

Mittagong Public School

Newsletter



Cross Country and Fun Run

This week our annual senior cross country fun run was held around the lake. Thank you to the parents who helped out to make the day a success and especially Mrs Fisher, Ms Buchanan and Mr Konz who all did an excellent job of organizing and running the event. We are also grateful for the assistance of Bowral High students who were a great support! Mrs Farnese and our P&C also provided wonderful support through fundraising and a most welcome ice-block for the runners on the day! Thank you also to Mrs Smiltnieks and our P&C who organized our very successful junior event at school. It's great to see children have fun while staying fit! The fundraising money for our fun run is due on Thursday April 12 – the last week of term.

Lost Jackets

Each year we quickly end up with a large number of jumpers and jackets at the change of season. Can I please request that parents label these and other items so that we can return them to you when they are dropped or misplaced by your child. We also have a growing collection of lunch boxes. If you believe that any may belong to your child please drop in before or after school and check out the collection inside/outside the double story building. We will begin disposing of the unclaimed items at the end of term.

It is always helpful if you can add your child's name and class with a permanent marker or label on all their items so that they can find their way home. What is also of

great assistance to other parents is that you check your child's clothing to make sure what they have brought home is actually theirs! Accidental switches occur easily and a child can wear a jacket for weeks before discovering that it belongs to somebody else. Please do a random check to help us with this issue.

Term Two Begins on a Tuesday

Students will return to school on **Tuesday May**

1. Although teachers will be at school on the Monday, they will be engaged in training activities. The office will be open as normal.

Staff Car Park

Parents are reminded that there is no pedestrian access through our staff car park on Pioneer Street. Given the sad events in another school in the recent past we are also asking parents not to enter the car park in your car to drop students off. We hope these reminders will help keep our students safe and happy.

2018 NAPLAN

On 15-17 May 2018, all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate in the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

Students in Years 3,5,7 and 9 will participate in NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and



numeracy.

The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing, information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. All students in Years 3,5,7 and 9 are expected to participate in the testing. If you require further information about the testing, please visit nap.edu.au or speak with your child's teacher.

How can I help my child prepare for NAPLAN?

Help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that the tests are just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

We do not recommend excessive preparation. NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress.

Debating Workshop

Last Thursday the Year Five and Year Six Debating teams travelled to Bowral Public School to attend The Premier's Debating Workshop. This is an intensive introduction to debating and is invaluable to the students.

There is so much information to digest and so many rules and regulations to follow. The presenter told the children that debating is probably the hardest thing they will ever have to do at school!

Our children were brilliant and won the first competition of the day with their clever thinking and excellent rebuttal skills. We should be very proud of our students and I know they will do a great job representing our school.

Easter Egg Drive

Many thanks to all the families who donated eggs for the Easter Egg drive. You were extremely generous and we had plenty of eggs. Last week Meals On Wheels collected 112 beautifully wrapped eggs (thanks to Mrs Anderson, Mrs Ferguson, Mrs Parks and 5/6A). This week the SRC delivered 140 packages to The Abbey. It is wonderful to meet and contribute to our local community. Keep your eye out in the local paper and you may spot some MPS students delivering eggs! Our Easter Raffle was also very successful and we raised enough money to purchase the special eggs and the wrapping for all the eggs. Well done to the SRC for promoting and running the raffle each morning. Thanks again for your support and generosity.



Autumn Hat Parade

Another year of fantastic hats created by students and their families. It was a sea of warm colours and smiling faces. Thank you to all the parents and students for participating and to our teachers for helping the event run smoothly. Watch this space next week for photos.

