

School Song

Where do we go from here?

Where do we go from here?
Where do we go from here?
We go up, we go higher
Every one of us can learn to be a flyer

We'll explore, we'll travel far
Take a look at us and you will know we are
Exactly what we'd like to be
We can hear your words and better we can see

The road ahead, although it's long
It doesn't frighten us we know we can be strong
Enough to stand and state our case
And make the new world a more exciting place

Just watch us grow
Just watch us fly
There's nothing we can't do you know
We only have to try

'Where do I go from here?'

Written by Jenny Reidy
(former Assistant Principal - 1990)

Contact

For more information about
our school please contact:

21 Pioneer Street, Mittagong 2575

PO Box 741, Mittagong 2575

Telephone: (02) 4871 1020

email: mittagong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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

Welcome to Mittagong Public School

An A-Z of Information for Parents and Carers



Our Vision

At Mittagong Public School, students, staff, and community connect, succeed, thrive, and learn. At Mittagong Public School every student is known, valued, and cared for. We deliver excellence within a culture of high expectations and collaboration. We engage positively with our students, parents, staff, and wider community. Every student and every teacher are challenged to continue learning and to improve every year.

Our students are engaged, resilient, successful learners, who are highly literate and numerate. They are confident, creative individuals who can think deeply and critically. As active and informed citizens our students have personal resources for success and wellbeing today, and in the future.

Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Gundungurra people. We would like to pay our respect to the Elders past and present and those of the future, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of Aboriginal Australia.

We must always remember that under the concrete, asphalt and playing fields this school is, was and always will be on traditional Aboriginal land.





Welcome to your friendly local school

Mittagong Public School is a dynamic learning environment with a focus on quality teaching and learning, a full and balanced curriculum and great care for the well-being of children. We are an inclusive school which has both mainstream and support classes playing together in the playground. We are a welcoming, friendly school community and have strong relationships with parents and carers. The P & C and parents are actively involved and warmly welcomed in the school. Your role as a parent in the education of your child is valued greatly by our staff.

Our staff are dedicated, highly skilled, caring professionals who are deeply committed to ensuring that all our students reach their potential. We cater for individual differences through quality educational programs.

Staff collaboratively plan, implement, and evaluate teaching and learning programs to meet the diverse needs of students. Mittagong Public offers inventive opportunities for gifted and talented students both in the classroom and whole school. We also support our children who need extra help to grow and achieve in literacy and numeracy.

Students are provided with opportunity to develop their interests and talents in academic, artistic, cultural, and sporting domains in order to maximise their potential and enable them to become confident, independent learners capable of embracing future focused skills, knowledge and understandings. We have innovative technology programs, improving our students' learning through using the tools of the future. Wi-Fi throughout the school and a growing bank of iPads and laptops cater for 21st Century learning.

We provide an extensive variety of enrichment activities to enhance the learning of our students. These include:

- Innovative and engaging programs in the areas of Wellbeing, Creative and Critical Thinking, Robotics and Coding.
- A large variety of programs for children to engage in during play times including sport equipment, creative play, bicycles, scooters, games room and library.
- Environmental Education to foster responsibility including a chickens, kitchen garden, composting and whole school recycling of rubbish.
- Creative and Performing Arts to develop creativity including choir, band, and recorder.
- Exciting learning through projects like Premier's Reading, Spelling and Sporting Challenges, public speaking, ICAS testing and Chess competitions. We have excellent excursions and visiting performers.
- Sport for health and fitness. Competitions in cricket, netball, touch football, soccer, AFL, and basketball. Successful carnivals occur and students can participate in our annual School Swimming Scheme.
- School spirit is celebrated through Family Fun Days, Education Week, Science Days and Grandparent Days. Ceremonies mark important Australian traditions: Anzac and Remembrance Day, NAIDOC, Reconciliation Week and Harmony Day.

