North Arm State School

Parent Information Booklet

2016
Dear Parents, Carers, Students and the North Arm Community,

On behalf of the North Arm State School family, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to this delightful school.

I am very pleased to be part of the energetic and nurturing team at North Arm State School. This team is dedicated to offering our 375 students a broad and challenging curriculum through ‘Lifelong Learning for Heart, Mind and Earth’.

Our students, staff and parents consistently provide positive feedback about their experience at our school and our students also consistently demonstrate very high levels of academic achievement in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy annual tests.

In addition to their high academic achievements, we are also extremely proud of our strong reputation in the social, cultural and environmental areas, through extra-curricular opportunities such as our Marimba, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen/Gardening Program, Dance & Gymnastics programs.

Each member of our school family is valuable and valued. We welcome parent and community input and assistance and look forward to working with you to enhance your child’s education. There are many ways you can assist our school and we would be happy to discuss options with you if you are able.

I look forward to meeting your child/ren and yourselves and welcoming you personally, into our school.

Until then, I wish you well. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can assist your child/ren in any way.

Kind Regards

Kelly
Kelly Edgar
Principal
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CONTACTS
During the day there is an Administrative Assistant in the office who can answer general inquiries. However, if you wish to speak to a teacher, please phone during the lunch break or before or after school, unless the matter is very urgent.

School Address: Fairhill Road  
                    Yandina   Qld   4561

School Phone: 5472 9888
School Fax: 5472 9800
Before and After School Care: 5472 9803 or Kathy Cockroft 0418 858 967

Absentee line: 5472 9860
Please leave a message with your name, your child’s name, roll class and a reason for absence.

Office email: admin@ntharmss.eq.edu.au
School Website: https://ntharmss.eq.edu.au

Frequent open communication between all members of the school community is valued and encouraged. Your first port of call for an inquiry about any aspect of your child’s experience of school, is always the classroom teacher.
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<th>CHRISTIAN</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>EDGAR</td>
<td>KELLY</td>
<td>PRINCIPAL</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kedga5@eq.edu.au">kedga5@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARLAND</td>
<td>CARMEL</td>
<td>DEPUTY PRINCIPAL</td>
<td><a href="mailto:charl21@eq.edu.au">charl21@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEASLEY</td>
<td>MIM</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbeas10@eq.edu.au">mbeas10@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELL</td>
<td>FIONA</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fbell3@eq.edu.au">fbell3@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIELEMEIER</td>
<td>PAOLA</td>
<td>TEACHER P/T LOTE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pbiel1@eq.edu.au">pbiel1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIRCH</td>
<td>ANN</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abirc13@eq.edu.au">abirc13@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRADLEY</td>
<td>GILLIAN</td>
<td>TEACHER – SWD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gbrad30@eq.edu.au">gbrad30@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRADSHAW</td>
<td>MICHELLE</td>
<td>TEACHER P/T</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mbrad66@eq.edu.au">mbrad66@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHANCELLOR</td>
<td>SARAH</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schan86@eq.edu.au">schan86@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIVIDIN</td>
<td>LESLEY</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lcivi2@eq.edu.au">lcivi2@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWEY</td>
<td>ALANNA</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adowe6@eq.edu.au">adowe6@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FABBRO</td>
<td>MIRTH</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mfabb2@eq.edu.au">mfabb2@eq.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>FULLER</td>
<td>SUELLEN</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sfull32@eq.edu.au">sfull32@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOPE</td>
<td>CLAIRA</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chope34@eq.edu.au">chope34@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JACKSON</td>
<td>SHELLEY</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjack166@eq.edu.au">mjack166@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAENKE</td>
<td>VICKIE</td>
<td>TEACHER – Learning Support</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vjaen1@eq.edu.au">vjaen1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAMONT</td>
<td>TONY</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tlamo3@eq.edu.au">tlamo3@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McINTOSH</td>
<td>DAVID</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dmcin33@eq.edu.au">dmcin33@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKIE</td>
<td>JOHN</td>
<td>TEACHER P/T P.E.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jfmck1@eq.edu.au">jfmck1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEAD</td>
<td>STEVEN</td>
<td>TEACHER P/T MUSIC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:spead4@eq.edu.au">spead4@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBINSON</td>
<td>RUTH</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrobi44@eq.edu.au">rrobi44@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSSELL</td>
<td>TRUDY</td>
<td>TEACHER P/T</td>
<td><a href="mailto:truss55@eq.edu.au">truss55@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHANEMAN</td>
<td>SHUGI</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sshan20@eq.edu.au">sshan20@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHIELDS</td>
<td>SUSAN</td>
<td>TEACHER LIBRARIAN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sshie13@eq.edu.au">sshie13@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VACHER</td>
<td>LEESA</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lvach1@eq.edu.au">lvach1@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAN DER</td>
<td>TRINA</td>
<td>TEACHER P/T SWD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tvand110@eq.edu.au">tvand110@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTEN</td>
<td>GEMMA</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gwell30@eq.edu.au">gwell30@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILSON</td>
<td>KATE</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kwils320@eq.edu.au">kwils320@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRIGHT</td>
<td>YVONNE</td>
<td>TEACHER</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ywrig3@eq.edu.au">ywrig3@eq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SCHOOL HISTORY**