Coles Sports for School Vouchers

Time is nearly up for collecting the Coles Sports for School vouchers. Please keep sending them in. This week is a double voucher week so I look forward to counting many more vouchers. Again, thank you to the wonderful families who have already donated so many to the school. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Ms Bowditch



Supporting your Child

Thank you to all of the families who attended planning meetings for their child. It is important that a positive and collaborative partnership between the school and home be established early. As leader of the Learning Support Team I would like to remind parents that it is important to keep your class teacher and the school up to date with your child's needs, which are constantly changing. Many parents have embraced this concept and are sharing reports from specialists including paediatricians, occupational therapists, speech therapists and psychologists. This exchange of information helps the teacher plan and cater for the students' learning needs in a more effective way. It also allows for a more consistent approach to helping your child achieve their goals.

Ms Bowditch AP Special Education

Fun Run

Thank you to our P&C for organising our K-3 Fun Run. All students participated in the Fun Run and especially enjoyed an icy pole treat to cool down with. Students have already been given their sponsor sheet to complete and collect money from sponsors.

Light the Way

Thank you to all those parents and students from last year's 5N and 4/5B and this year's 3/4 Rosellas and 2 Meerkats who baked for our cake stall to raise money to buy solar light kits to send to Uganda. As usual, it was a great success so thank you to all those who bought some yummy treats.



Our African themed mufti day is now on Wednesday 11 April in Week 11. Just a gold coin donation is needed to participate. You could wear yellow, dress in a national costume or as an animal of Africa. You are only limited by your imagination. We can't wait to see what you wear.

When the Students Become the Teachers

All students throughout Stage Three had the opportunity to deliver a presentation about one thing they were an expert in. For two weeks our classrooms were filled with experts sharing their valuable knowledge on topics such as camping, video editing, AFL, motorbike riding, cooking, Judo and even moustaches...yes, moustaches. It was a celebration of knowledge and all our students excelled with confidence and charisma, showcasing their intelligence and humour.

Last Wednesday MPS also celebrated Harmony Day Stage Three, after popular demand, re-enacted last year's 'pass the harmony ball video'. Be sure to check it out on our school's website and share with us the joy and laughs.

Lastly, I would like to inform all Stage Three parents/carers, that someone has spread a rumour that on Thursday 29 March confectionery will mysteriously appear in our classrooms in an allocated, yet unspecified time. Since the rumour, students have been eagerly working hard to design and create vessels to hold this foretold treasure. I would just like to inform our parents/carers that no confectionery will be allowed to be eaten by any student before our brave teachers have tried and tested them first. On that note, Stage Three teachers and staff members would also like to thank all our parents, carers and volunteers for all their efforts in making Mittagong Public School such a wonderful place. This school wouldn't be the same without you all - we appreciate you.



Aurora College
The virtual selective school for rural and remote students

Aurora College is NSW's first virtual selective school, offering a mix of online and residential school classes. The school provides innovative, flexible learning in a whole new context, by allowing students to connect locally and learn globally.

Aurora offers selective classes in English, mathematics and science to gifted and talented Year 7-10 students from rural and remote areas across NSW. Students connect with their teachers and classmates in timetabled lessons through a virtual learning environment.

The college also gives Year 11 and 12 students the opportunity to study subjects not available in their own school.

Aurora College offers students expanded career options through innovative partnerships with businesses and with scientific, cultural and tertiary education institutions.

For information on how to enrol, visit: www.aurora.nsw.edu.au/learn/enrol/

AURORA COLLEGE
IGNITING NEW WAYS OF LEARNING

NSW Education Public Schools

For further information about Aurora College, visit the our website www.aurora.nsw.edu.au or phone 1300 287 629

BOWRAL
SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

Partnership School Information Evening

TIME Tuesday 3 April 2018 at 5:00-6:00pm
LOCATION Bowral High School Library
Cnr Aitken and Park Rds, Bowral

regarding the cross country events please see Mrs Fisher - the convenor.