At Mittagong Public School we pride ourselves on our excellent programs that promote self-belief, resilience, citizenship, respect, and responsibility. Successful life skills are developed through our comprehensive Positive Behaviour for Learning program. The School Representative Council and other initiatives foster leadership and decision making in students of all ages. We develop confident, articulate students with skills for life through a comprehensive Kindergarten Orientation program, playgroup, and close links with the local high school.

We are proud of our achievements, our students, our community, and our staff. We are very proud to be a part of a wonderful educational team that serves the Mittagong community and happily welcome you and your family to join us.

Kind regards,

Mittagong Executive Team



Attendance & absence from school

Regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. At Mittagong Public School, we work in partnership with you to encourage and support your child's regular attendance at school. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier, and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children. For us to work together, it is important that you understand what your responsibilities are around supporting regular school attendance for your child/ren. The following points below will provide you with further information around how you can support and work with us to ensure your child regularly attends school.

What are your legal responsibilities?

- Education in NSW is compulsory for all children under the age of 17 years
- The Education Act 1990, requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school

Arriving on Time

Our school day starts at 8:55am. Arriving at school and class on time is important because it:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day e.g., reading, writing, numeracy
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

What if your child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school, justified reasons for student absence may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- attending a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g., attending a funeral)

Following a whole day or partial day absence from school, please ensure that an explanation is provided to the school within 7 days. If your child is absent for more than three days, a medical certificate is required. When a medical certificate is not provided, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

To explain an absence, you may:

- Send a handwritten note or medical certificate to your child's teacher
- Email the school at mittagong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
- Telephone the school on 4871 1020
- Send a message to your child's teacher via Seesaw
- Complete an absence form via our school website <https://mittagong-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

We may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if we do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens, we will discuss the decision with you and the reasons why.

Travel

You are encouraged to travel during the school holidays. If travel during school time is necessary, contact our school office to discuss this with the principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences related to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

At Mittagong Public School, we remain committed to working in partnership with you to address any issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. If you are having any difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, you might like to talk to the school principal or the school counsellor.

Every Day Counts... because children achieve better when they attend school all day, every day.

Every Day Counts... because going to school means getting a better chance at life.

Every Day Counts... because school helps children make friends and be happier.

Every Day Counts... because the law says children must go to school.



Access/Custody of children

Please keep the school informed about any Family Law papers. This includes information about custody orders and current interim orders to keep students safe at school.

Assemblies

Assemblies are an important part of Mittagong Public School's culture. Whole school assemblies are held throughout the year to celebrate significant events. Junior and senior assemblies are held on alternating fortnights in the school hall. These assemblies recognise the achievements of our students and provide opportunities for our students to perform for their peers and parents. Assembly dates are advertised on our school's web page and parents and family members are most welcome to attend.



Assessment of Students

At Mittagong Public School, our teachers use a range of assessment strategies to track student growth, determine students' learning needs and to set meaningful and current learning goals. In addition to school-based assessments, students also participate in the following state-wide assessments:

- **Kindergarten Best Start Assessment** – is a mandatory one-to-one assessment conducted to identify the literacy and numeracy skills of kindergarten students upon entry to school.
- **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check** – is a short assessment that tells teachers how students are progressing in phonics. The check takes approximately 5-7 minutes and is carried out by classroom teachers with each student individually. Teachers analyse the results and if necessary, plan additional, targeted support for students.
- **National Assessment Program** – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) – NAPLAN is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3 and 5. All students in these years are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar, and punctuation) and numeracy. NAPLAN is held in May each year and results are released in August.
- **Check-in Assessment** - Check-in assessments are online assessment for students in Years 3 to 9. The assessment can supplement existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and to help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

Asthma, Allergies & Anaphylaxis

Mittagong Public School has several students with allergies and, or anaphylaxis to nuts and other foods. We ask that families consider this information and the important role they can play in keeping our children safe and healthy by not bringing foods containing nuts to school. The sharing of food between students is discouraged due to these allergies. Parents of children with allergies and/or anaphylaxis are to provide an ASCIA plan, signed by a doctor, to the school. A meeting will also be held between parents and school staff to develop a Health Care Plan for the student with the allergy and/or anaphylaxis.