The first school in the North Arm area opened with 13 pupils in July 1885 on the Old Coach Way. This early school was known as the Fairhill Provisional School.

By 1909 Fairhill had become a State School but only a few years later enrolments began falling, partly because parents were unhappy about the poor state of the old slab building, which was badly infested with white ants.

In 1915 land closer to the township of North Arm was donated by George Davison Snr and a building erected. It was occupied in September of that year and in October the name changed to North Arm State School. That original building is still in place but now serves as a staffroom. By 1924 that one small classroom catered for 60 students who split out onto the verandahs!

Enrolments grew slowly from then until the 1980’s with no more than two teachers employed during that time. Now in 2014 we have 16/17 classroom teachers and a non-teaching principal for approximately 400 students. North Arm School remains a fairly small, very friendly school, with a close-knit staff/student/parent relationship.

Our school community takes pride in our heritage buildings, and our well-developed and maintained grounds including our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden and kitchen, community hall, extensive ovals, paved and shaded seating areas, outdoor amphitheatre and a community garden complete with its own chess board. We also take pride in our reputation as a quality school where students and their learning come first. Students are given many opportunities to achieve in a happy and supportive, small school environment.

Features for our students include:

- Before and After School Care from 7am to 6pm.
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program
- State of the art computer technology fully networked between library and all classrooms and to the internet.
- Focus on full participation in school life
- GENAS (Growing Excellence for North Arm Students) program extension
- Italian language and culture program Years 5-6
- Student leadership program
- Instrumental music (wind), and Marimbas. Private lessons available for Kids on Keyboards, Violin and Guitar.
- Tennis tournaments and coaching blocks including NRL and AFL
- Pro-active instructional behaviour management program (Achieve: You Can Do It)
- Broad & challenging physical education program
- Student Wellbeing Officer
- School Choir
- Dance Fever Program
- Structured lunchtime activities
Student Free Days for 2016
Thursday 21, Friday 22 and Monday 25 January 2016
Monday 17 October 2016

Public Holidays for 2016
Australia Day         Monday January  26
Good Friday           Friday March    25
ANZAC Day             Monday April    25
Labour Day            Monday May      2
Sunshine Coast Show Day Friday June    12
Queen’s Birthday      Monday October  3
ABSENTEEISM

If your child is absent from school, please ring the Absentee Line on 5472 9860 or send an email to admin@ntharmss.eq.edu.au each day your child is absent. Parents must make sure their children attend school on all school days unless they are ill under section 176 of the Education (General Provisions) Act, 2006.

Every Day Counts

Does your child have the best chance for success?

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses...</th>
<th>That equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that’s...</th>
<th>Which means the best your child might perform is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 Days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 Days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 4</td>
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What sort of start is your child getting?
Arriving late? Leaving early? How much can it hurt?

Just a little bit late doesn’t seem much but....

<table>
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<th>He/She is only missing just...</th>
<th>That equals...</th>
<th>Which is...</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that’s...</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly half a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 minutes per</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 and a half years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 and a half years</td>
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Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day? That’s when every minute counts the most!!
ACCIDENTS
Should any child be seriously injured, they will receive treatment from the Ambulance service. Where possible, parents will be notified immediately, but if parents cannot be contacted, the child will still receive treatment. Please ensure your contact details and emergency contact details are updated at the school office.

