seats to alight.

Children need to behave in an orderly, quiet manner on the bus to prevent distraction of the driver. School bags should be kept out of the aisle.

Children who continually misbehave on the bus may be banned from bus travel by the bus company.

#### Kurri Kurri OOSH

Kurri Kurri OOSH have a bus thatdrops students to school in the morning and picksthe students up from school in the afternoon.

There are subsidies available to help with the cost of OOSH care. Contact the team at Kurri Kurri OOSH for more information.





## **Curriculum Related Activities**

#### **Academic Competitions**

Students are encouraged to enter competitions in poetry, writing, reading, spelling and various other areas. Many students participate in the Premier's Reading, Debating and Spelling Challenges.

#### **Assessment and Reporting**

Parent/carer information evenings are offered early in the year to inform parents/carers about the class program for the year. Reports are sent home during Term 2 and again at the end of the year. Interviews are conducted at the end of term 2.

#### National Assessment Program for Literacyand Numeracy (NAPLAN)

This is an annual national testing program. All students from NSW, in Years 3,5.7 and 9 take the national tests at the same time as students from all other states and territories.

#### **Scripture and Ethics**

Volunteers provide a half-hour religious education lesson each Friday afternoon. Students may attend a Non-Denominational Christian. These groupsare approved by the Department of Education and Communities and the relevant religious groups provide accredited teachers. Families may also choose to opt out of Scripture. At Mulbring Public School, students who do not participate in Scripture are supervised by a teacher, and provided with relevant classwork to complete.

#### **Dance and Drama**

As part of the NSW Curriculum each class will participate in a range of drama and dance experiences.

#### **Public Speaking**

Public speaking skills are taught as part of the English curriculum by the class teachers in Years 2 - 6. Kindergarten and Year 1 take part in talking and listening activities such as news and topic talks. The school captains and vice-captains are also involved in the Young Leaders program which includes the development of public speaking skills.

#### **Excursions**

Excursions are an integral part of the school's programand are chosen carefully by each year group to achieve specific educational objectives across the KLAs (key learning areas). Participation is important. Notice is given prior to the excursion. Permission notes with payments need to be returned to the office by the date required.

Cost, frequency and safety factors are important considerations in planning excursions. Written consent by parents/carers is essential for participation. Parents/carers are often invited to attend/ assist on excursions.

#### **Life Education**

The Life Education Mobile Classroom visits Mulbring Public School biannually. Life Education is a positive health program for students from Kindergarten to Year 6. The Kindergarten lesson focuses on food and other needs that help keep us healthy. The use of medicines, alcohol and smoking are discussed with appropriate grades. Life skills enabling students to make informed choices about their health are practised. The Life Education Program works in close cooperation with the school and classroom teachers, as part of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Curriculum. Teachers receive manuals and students have follow up workbooks.

#### **Special Events**

Easter, Anzac Day, Harmony Day, Book Week, Education Week, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Week– NAIDOC, Remembrance Day, Christmas, Mother's Day, Father's Day and School Presentation Day.

These are celebrated at the school as alink with the broader community.

#### **Library**

Mulbring Public School has a well-equipped center with a wealth of materials for recreational reading, literature study, and gathering information. Every class has a scheduled lesson and borrowing time, on a weekly basis. During one lunchtime, per week, students can visit the library to read, borrow or do research.

#### **LIBRARY BAGS-**

Children must have a strong, material library bag, rectangular in shape with a drawstring through the top, large enough to hold the largest size book, before they will be allowed to borrow from the school library. Periodically, book club leaflets will be sent home.





#### **School Counselor**

The school counselor is an educational psychologist who is available for consultation to the principal, staff and parents/carers of the school.

The school counselor:

Assesses children who have learning difficulties, and is available for interview with teachers and parents/carers.

Assesses children who have behavioral difficulties at school, and provides support to these children and their parents/carers.