Bell Times

School times are 8:55am to 2:55pm. Students should not arrive at school before 8:25am unless they have a rehearsal, tutorial, or training event. The playground is supervised from 8.25am. Arriving at class on time is important and parents are responsible for ensuring that students arrive at school between 8.25am and 8.55am. Any student arriving after 8.55am is officially late and will have their attendance recorded as a partial absence. Students who arrive late must obtain a late pass from the office. Our school days ends at 2:55pm. Any student who has not been collected or has missed the bus will be supervised in the front office and parents will be contacted.

8:55 am	School Commences
8:55 am - 11:00am	Session One
11:00am - 11.30am	Break 1
11:30am - 1:30pm	Session Two
1.30pm – 2.00pm	Break 2
2:00pm - 2:55pm	Session Three
2.55pm	School Finishes

Bikes, Scooters & Skateboards

Students are permitted to ride bicycles, scooters, and skateboards to school. To help ensure the safety of others, students must wheel bikes and scooters and carry skateboards whilst on school grounds. Students must have helmets to ride their transport and items remain the responsibility of the owner.



Bullying

Bullying is not acceptable at our school. We actively reject all forms of bullying behaviours by maintaining a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. All members of the school community are active participants in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity and fosters positive relationships. Our school has a range of strategies and practices in place to prevent bullying and encourage positive student behaviour and wellbeing.



Bus Travel

Berrima Buslines provide many students with travel to and from Mittagong Public School. All students in Kindergarten to Year 2 are eligible for a free bus pass. Children in Years 3 to 6 are eligible for a free bus pass only if they live more than 1.6km from the school. To apply for a student bus pass, please visit: <http://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/howToApply>

Children travelling home by bus assemble under the Hall COLA at the end of each school day. Children are supervised in bus lines and escorted to their bus by the teachers on bus duty. Children are expected to behave in a polite and safe manner whilst travelling on buses. Bus drivers will report unsatisfactory student behaviour to the principal. If student behaviour is of serious concern, the bus company may revoke a student's bus pass for a period of time.

Canteen

Mittagong Public School Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) operate our school's 'Healthy Canteen'. The canteen operates Monday-Friday and sells nutritious, value for money food at recess and lunch. Online orders can be made at www.myschoolconnect.com.au or through the P&C tab on the Mittagong Public School web page. Alternatively, orders can be written on a paper bag with the money placed inside. Students place their lunch order bag in the 'Money Mouth' before school. No canteen sales occur before school. Children can purchase additional food items during recess and lunch. Parents and volunteers are most welcome to assist in the canteen. If you would like to volunteer your time in the canteen, please call our school office and ask to speak to the canteen manager.

Changes to Student Routines

Teachers must be advised of any changes to a student's routine (e.g., a change in after school arrangements). This information must be given to the teacher before the change of routine to ensure the safety of the student. You can contact the school by telephone or email or send a note to your child's teacher.

Change of Address & Contact Information

Parents are responsible for informing the school office of any change of address, telephone number, emergency contact or the child's medical status. Up to date details are crucial in case of an emergency. Please notify the school by email or complete the appropriate form available from the website or office immediately if:

- your address changes at home - proof may be requested
- your telephone number changes - mobile, home or work
- your child's designated emergency contact person's name or phone number changes

Class Organisation

Composite or cross stage classes are a necessary pattern of organisation in many governments and non-government schools across NSW and Australia. Multi-age classes are usually formed because of an uneven pattern of enrolment in the school. Educational research continues to confirm that multi-age classes do not disadvantage students academically and may benefit students emotionally and socially. The determining variable is the quality of teaching and learning. The staff at Mittagong Public School take considerable time and care in allocating students to classes. More information about class placement procedures can be requested from the school.