ADMISSIONS (ENROLMENTS)
In the first instance, please call the office for information. Our school is subject to an Enrolment Management Plan. Students residing outside the North Arm catchment will be offered positions subject to capacity, in the order of receipt of applications. Occasionally, in some year levels your child may need to be placed on a waiting list.

THE ARTS
Children attend two cultural performances at the school staged by the Queensland Arts Council each year. These professional entertainers demonstrate various aspects of the performing arts, related to our class programs. As a Key Learning Area, the Arts features prominently in classroom programs.

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING TO PARENTS
Assessment of children’s progress at school is an important part of teachers planning, and as such occurs continuously. Teachers use a variety of methods to assess the progress that children are making including taking anecdotal notes, using checklists, observing children and giving written and oral tests. Written school reports are issued twice per year—in June and December. Parents are invited to discuss these reports with their class teacher. Formal interviews are offered at the end of Term 1 (Easter) and in September at the end of Term 3. However, it is important that parents understand that they are welcome to speak with their child’s teacher at any time. Please make an appointment so that the teacher can provide time, free from disruption.

BEHAVIOUR OF STUDENTS
The rights and responsibilities of students, parents and staff in relation to treatment of each other are clearly articulated in our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students which is reviewed regularly with students, parents and staff. An integral component of our approach to student behaviour is based on the “You Can Do It” program. Our school rules are:

✓ Be safe
✓ Be respectful
✓ Be a learner

Staff and parents work tirelessly to provide an environment in which children are fully supported to achieve the best possible social outcomes from their North Arm school experience.
BUS INFORMATION

(Subject to change - please check with operator for current information)

Browns Creek Road Bus: Mr Barry Giles—5471 1843 / 0410 602 632
Departs Starlight Hall at 7:15am traveling along Browns Creek Rd, onto Lees Rd, Burton Rd, Bunya Rd and Yandina Creek Rd arriving at school at 7:30am. This bus makes the return journey leaving school at approximately 4:00pm.

Coolum Coaches: - Glyn Ross—5351 1165/ 0499 000 302
Route 1 leaves rear of Coolum State School at 8:10 am via Coolum-Yandina Road, Yandina Creek Road (Country Coolum); 8:25 Valdora Rd turn around 8:30am; North Arm school 8:45am.
Route 2 departs Ocean Vista Drv and Coolum –Yandina Rd at 8:20am via Coolum-Yandina Rd, Collins Rd, Ninderry Rd, Elouera Drv 8:30am, then Fairhill Rd arriving North Arm school at 8:45am.
This bus departs North Arm school at 3:10pm via Yandina, Mt Ninderry, Coolum –Yandina Rd, Valdora Rd, Coolum.

BUS PAYMENT

Free bus transport is available to children who live more than 3.2km from the nearest school. Application forms for a bus card are available from the bus drivers. Children who live less than 3.2km away from the school will be required to pay a fare. Fare details are available from the drivers.

BUS SUPERVISION & BEHAVIOUR

Each afternoon, a teacher is rostered to supervise the departure of the children traveling by bus. To avoid unnecessary confusion please advise the school of any changes to your child’s bus routine. The Department of Transport is responsible for children’s safety whilst traveling. Ph: 5477 8400.

All students who travel on the bus are expected to follow the ‘Code of Conduct for School Bus Travel. Copies of these can be collected from the school office. Parents are requested to report incidents of inappropriate bus behaviour directly to the bus company.

CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS

As school excursions provide valuable educational and social benefits for the children, it is a policy of the school to take the children on organized camps. Students in years 4, 5 & 6 go on yearly camps. Venues vary from year to year, and the costs are kept as low as possible.

Please remember that educational excursions are an important part of our curriculum and the workplace health and safety guidelines and practices apply in all learning environments.
CASH COLLECTION MANAGEMENT
At North Arm we have in place a simple procedure for the collection of money from parents, to cover core school business that is not covered by Education Queensland. Every November the costs to be borne by parents the following year are negotiated between parents and Principal. Education Queensland covers most costs, but at North Arm parents make a contribution to ensure a broad, challenging curriculum. A set charge per child, which varies according to their year level, is paid by parents at the beginning of the year, or by installments up until midyear.