Assists the school in identifying and addressing difficulties that effect students' learning. Is available to provide support when there is a crisis.

Liaises with other agencies concerned with the well-being of students.

Appointments can be made by phone or letter, through the class teacher or the Principal.

#### **Assembly**

A school assemblyis held weeks 3, 6 under the Covered OutdoorLearning Area (COLA). This celebrates student achievement and provides opportunities for Student Leadership. The assembly commences at 9:00am and parents/carers and community members are most welcome to attend. In the event of inclement weatherwe move the assembly into one of the classrooms.

#### **Sport**

All students K - 6 are involved in sport and fitness activities. All students, K-6, participate in a Daily Fitness Program and sportis held weekly. Mulbring Public is involved in PSSA (PrimarySchools Sports Association) sports. The students in these teams represent Mulbring in an inter-school competition.

Annual swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals are held during the year. Intensive swimming and a surf education programare offered biannually, on an alternating basis.

#### <u>Information and Communication Technology</u>

Learning experiences for students at Mulbring PublicSchool are enhancedin all KLAs by the use of computer-based technologies. All computers in the classrooms, computer areas and Library have access to the Internet filteredthrough the Department of Education server.

Familiarity with computers begins in Kindergarten and by Year 6 students become not only proficient technology users but are awareof their potential and application in society.

#### **Sun Protection Policy**

Mulbring is a Cancer Council, Sun-Safe School. As part of our Sun Protection policy, all children are required to wear a brimmed hat for outdoor activities. Otherwise, they must only play in a shady area, under the Covered Outdoor Learning Area. We encourage students to have sunscreen applied at home.

#### **Fees**

Textbooks are utilised for some subject areas to support hands-on learning and practical activities. The school purchases these in bulk, to achieve discounts. Students in K-6 are also provided with workbooks.

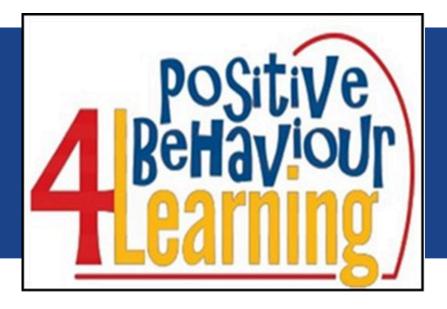
K-2 are provided with stationery purchased by the school and students in Years 3-6 are asked to purchase/provide their own stationery.

Invoices are sent home in Term 1, requesting payment for textbooks and workbooks, for students in Years3 to 6 and payment for textbooks, workbooks and stationery for students in K-2. EFTPOS and Payments Online (through the school website) are available options for making these payments to the school.

#### **Voluntary Contribution**

Each year families are asked to contribute a voluntary contribution. This money is put towards purchasing resources such as computer softwareand classroom resources. The current amountrequested is \$20 per student. It must be emphasized that this contribution is entirely voluntary and confidential.





## **School Discipline**

Our school policy is underpinned by the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) which is a comprehensive, integrated whole school approach to student wellbeing and behaviour. Positive Behaviour for Learning is an evidence-based whole school process to enable student learning and wellbeing. It supports the expectations of good discipline in NSW schools.

#### What does PBL involve?

To start, schools create clear expectations and rules that use positive language, for example "walk" instead of "don't run". This is done for all areas across the school and all people involved in the school community. Students are involved in this decision-making process. Once everyone has agreed to the expectations, a system is designed to acknowledge students for following the expectations. Each school community decides how they would like to do this. Some students may work towards extra break time, a principal's lunch or a special disco, depending on the school, the age of students and what the school community has agreed on together.

This clearly defined set of expected behaviours (expectations and rules) is backed up by teaching procedures and procedures for acknowledging expected behaviours as well as responding to other behaviours. School communities also work together to decide on what happens when things don't go according to plan. PBL uses an educative approach so there is the opportunity for students to get back on track.