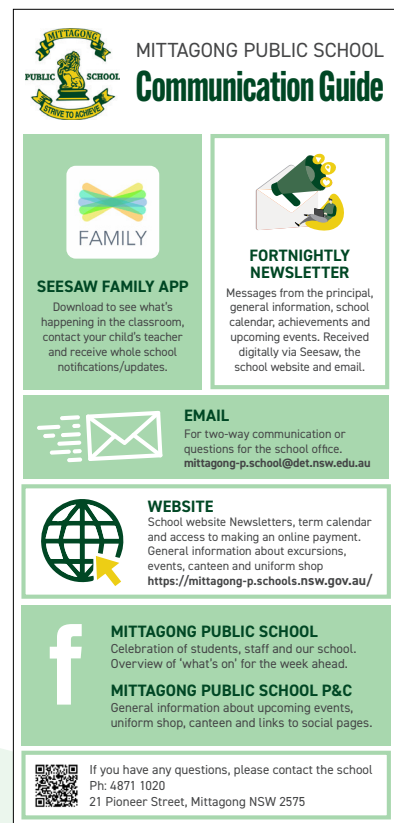


Communication between Home and School

We use a few different forms of communication to connect school with home:

- Mittagong Public School website
- Fortnightly newsletter – link sent via Seesaw and email
- Notes sent home
- Seesaw app
- Mittagong Public School Facebook page
- Mittagong Public School's Parent page

Our teachers are happy to discuss any concerns you may have. You are always welcome to call the school to arrange a time for this.



The infographic is titled 'MITTAGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL Communication Guide'. It is divided into several sections: 'FAMILY' with the 'SEESAW FAMILY APP' (download to see classroom happenings and contact teachers), 'FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER' (messages from the principal), 'EMAIL' (two-way communication), 'WEBSITE' (newsletters, calendar, excursions), 'MITTAGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL' (celebration of students), 'MITTAGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C' (events, uniform shop), and contact information (4871 1020, 21 Pioneer Street, Mittagong NSW 2575).

Consent and Permission to Publish

In our current enrolment forms, your consent will be sought to allow the school/ Department of Education to publish and/or disclose information about your child for the purposes of sharing his/her experiences with other students, informing the school and broader community about school and student activities, and recording student participation in noteworthy projects or community service.

This information may include your child's name, age, class, and information collected at school such as photographs, sound and visual recordings of your child, your child's work and expressions of opinion such as in interactive media.

The communications in which your child's information may be published or disclosed include but are not limited to:

- Public websites of the Department of Education including the school website, the Department of Education intranet (staff only), blogs and wikis
- Department of Education publications including the school newsletter, annual school magazine and school report, promotional material published in print and electronically including on the Department's websites
- Official Department and school social media accounts on networks such as YouTube, Facebook and Twitter
- Local and metropolitan newspapers and magazines and other media outlets

Parents should be aware that when information is published on public websites and social media channels, it can be discoverable online for a number of years, if not permanently. Search engines may also cache or retain copies of published information. Published information can also be linked to by third parties.

Curriculum

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) is responsible for the curriculum, Kindergarten to Year 12, for all NSW schools. The Australian curriculum includes:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) - History and Geography
- Creative Arts
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Dogs

The Companion Animals Act (1998) prohibits dogs on school grounds, except where the principal grants permission, which is considered for unique purposes. We request that no dogs are brought into our school grounds without prior permission.

Emergency Procedures

Procedures are in place to evacuate and lock down the school in the event of an emergency. The procedures are available in all rooms and we practise these regularly to ensure student safety.

Enrolment

Children are eligible to enrol at Mittagong Public School if:

- they are of school age (e.g., turn five years of age by 31st July in the year they start Kindergarten); and
- their primary place of residence is within the Mittagong Public School boundaries as defined by the Department of Education. Children who fulfil both of these conditions are automatically accepted.

Children who are of school age but live outside the school's boundaries can apply for a 'non-local' enrolment. The criteria for 'non-local' enrolment are set out in the school's Enrolment Procedures.

The ability of the school to confirm acceptance of a 'non-local' application is dependent on many factors including the number of vacancies and local enrolment trends. The school endeavours to inform parents as soon as possible but parents must understand that this may not be possible until the commencement of the new school year.