This fee is inclusive of some photocopying costs, all excursions, swimming, Arts Council performances, inter-school sports, cultural visits, the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen/Garden Program, the Gymnastics & Dance programs and small contributions towards cooking, art and technology. All charges are directly related to our core business of achieving the best learning outcomes possible for all of our children, and are set annually. If you wish to operate outside this arrangement please do so by negotiation with principal.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE
Allowances are available to parents who transport their children to a bus route or to school:

A. When a parent conveys the child more than 3.2 km to the nearest primary school by private vehicle (and no bus service is available), conveyance allowance (class A) can be claimed.

B. When a parent living more than 3.2 km from the nearest school conveys his/her child more than 3.2km to a school bus service, conveyance allowance (class C) can be claimed.

Please ask the bus driver for an application form. Conveyance Allowance forms can also be obtained from the school or from the Department of Transport P O Box 5125, Maroochydore South Q 4558.

HEALTH AND SAFETY
At North Arm we are committed to ensuring our school environment is a safe and healthy workplace for staff and learning environment for students. As a parent you are encouraged to assist by notifying the school office should you notice any area in which safety improvements could be made. Please notify Linda, Betty or Sonya in the school office.
HEALTH INFORMATION

♦ **School Dental Service**: Every two years, the School Dental Service van visits the school. All children from the age of 5 are checked by a therapist and dentist with parental permission. Parents are contacted when major work is required. The school dentist also gives the children talks on dental hygiene and care. At any time during the year, urgent treatment can be organized by contacting the van on 5441 2763.

♦ **Illnesses**—Diseases and the child’s period of exclusion:
  - **Chicken Pox**: Child should be excluded for at least seven days after the beginning of the illness and until the last lesion has healed.
  - **Viral Hepatitis**: Where no medical certificate is available, child can be readmitted on subsidence of symptoms. Otherwise, readmit on production of medical certificate of recovery.
  - **Measles & Meningococcal Infection**: Readmit on production of medical certificate of recovery.
  - **Mumps**: Should be excluded for at least 14 days after the onset of symptoms.
  - **Rubella** (German Measles): Child should be excluded for at least 7 days from the appearance of the rash or until a medical certificate is produced.
  - **Streptococcal Infection including Scarlet Fever**: Should be excluded until appropriate medical treatment and medical certificate of recovery is produced.
  - **Whooping Cough**: Should be excluded for 21 days from onset of coughing, or five days after antibiotic treatment has begun.
  - **Impetigo (School Sores)**: Child does not have to be excluded if lesions are covered. Impetigo is contagious. Lesions on any part of the body except the face must be covered. On the face, the lesions must be under treatment, a layer of ointment/paint is acceptable as a “cover” in the situation only.
  - **Ringworm**: Child does not have to be excluded if lesions are covered. Ringworm is contagious. Except in the case of the scalp (see next item), a lesion under treatment with a coat of paint is accepted as being covered. If an ointment is being used, a dressing must be applied (except in the face, as in the case of impetigo as above).
  - **Ringworm of the scalp**: 1. Child does not have to be excluded from school if scalp is covered and conditions a, b and c below apply, but to be excluded from swimming for 4 weeks after tablet treatment is commenced. Ringworm of the scalp is contagious. Infectivity will have ceased in about 3 weeks under the following conditions:
a. the lesion is small (about the size of a 10 cent coin).
b. the hair has been shaved for 2.5 cm all round the lesion; and
c. treatment has commenced with Griseofluvin tablets (Fulein or Grisovin).

Child must be excluded from school until a medical certificate of freedom is obtained if case is severe and lesions are larger than set out in “a” above.

Scabies: Suspect cases to be excluded until a medical clearance is obtained. If there is a positive diagnosis, the child must be excluded for at least one week, then subject to a or b following:

a. a medical certificate of clearance is produced, or
b. there is evidence that the child has been adequately treated.

NOTE: The incubation period for a first attack is long—4 to 6 weeks, so there will not be a dramatic spread of the disease from one case to dozens of others in a few days, as is often claimed in panic situations. Once a child has had scabies he/she is likely to itch for several weeks, even though he/she is actually cured of the infection.