Poetry in First Language

Last Wednesday our senior Indigenous students were very privileged to take part in a poetry writing workshop with local author and ex Mittagong student, Kirli Saunders. Students were deeply engaged in a day long session that produced quality poems. Poetry in First Languages (PIFL), is delivered by Red Room Poetry. It celebrates, shares and preserves knowledge of First Nations languages and culture through poetry, music and art. PIFL seeks to support students to create poetry in First Languages by connecting them to First Nations Poets, Elders and Language Custodians on country through Red Room workshops. The underpinning focus is to strengthen the connection of First Nations students to country, language and community in order to empower them to feel pride in their cultural identities resulting in enhanced wellbeing overall. Beginning in January 2018, for three years, Red Room Poetry will be commissioning 15 First Nations poets from a range of communities across Australia to create and publish poems in First Nations languages. To complement our students writing, our school will be receiving an art work by a local artist Rhee Lotter that will help celebrate Poetry in First Language.

Cross Country

Well done to all our students who participated in our school Cross Country event on Tuesday this week. Students ran in age races through the beautiful landscape and bushland around Lake Alexandra. Thank you to all our parent volunteers and Bowral High School students for assisting in encouraging and guiding our students as they ran the course. Thanks to Ms Buchanan for her enthusiastic display of warm-ups pre-run.

Congratulations to those students who placed in the top 5 for their age race. They will qualify to represent our school at the District Cross Country on Thursday, 3 May (Week 1, Term 2). Notes will be given out over the next week once details of the district event are confirmed. If you require any further information





P&C News

Mittagong Public School P&C
mittagongpublicpandc@gmail.com

A big thankyou to the parents who have stepped in to fill the Treasurer, Fundraising Coordinator, and Mother's Day Coordinator roles. What would we do without you! Thankyou to everyone who volunteers in so many ways for P&C, and also those who support our fundraisers - without you we could not raise funds to provide technology and resources for your children.

We are still in need of a Friday Morning BBQ Coordinator: Unfortunately Toni, our current coordinator, has to step aside due to other commitments and we are seeking someone or a small team to take over this role, from next term. We will provide training and support. If you're interested or would like to find out more, please contact Sarah Farnese on 0414 963 383 or by email at sarah@farnese.me.

Cadbury Chocolate Fundraiser: Hopefully you have almost sold all your chocolates – all monies must be returned before next **Thursday 5 April**.

Run4Fun Fundraiser was launched this week in conjunction with the senior cross country. Your child should have brought home a sponsorship booklet which has a unique code should you wish to set up an online profile page to fundraise. Money is due back and/or to be finalised online by **Thursday 12 April**. (second last day of term). Don't forget your prize selections.

Clothing Pool: open next Thursday April 5, 8.30am, in Pioneer Cottage. A range of used school uniforms on sale. Bring gold coins and get ready for winter.

Harmony day was a huge success!

Thankyou so much to our volunteers on the day and the days leading up to the day. Without your help, the day

would not have been possible.

Thankyou to Natalie Dare for the donations of the most beautiful Lemon Myrtle cupcakes ever! It was so generous and greatly appreciated by the students.

Thankyou to Cakes by Beejay for donations of our recess treats. Check out the Facebook page for orders.

Winners of the drawing competition!

1st place: Olivia W. \$20 wish voucher.

2nd place: Mariah T. \$10 canteen voucher

3rd place: Charlotte Mc. \$5 canteen voucher

Runners up: Leylah M, Ushas, Hua-Xuan. Slushy vouchers.

Thankyou to all for entering.



School Calendar 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Term 1 March Week 9	26	27 3-6 Cross country	28 Cake stall Easters Eggs at Abbey House	29 Cake stall K-2 Hat Parade Junior assembly	30 Good Friday Public Holiday	31	1
Term 1 April Week 10	2 Easter Monday Public Holiday	3	4 PSSA touch trials	5 Clothing pool open 8:30am. Chocolate money due	6 Senior assembly Soccer Gala Day	7	8
Term 1 April Week 11	9	10	11 Mufti Day –African theme	12 Fun run money due Winter jacket orders due	13 Last day of term 1 Junior assembly with 2 Dingo item	14	15