Excursions & Visiting Performers

Excursions are an essential part of a student's learning program as they provide students with stimulating firsthand experiences that enhance and support their classroom learning.

Students in all years from K-6 can attend excursions throughout the year.

All excursions are to comply with Department's Excursion Policy and Guidelines for the Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activities in Schools. The educational outcomes of planned excursions are linked with the current teaching program. All sporting activities are also classified as excursions. Visiting Performers and 'incursions' are part of the curriculum and students are expected to attend. Students who are not attending need to be encouraged to do so and teachers may need to contact parents to ascertain reasons for non-attendance. If it is financial, Student Assistance may be applied for through the principal. This is in the form of payment plans or subsidies. Students who are not attending the excursion are expected to be at school. All students are given the opportunity to attend unless their behaviour is of concern for their safety and the safety of other students. Students must return permission notes and money in an envelope and/or pay online prior to the excursion.

Fees & Voluntary Contributions

Costs of your child's schooling can include online or hard copy workbooks, excursions, visiting performances, camps, and programs. The school will send home a note for each of these items or activities. Our school offers a secure Department of Education 'Parent Online Payment' (POP) facility which is accessed through the school's website, or you can pay by cheque or cash via the front office.

Each year our school seeks the support of families through a General School Voluntary Contribution. This contribution will be used to supplement educational resources and programs. The payment of the General School Voluntary Contribution is a matter for individual parents and families and is voluntary. The funds generated by the General School Voluntary Contribution are used to support teaching and learning.

First Aid, Health & Medication

If your child is unwell, we ask that you keep them home until they have recovered. If a student becomes ill or is involved in an accident at school, he or she will normally be taken to the school's sick bay (in the administration block). If it is serious, the school will contact the student's parents. If this cannot be done, the school will attempt to contact the emergency contact number (given when the student is enrolled). In cases of a serious nature, the ambulance service will be called, and every endeavour will be made to contact the parents.

If your child has a medical condition, please see the office and/or principal so we can work together for the safety and wellbeing of your child e.g. allergies, asthma, epilepsy.

THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO BE UPDATED with changes of address, telephone numbers, emergency contact numbers and change of doctor. All Health Care Plans need to be regularly updated by parents, health care providers and, in consultation with the school.

As required by the Department of Education, medication can only be administered at school with the written authority of a parent or doctor.

- Teachers are not permitted to give medication
- Medicine is not to be kept in school bags
- Medication should be labelled with the child's name and dosage and handed in at the office. A form must be filled in at the office
- Only the required dosage should be brought to school

Gates

The gates around our school are locked between the hours of 9:15am and 2:45pm. The main gate (Gate 1) on Pioneer Street near the administration building is to be used by all visitors to our school. Visitors will need to use the intercom to inform our office staff of their purpose for visiting the school. Once inside, all visitors to our school must present to the front office to sign in.

High Potential & Gifted Students

At Mittagong Public School, differentiated and individualised learning takes place every day in all classrooms to meet the individual needs of students. Our teachers provide opportunities for students to extend themselves in their areas of strength, talent, and interest.

The Southern Highland's Academically Gifted Class operates at Moss Vale Public School every Tuesday over 3 terms. It offers students in Stage 3 the opportunity to work with other academically gifted students from other public schools throughout the Southern Highlands. Places in the Academically Gifted Class are limited, and entry is through an application and assessment process.

Homework

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practising, extending, and consolidating work done in class. Homework provides practise for students in planning and organising time and develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources. Additionally, it establishes habits of study, concentration, and self-discipline. At Mittagong Public School, homework expectations will vary depending on the child's age, the nature of work being undertaken in the classroom and other factors. If your child does not understand the work, please let their teacher know.

Immunisation

The New South Wales Department of Health recommends that all children entering school be fully immunised. Your child will be in contact with many other children and infections spread easily in these circumstances. Any unimmunised students may need to be excluded from school during periods of contagious infections.



Labelling Clothing

Please make sure that all your children's clothing and personal belongings are clearly marked with their name. This helps us to return lost property.