Schools are supported in implementing the PBL by an external PBL Coach and Senior Psychologist from the Education Directorate.

#### What are the benefits of PBL?

When PBL is implemented well, teachers and students have more time to focus on relationships and classroom instruction. Students and staff benefit from; increased time focused on instruction improved social-emotional wellbeing positive and respectful relationships among students and staff reduced inappropriate behaviour

better support for teachers to teach, model and respond effectively to student needs. A predictable learning environment where staff and students know what is expected

#### The Discipline Code

Department of Education School Discipline Code;

We will obey instructions given by teachers and other staff members.

We will always represent our school with pride, and maintain acceptable standards of behaviour when attending excursions or sporting events.

We will behave in a safe manner in and around the school, and while attending school activities. We will always follow the rules of the classroom.

We will respect the rights of others, and always be polite. Wewill always respect the members of our community.

We will not leave the school boundaries without a teacher's permission. We will wear our school uniform.

We will be punctual at all times.

We will follow the homework policy of the school.

We are aware that illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco and weapons are not allowed at school. When travelling to and from school we will follow the road and bus safety guidelines.



## **Mulbring Public School Song**

Nestled in a valley, just below the Watagans,
Mulbring a small country village you'll see.
With a hall and two churches,
Corner store and cricket field,
A school full of children, happy and free.

Mulbring Public,
Mulbring Public,
Proudly we stand for our school's history.
Students and teachers working for our future,
We'll do our best for our school family.

Hard work, honesty, compassion and integrity, These are the values we practice with pride. Our country school forever in our memory, We'll work together, side by side.

Mulbring Public,
Mulbring Public,.
Proudly we stand for our school's history
Students and teachers working for our future,
We'll do our best for our school family.

**Written by Amanda Percival** 

## **Kindergarten Orientation**

#### Mulbring Public School's Orientation Program

This is held throughout the year, with visits to participate in class activities. A formal orientation session for both parents and students is held early in Term 4, with further opportunities afterwards, for visits to the kindergarten classroom.

All kindergarten students are required to complete a Best Start Interview. The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is designed to identify each student's literacy and numeracy skills and understanding at the beginning of Kindergarten. At Mulbring Public School, we aim to undertake these assessments throughout the first weeks of school.

In the first few months of school your child has many adjustments to make, such as making new friends, learning new routines and being away from mum and dad or carers. Children take varying degrees of time to settle in, so please be patient but always speak to the teacher if you have any questions or concerns about your child.

#### For more tips and information on starting school please visit:

http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/home

#### The year before school;

Ask your child what they think about starting school. Encourage your child to ask questions about going to school.

Help your child stay healthy. Make sure they have regular health and dental checks and keep immunisations up-to-date.

Encourage your child to try to do things on their own such as dressing, going to the toilet, washing their hands, unwrapping their food and opening and closing their drink bottle. Talk to friends and other families about what school is like.

Attend orientation-to-school programs and activities at your child's early years service and school. Talk to your child's early childhood educator about things you can do at home to help your child's learning and development.

Talk to the school about how you can engage in your child's learning and development at school. Ask the school what time your child starts on the first day and where to take them.

#### **During the summer holidays**;

Show your child where the school is and talk about how you will get there.

Arrange play-times with other families whose children will be going to the same school as your child. It helps if your child knows another child at their school at the start of kindergarten. Practice the things your child will need to do to get ready for school (e.g. putting things in their bag, remembering to take a hat).

Be positive about starting school and enjoy your child's excitement.

Visit your local library and read books with your child about starting school.



#### The first day of school:

- Lay out your child's clothes, hat, shoes and socks the night before.
- Help your child to pack their school bag with a snack, drink, lunch and a hat. Place a spare pair of underpants and a change of clothes in a plastic bag. Let your child know these clothes are in their bag in case of any accidents at school.
- Put sunscreen on your child in the morning if it is needed.
- Show your child where you will meet them at the end of the school day. At the end of the day talk to your child about what happened at school.