Head Lice: Head lice are highly contagious. Child should be kept at home. With the proper treatment the period of exclusion may be as brief as one day. Children are advised to wear hair tied back as a precaution against catching head lice. If head lice are detected on your child at school, you will be contacted immediately. If head lice are detected in your child's class, you will be notified in writing, so that you can carry out the necessary inspections and treatments.

Sun Protection: Our school is a Sun Smart School and our policy therefore directs that children must wear broad brimmed hats if they are playing outside. It is also important to apply sunscreen at home, before they arrive at school.

SICK AT SCHOOL
Parent contact details are kept at the school office. Please ensure that the school has current home and work phone, mobile numbers or email contacts for immediate family, grandparents or other family to contact in the event of your child feeling ill at school. Unwell children are kept under supervision in the sick room until they can be collected by a family member to take home. No medication can be given by school staff without written permission from a doctor.
HOMEWORK
At North Arm all teachers set homework from Monday to Thursday to help children establish routines and work habits. Your child’s homework could span a range of activities including daily reading, spelling, number facts, English, Maths, project work, or an activity designed specifically to help your child.

Parents, your classroom teacher will make it very clear to you at the beginning of the year how homework enhances school learning.

Parents are encouraged to have their children complete the set homework, but let their teacher know if they are finding it difficult.

Some hints for parents:
1. Begin a routine for homework early in the child’s school life.
2. Take an interest in the child’s homework. Ask him/her to tell you what they are doing or how they do it.
3. If a child has problems with homework, he/she should go to the teacher before school the following day.
4. At times, parents try to help their child for example by demonstrating mathematical solutions by using their own methods. We appreciate your help, but please ensure you are familiar with the school’s methods.

JEWELLERY, MONEY, TOYS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES
Children may wear earring studs, watches, signet rings, medical alerts or religious necklaces but other forms of jewellery are not PERMITTED. All jewellery must be removed before sport. Watches are worn at the owner’s risk. Money, toys and playing cards from home are not to be brought to school. If mobile phones, IPad, IPod, DS’s or any other electronic devices are brought to school, they must be handed in to the office before school and collected at 3pm. Failure to do so will result in the confiscation of the device. The school accepts no responsibility for these items.

LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS
Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the day once they have arrived at school. If parents arrive early during the day to collect their children, we ask that they notify the Principal or their child’s teacher. Students must be signed out at the school office if leaving early and signed in if arriving late. If you need your child to go home with another parent, please notify the school in ample time for messages to be relayed.
LIBRARY FACILITIES
Our Resource Centre opened in 2010 with a range of ICT facilities and print resources. Children are encouraged to borrow school library books for periods of up to a week. The use of library bags is encouraged to protect books. The Teacher/Librarian, Mrs Shields, works with teachers, to ensure that the children gain benefit from the school’s extensive Information and Communication Technology Resources.

MEDICATION
If it is necessary for prescribed medicine to be administered during school time, the medicine must be given to the office along with WRITTEN ADVICE on a medication form, outlining dosage and time. Copies of the medication form are available from the office. Over the counter medicine may only be given with written permission from both parent and doctor.

NEWSLETTERS
A weekly newsletter containing all relevant school information is sent home to parents with the eldest child in the family each Wednesday, and also via email. As this is the best possible form of communication, parents are urged to ensure that they receive and read their copy. Ask your child each Wednesday afternoon for a newsletter. Spare copies are available at the office. You can also download the current newsletter in pdf format from the school website at http://ntharmss.eq.edu.au. Newsletters are posted to the website on Wednesday each week. You can also keep up to date by downloading the QSchools app and making North Arm a favourite school.

PARADES
Our school has a whole-school parade every fortnight (even school weeks). These parades are on Wednesdays, from 2:30—3:00pm. All parents, family and friends are invited to attend these parades.

PARENTS’ AND CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATION
The North Arm State School P & C Association meets on the second Tuesday of each month, excluding holidays, in the Library at the school at 6:30pm. The objectives of the Association are:
To promote the interests of, and facilitate the development and further improvement of the school. For example, by promoting parent participation and encouraging collaboration between parents, students, school communities and non-government entities to foster a commitment to achieving the best educational outcomes for children and young people.
Membership is open to parents and carers of the school’s pupils. Teachers, parents and friends are most welcome to attend these meetings and play an important role in supporting the direction and goals of the school.