Late arrivals & leaving school early

Children arriving late to school will need to get a late arrival slip from the office for their class teacher. These will be recorded as partial absences. If students need to leave early, parents must provide a reason to the office or their teacher. Parents need to obtain an early leaver slip from the office before collecting their child.

Learning Support

Learning and Support Team (LST)

The Learning and Support Team plays a key role in ensuring that the specific learning needs of all students are met. Classroom teachers can refer students to the LST for advice and support. The members of the LST are: Principal, Deputy Principal, Learning & Support Team Coordinator, School Counsellor and School Chaplain.

Learning and Support Teachers (LaST)

Learning and Support Teachers provide targeted assistance to students in mainstream classes with additional learning and support needs. Support is provided through both withdrawal intervention programs and in-class support.

School Learning Support Officers (SLSO)

School Learning Support Officers work under the direction and supervision of classroom teachers. They provide in-class assistance to students with additional learning and support needs.

School Chaplain

The National School Chaplaincy Program is a Commonwealth-funded initiative to support the emotional wellbeing of students and the broader school community through the provision of pastoral care services. Our school chaplain builds relationships with, and supports the wellbeing of our students, staff, and the community through a range of activities. These activities include breakfast club/morning check in, lunchtime activities and offering support in classrooms.

School Counsellor

School Counsellors are experienced teachers who are also psychologists. They have been specially trained to assess and diagnose children to overcome problems encountered at school. Such problems may be with behaviour, learning or social and psychological development. Parents are contacted before a child sees the school counsellor. Parents or caregivers may ask to make an appointment to discuss matters of concern with the School Counsellor. Referrals are made through the Learning Support Team and Principal.

Library

The library is an important teaching and learning resource. Our teacher librarian works closely with classroom teachers to plan and teach units of work that support classroom learning and develop skills in gathering and using information. Your child will have the opportunity to borrow a book from the library each week. Every child must have a library bag to protect the books that they borrow and return books before more can be borrowed. Please ensure that the bag is labelled with your child's name and that they return the book on their library day each week. Our library is also open during break times for students to visit.



Lost Property

Lost property is located under the COLA outside the brick building. Lost property is sorted regularly, and labelled property is returned to the rightful owner. Clothing items which are not labelled are donated to the Uniform Shop to be sold as second-hand clothing. Any unlabelled lunch boxes, neglected property, dirty and damaged clothing will be disposed.

Meet the Teacher Evenings

During the first few weeks of Term 1, parents and carers are invited to our 'Meet the Teacher Evening'. This is an excellent opportunity to familiarise yourself with your child's class teacher, hear about the plans for the stage and the class for the year and to meet other parents. If you would like to discuss your child with the class teacher, we encourage you to make an appointment for another time.

Mobile Phones & Smart Devices

We understand that parents may choose to send their child to school with a mobile phone to provide a sense of safety and security when travelling to and from school. To support we have put the following procedures in place:

- If parents and carers wish their child to bring a mobile phone to school, children must hand these in at the office on entering the school grounds each day. Students can collect their devices from the office at the end of each day. This will provide an added layer of security as phones will be kept in a secure place during the day.
- Students catching buses home will be able to collect their phones from the office at 2:50pm. Parents and students are advised that in bringing mobile devices to school, they do so at their own risk and must comply with the school procedures.

Outside School Hours Care

Outside school hours care is available at our school through Wingecarribee Out of School Hours Care (WOOSH). This service operates 6:30am to 8:30am (before school) and 3pm to 6pm (after school). For more information regarding WOOSH, telephone: 02 4861 2866 or email: woosh@wsc.nsw.gov.au

Parents & Citizens

Our Parents' and Citizens' Association (P&C) meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held monthly at 6:30pm and are currently being held in the school library and depending on restrictions, online via Zoom. Our P&C is for parents and community members and endeavours to bring parents, teachers and community together. It provides an active support system for the school, through parents being able to help. e.g. working bees, canteen, uniform shop and fundraising. All parents are welcome to join and urged to come along, meet other parents, make suggestions and help us to plan interesting and worthwhile activities in line with the school's goals.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Parent-teacher interviews take place in Term 1 to discuss student progress. You are very welcome to contact the school to arrange to speak with your child's teacher if you have any concerns or questions at any time throughout the year.