#### The first year of school;

- Find out about what your child is learning at school. By doing this, you can support your child's learning and find out how your child is adjusting to school.
- If your child is having difficulty at school, talk to their teacher. Your child can also say what they think might help them.
- Keep talking to your child about school. Ask them about their new experiences, what they like and what they find hard.
- Share feed back about your child's experience of starting school with the school.

#### **OTHER HELPFUL HINTS**

- Check your child's bag daily for left over food and any notes that may have been sent home. Encourage your child to write and recognise his/her name.
- Teach your child how to put on and do up shoes.
- Label CLEARLY with FULL NAME, all possessions, eg hats, tracksuits, sloppy joes, jackets, bags, plastic bottles, lunch boxes
- Have your child arrive at school on time each and everyday, where possible Give your child simple duties to perform around the home. This will help foster confidence in performance of specific tasks.
- Allow your child to stay with relatives or friends for short periods so that he/she will accept the fact that it is not always possible to be with parents/caregivers.
- Encourage every effort. Praise, praise, praise!
- Read to them from the earliest age. There is no better way to create a desire to read.
- Give presents of simply-written and well-illustrated books on a whole range of topics-both fiction and non-fiction. Select suitable radio and television programs for your child.
- Encourage your child/children to write regularly in a variety of ways—letters, diaries, factual accounts, imaginative stories, etc.
- Admire work when it is brought home, give paintings and work a place of honour for a few days at least.

## Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Make friends



**Build skills** through fun



A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life



day per week







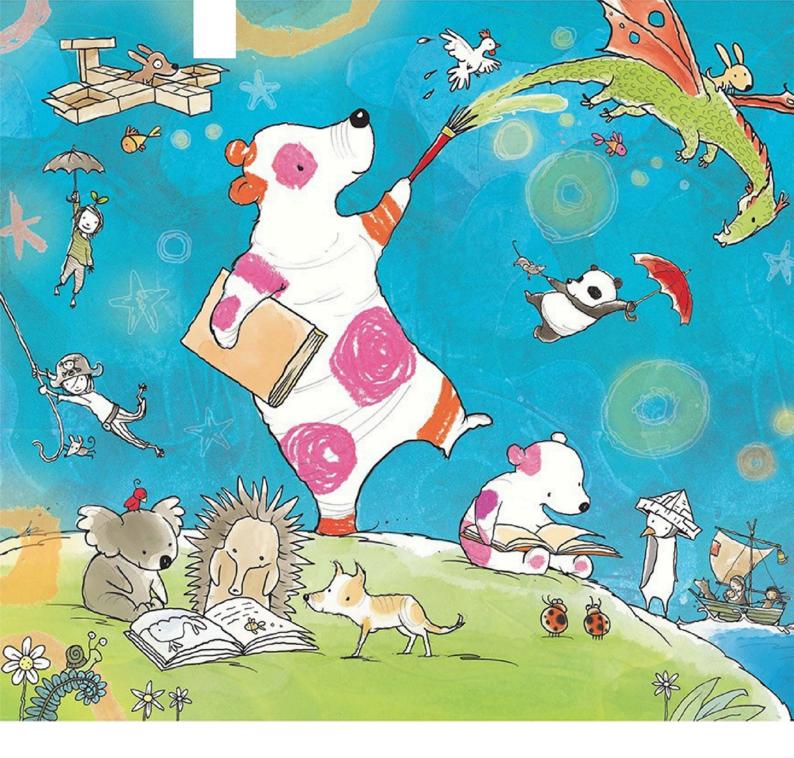












NSW Department of Education

## **NSW Premier's Reading Challenge**

Start reading now!

Artwork by Stephen Michael King

www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au



# Parent App

## **Available now!**

Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below





 Get real time push notifications from your school

- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
- Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts
- View the school calendar and news













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