**PREPARATORY YEAR**
Those children eligible to commence Prep are children who will be five years of age on or before the last day of June in the year they enroll in Prep. Documentary evidence of date of birth will be required: Prep is non-compulsory, and available to all. However, since 2011 Prep has been the 1st official year of the curriculum and therefore a very important year.

**ROUTINE**
**Arrival at School**
School lessons commence at 8.50am. Students are expected to be at school at 8:30am. Staff are always at school preparing for the day’s lessons before school, but the children are not supervised before school. It would be appreciated if those parents bringing their children to school could arrive between 8:30am – 8:40am.

**The School Day**
- 8:30 Students may arrive at school
- 8:45 First Bell
- 8:50 Second bell. School starts—first session
- 11:00 Morning tea break
- 11:35 Bell
- 11:40 Middle session starts
- 1:10 Lunch break
- 1:35 Bell
- 1:40 Third session starts
- 3:00 School day ends

**School Dismissal**
School work finishes at 3:00pm but parents will realize that tidying up, packing books and the usual end of the day routine will require a little extra time.

Parents who arrive in vehicles to collect students are asked to observe road safety rules with regards to parking of vehicles. As an important safety issue, all children are to wait for parents after school at either one of the front entrances on Yandina Creek Road. If your youngest child is in Year 3-6 please park away from the front gate down beyond the new buildings on Yandina Creek Road, and collect your children from outside the performance hall. This eases congestion. It is not safe for your child to wait for you at the Fairhill Rd entrance,
as there are no staff supervising that exit. Parents should insist that their children obey all safety rules. **Children should be collected as near to 3pm as possible. If you are unable to collect them by 3:15pm they must be booked into After School Care. Please do not ever allow your children to cross the road to your car. Please come inside the grounds to collect them.**

**Before and After School Care**
Care is available to all school children each weekday during the school term. Children can attend on a regular basis if parents work, or come along on a casual basis on any day when parents are unable to be home. For more information please ask at the office. The phone numbers for ASC are 5472 9803; mobile Kathy Cockroft is 0418 858 967. The hours of operation are 7am—8:50am and 3:00 until 6:00pm. **Bookings must be made for any session or part thereof.**

**SCHOOL DRESS CODE**
North Arm State School is a strict uniform school. We have the support of our Parents and Citizens’ Association to promote 100% adherence to the uniform. Our student dress code consists of an agreed standard and items of clothing, which includes a school uniform that North Arm State School students wear when:

- Attending or representing their school;
- Travelling to and from school; and
- Engaging in school activities out of school hours.

North Arm State School Parents and Citizens’ Association supports a student dress code policy because it believes that a student dress code provides clothing that aims to contribute to a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment through:

- ready identification of students and non-students at school;
- fostering a sense of belonging;
- developing mutual respect among students by minimising visible evidence of economic or social differences
- promotes an effective teaching and learning environment by eliminating the distraction of competition in dress and fashion at the school.

North Arm student dress code reflects school community standards and are
consistent with occupational health and safety and anti-discrimination legislation.

We will actively encourage our students to take pride in themselves and their school. One way in which this may be achieved is through adherence to the school’s dress standards. As the parent/carer and provider of your child, we seek your support in this matter.

Inappropriate dress refers to clothing or apparel worn by students that is deemed to be:

- Offensive
- likely to disrupt, or negatively influence normal school operations;
- unsafe for student or others; and
- likely to result in a risk to health and safety of student or others
- outside the requirements as stated in Parent Handbook 2014 e.g., gym shorts, bike shorts and denim shorts. School skirts, shorts and skorts must be of appropriate length i.e. a couple of inches above the knee.
- Formal school uniform must be worn Monday to Thursday. If children wish to, they may wear sports shirts, prep shirts or graduation shirts on Fridays only.

**UNIFORM PRICES from January 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polo Shirt (unisex)</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dress</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skort</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skirts</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfibre Shorts (unisex)</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Sleeve Polo Shirt (unisex)</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacket with zip (unisex)</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Leggings</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Cotton Tights (Navy)</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Long Pants (Yoga-Style)</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hat</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport Shirt</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socks (white or navy)</td>
<td>$ 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair bow set (small)</td>
<td>$ 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair bow set (medium)</td>
<td>$ 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(These prices may change over time)*

The Uniform Shop is open Wednesday mornings from 8-10am during school weeks. Alternatively, please use our Flexischools on-line ordering system.
Free Dress Days
Students must still comply with safety aspects of the dress code. No singlets, micro shorts and all students must wear covered shoes. In circumstances where inappropriate or unreasonable dress is worn, appropriate action will be taken.