Payments

The school offers a secure Department of Education Parent Online Payment (POP) facility which is accessed through the school's website under the Make a Payment tab. You can also pay by cheque or cash by dropping it into the payments box in the front office. If paying by cash, please ensure that the money is in a secure and sealed envelope with your child's name, class and what the payment is for. The school is usually unable to provide change for cash payments.

Performing Arts

Mittagong Public School offers a range of extra curricula Performing Arts opportunities for students to take part in. These include band, choirs, instrumental ensembles, and dance groups. Availability of these programs may vary slightly from year to year depending on staffing at the time.

Choirs

Mittagong Public School takes great pride in our choir programs. All students have opportunities to join our choir and perform at assemblies and special events.

Bandemonium

The Bandemonium program is an external provider and is open to students in Years 3-6. Younger students may join after consultation with the Band Director. Band members are asked to pay a tuition fee and instrument hiring fee if applicable each term, payable directly to Bandemonium.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

PBL is a comprehensive, integrated whole school approach to student wellbeing and behaviour. At Mittagong Public School we promote our three core values of respect, responsibility, and cooperation. These core values underpin all aspects of school life and are vital in our students becoming positive citizens.

Our core values are:

Responsibility

Respect

Cooperation

Pedestrian and Road Safety

Please observe the road rules around our school. We have a 2 minute 'Kiss and Drop' zone outside the school in Pioneer Street. The zone is active from 8am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 4pm. There are various disabled parking spaces around the school in Pioneer Street and Albert Street. These are clearly signposted. The school car park is for staff only. There is no pedestrian access. The only exception is for parents or students with a disability (please arrange this with the school). Bus zones are located in Albert Street and Lee Street. Please use the pedestrian crossing on Pioneer Street when crossing the road with your child.



Reporting to Parents

Parents will receive a written report twice each year at the end of Term 2 and 4. Keeping parents informed of their child's academic and social progress is an important function of the school. Reports are based on continuous assessment and evaluation. The report contains information that describes student achievement in terms of syllabus outcomes and indicators of learning as well as information about each child's personal and social development.



RFF (Release from Face-to-Face Teaching)

Classroom teachers are released from their class for two hours per week. Teachers use this time to plan, prepare and mark work. During this time, another teacher takes the class for specific lessons.

Student Representative Council (SRC)

A Student Representative Council (SRC) is a group of students elected by their fellow students to represent all students in the school. Our SRC involves students in year 6 working democratically to represent the student body in school decision-making and organise ways for students to participate in school life. Student leaders are elected at the end of Year 5 for the following year. Our SRC provides meaningful leadership opportunities for students and a voice for students in school decision making.

Special Religious Education & Special Education in Ethics (SRE & SEE)

Our students can attend scripture lessons each Thursday for 30 minutes. The lessons are taught by volunteer scripture teachers. Ethics classes are currently offered to some stages. These lessons are taught by volunteers.

Special Events and Extra Curricula Opportunities

Extra curricula activities vary each year. These can include learning, sporting, social or environmental opportunities. Special days make school life a rich and interesting place. These events may include sport, swimming, carnivals, in school performances, guest speakers, excursions, Premiers Reading, Spelling and Sporting challenges, public speaking, P&C Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day stalls, P&C organised events, Education Week activities, Book Week activities, Athletics Carnival, Presentation Day and Year Six Graduation. Mufti Days are sometimes held as fundraisers. A mufti day is where students do not have to wear school uniform. For this privilege they usually make a gold coin contribution to a selected charity.

Sport and Physical Education

Sport is a valued part of the curriculum. Students in Years K-6 participate in a minimum of 150 minutes of planned moderate activity with some vigorous physical activity across the school week.

Class/Stage Sport

Each week, classes and stage groups are taught a range of skills and games to develop students' coordination, fitness, and sportsmanship.

Gala Days

Throughout the year, Mittagong Public School students participate in Gala Days involving other schools within the district. The Gala Days are for students in Stages 2 and 3 and include the sports of cricket, AFL, touch football and soccer.

Carnivals

Swimming - Term 1 | Cross Country - Term 1 | Athletics - Term 2

Only students who are turning 8 years old or who are in years 3-6 are eligible to participate in carnivals. Place getters from school carnivals are invited to represent our school in district carnivals. Successful athletes may also qualify for regional and then state carnivals.

Swimming Scheme

Our school participates in an intensive Learn to Swim Scheme each year in Term 4. The program targets students who are non-swimmers as well as strengthening swimming and water safety. Students in years 2-6 are eligible to participate.

House Groups

Our school has four sporting house groups, and your child will be allocated to one of these on enrolment. They are Paterson (green), Lawson (yellow), Mackellar (blue) and Kendall (red). House based activities take place throughout the year to support many aspects of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education syllabus.

Gymnastics

Every year, our students have the opportunity to participate in a Gymnastics program run by an external provider. The program is a core component of our Physical Education (PE) program and is delivered on-site by experienced instructors. All students are expected to participate, and further information will be provided to families at the beginning of the school year.

Stages of Learning

Each Key Learning Area is divided into stages of learning. The stages are:

- Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)
- Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)
- Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)
- Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)

Sun Safety

School hats are to be worn all year round and can be purchased either from the school office or from the P&C uniform shop. The school has a “No hat- play in the shade” policy.

Support Classes

Our school is proud to be inclusive and hosts 3 smaller support classes for children with disabilities from Kindergarten to Year 6. Our support classes participate in all school and community activities on the same basis as students in mainstream classes. Every specialist class has a teacher and a school learning support officer. Class teachers, in consultation with parents and carers and allied health professionals, where appropriate, are responsible for planning personalised learning and support for each student. We host classes for children with:

- mild intellectual disability (IM class)
- multi-categorical (MC class) which include autism spectrum disorder and mental health

Applications for placement are through the Access Request process. An Access Request is arranged by our school's Learning and Support Team. A student is offered enrolment in a specialist support class in a mainstream school through a placement panel process. A student's eligibility is determined through the Department's disability criteria as well as the availability of a place in an appropriate specialist support class. Our school learning and support team reviews the placement of each student annually. Reviews consider all aspects of a student's personalised learning and support, including whether the current placement is best meeting their learning and support needs.

Technology

All students are given the opportunity to become proficient and safe users of technology. All our classrooms are equipped with interactive boards to enhance teaching and learning. In addition, all classes have access to Robotics and all stages have sets of mobile devices available including laptops and tablets for student use.



Uniform

All students are expected to be in school uniform and all clothing should be marked with your child's name. The Mittagong Public School uniform is based around the Mittagong colours of gold and bottle green and features the Mittagong Lion in the school crest. The uniform comprises:

- Gold polo shirt with school crest (available in short or long-sleeved varieties)
- Bottle green shorts, pants or skirt
- Short sleeved summer weight dress in bespoke green and gold check fabric
- Bottle green jumper, and choices of jackets with the school crest
- Bottle green bucket or wide-brim hat
- Grey socks for boys; white socks for girls
- All black school shoes or joggers



All uniform purchases (except shoes) from the Uniform Shop can be made online via fee-free credit card payment (preferred), by submitting an order form or making an appointment (during available hours). Please see website for further details: <https://mittagong-public-uniform-shop.square.site/>

Visitors

All visitors must register at the school office on arrival and obtain a visitor's badge.

Volunteers

Helping at our school is a great way to get involved in your child's education as well as getting to know the staff and other parents and carers.

You can help by:

- Listening to children read in the classroom
- Volunteering on sport days
- Volunteering in the canteen
- Volunteering in the uniform shop
- Helping supervise excursions
- Getting involved in fundraising activities

All volunteers must fill out a Working with Children Check (WWCC) Declaration for Volunteers, be fully vaccinated and present one form of government issued photo identification. These forms are available from the front office.