SPORTS UNIFORM
School shirts worn with navy shorts and a broad brimmed hat. House colours to be worn on sports day: Dunethin—Red: Eerwah—Green: Ninderry—Yellow.

The P&C holds stock of all summer uniform requirements as well as the jackets. They may be ordered through the office or purchased from the Uniform Shop. Our Uniform Shop Convenor also sells uniforms through the Uniform Shop at the front of the school on Wednesday mornings from 8:00-10:00 am.

Please name all items of school clothing, including footwear. An enormous amount of lost property accumulates each term, which cannot be returned to the owners, as it is not named.

SPORTS
During the year, the children in Years 5 to 6 participate in inter-school sport on a social basis. This usually includes netball, soccer, rugby league and touch football. Athletics is also held during the winter months. Our school’s house sports will usually be held two weeks prior to the District Sports. Prep to Year 6 children will participate in school Cross Country and Sports Days and Years 3 to 6 children will participate in the school swimming carnival.

STAFF
We have a full time Principal, a Deputy Principal, 18 Classroom Teachers, 10 Teacher Aides, 2 Administrative Staff, 1 Business Services manager, 2 Grounds persons and 3 Cleaners. Our students receive weekly specialist physical education and Music lessons. Instrumental Music (brass, woodwind and percussion) is available to children in Years 4-6. Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Guidance Counseling are available by referral through the school Special Needs Committee which meets fortnightly. One part-time teacher teaches Italian to Years 5 and 6 students.
STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM
We have completely redesigned our school’s tuckshop to enable children to prepare food and cook. Our school’s vegetable gardens have had a major overhaul and are set up as outdoor learning areas.

This enables children in Yrs 3-6 to learn to grow, harvest, prepare and share good food as part of their mainstream classroom program.

Volunteers are integral to the operation of this program, so please consider helping out. This would be a very enjoyable way for you to contribute your time to our school.

SUN PROTECTION
Broad-brimmed hats of 10cm brim width are compulsory. Anything other than these hats should not be worn to school. The Parent & Citizens Association has purchased school hats which are for sale and must be worn. In the event of a child arriving at school without the correct hat, he/she will not be permitted outside. Teaching for sun safety is an important part of the Health/Physical Education curriculum.

SWIMMING
Swimming is an important element of our school Physical Education program. Every year in the fourth term, Years 1 to 4 students attend swimming lessons at the Eumundi Aquatic Centre. Swimming instruction and stroke correction is provided in small groups by qualified pool staff. Our annual Interhouse Swim Carnival is held at the end of Term 4, at which students are selected for the District Carnivals.

STUDENT BANKING
Banking is conducted on Thursdays. All children who wish to can have an account with the Commonwealth Bank. Please ask your local branch for an application. Funds are transmitted electronically to the Commonwealth Bank.

TUCKSHOP
Our Tuckshop operates every Thursday and Friday. Its operation is dependent on volunteer parents. If we do not receive sufficient help, the operating of the Tuckshop may have to be reduced. In 2016, all parents are asked to use Flexischools to order their children’s Tuckshop online. Please go to www.flexischools.com.au to set up your account. No cash is accepted at the Tuckshop.

Please consider helping out as it is a great way to make connections in the school. The Tuckshop provides healthy lunches and snacks for our students and
is used by the school to implement the nutrition strand of our school health program. Please contact the school if you can assist with any aspect of the operation of our Tuckshop. All offers of help will be gratefully accepted. Menus are available on the school website.

**STUDENT WELLBEING OFFICER**

Our Student Wellbeing Officer, Ms Nicole Owens for two days per week, works with staff, students and families to help us to ensure that our students’ experience of school is as good as it can possibly be.

Nicole works alongside teachers and other support staff, with children in small groups, and/or individually.

Strict confidentiality and protocol around referral of individual students applies. Nicole’s high level counselling skills, commitment and enthusiasm are wonderful assets to our school.