

Mittagong Public School

Newsletter



ANZAC Day 2018

At dawn on 25 April 1915 Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed on the shores of the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey. They were part of an armed force made up of soldiers from various countries of the British Empire and its ally, France. They were attacking Turkey, an ally of Germany in the First World War.

This was one of the first major operations Australian troops were involved in. Although they tried their best in very difficult circumstances they were met with fierce resistance from the Turkish soldiers. Thus began an eight month campaign which ended with the evacuation of all troops in December 1915.

ANZAC Day therefore is not based on a celebration of a victory. It has become the day on which we remember all Australians who have served in all wars in which Australia has been involved. This includes the Second World War, when the Japanese attack on Asia brought conflict to our own shores for the first time.

This year ANZAC Day is on Wednesday 25 April. It is in the second week of the school holidays before the start of term two. To show our respect for the significance of the day, students from Mittagong PS will join other community groups to march with the returned servicemen and women. We start from the Information Centre in Mittagong and we will march to the War Memorial in the centre of town to join in the service.

We would appreciate as many students as possible to join our SRC in the march.

Please meet us at the Information Centre at 10:00am.

Students are to wear full school uniform and a school hat.

We will assemble all students in Railway Street after the Service at approx 11:30 am where they will be collected by their parents/carers.

Thanking you in advance.

Mr D Christodouloupoulos

SRC and Stage Three Coordinator

Melissa Perrine Visit

Mittagong students were privileged to meet local, ex Mittagong Public student and Para-Alpine Skier, Melissa Perrine. Mel won two bronze medals while competing at this year's Winter Paralympics in Pyeongchang and also was honored to carry the Australian flag at the closing ceremony. She graciously took time out of her very busy day to talk with our students about her recent and past achievements. Both students and teachers were inspired by Mel's encouraging words, that anything is possible and to strive to achieve to reach your goals.

Positive Rewards System Review

In response to our surveys and self evaluation process last year, it became evident that we needed to revise our processes for the Iron Lion or Positive Rewards System. Our growing student population and the associated work with letters home, and weekly record maintenance has challenged our capacity to readily manage the system as is. The expense associated with an expanding population has also been a factor.

Work has been undertaken by staff this term to review areas for improvement and we hope to have the system amended and in operation early next term. So far this year class awards have been distributed as usual but no student has been upgraded to the Iron Lion level as the progression through these levels is still in question as are the rewards that may be given to students as a result of their progress.

When we have completed the review, information will be provided to parents and students to ensure transparency. We are hoping that this review will lead to a sustainable system that is manageable and meets the needs of our school community.



Opportunity Classes for Year 5 in 2019

The time for applying for a placement in an Opportunity Class, 5 days per week at another school in the district is fast approaching. Opportunity classes cater for high achieving, academically gifted students who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic and social level. These classes help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Applications for opportunity class placement are considered mainly on the combined results of the Opportunity Class Placement Test and school assessments. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on **Wednesday 1 August 2018**.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2019, you need to apply soon. You will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address). Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from **Tuesday 1 May 2018** at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>. The application website opens on **Tuesday 1 May 2018** and closes on **Friday 18 May 2018**. No late applications will be accepted.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Selective Schools Unit for assistance after **1 May 2018**.

Enjoy the School Holidays!

I would like to thank all who have helped to make this term at our school a great one. I have been thoroughly impressed with the dedication of staff and parents in supporting our students. I wish all families a safe and happy break and urge everyone to take care on the roads. As the cooler seasons start to roll in please remind your children about being safe around heaters and fires, especially in synthetic material pyjamas. We want to see everyone back safe and sound after the break!

I hope you enjoy some good family time during the holiday period. After the break Students will return to school on Tuesday May 1st. Although teachers will be at school on the Monday, they will be engaged in training activities.



From Admin

Parent Online Payments - Thank you to all families using this easy to use payment method. I must remind you that you can only use this method for school payments only - not for canteen or P&C items.

Term 2 starts for students on Tuesday 01/05. Our office is open on the Monday 30/4 for all enquiries.

What can you find on our webpage? - Copies of our newsletters, coming events on the calendar, class news, breaking news, make a payment (POP), online forms; EOI, change of SRE and absentee note and lots more. www.mittagong-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/

Jacket orders - due at 3pm today, Thursday 12 April, \$40 each. We hope to have them delivered to school early next term.

Grandparents day

All students will be celebrating Grandparents' Day at Mittagong School next term (Term 2, Week 2). We invite all grandparents and 'grand friends' of children at our school to come along for classroom visits and a picnic lunch with their grandchild.

Special photos will be taken of the kindergarten children, please keep an eye out for the photo order form.

Who: All students from K - 6 and their grandparent

When: Tuesday 8 May 2018

Time: 12:10 - 1:10pm

What: Visit your grandchild in class and see their wonderful work. Visit the Book Fair in the library. Kindy children and their grandparents are invited into the library for a special photo.

Author visit

This year the school library will be hosting an author visit from Deborah Abela. Students from year 1 to 6 will be invited to attend her sessions. Deborah has won many awards for her books including the USBY Outstanding International book award.

When: Monday 7 May 2018

Where: Mittagong Public School library

Who: Yrs 1 - 6

Cost: \$4 per student

A note has gone out to all students that are invited to attend.

Library Book Fair, Term 2 Week 2

In Term 2 Week 2 (Monday 7th May, Tuesday 8th May, Wednesday 9th May) the library will be holding a Book Fair. Parents, grandparents and students are welcome to come and purchase a range of books, posters and

stationary items that range in price from \$1- \$30. The Book Fair will be operating before school (8:25- 8:55am) and at lunch time. Money raised goes towards more fabulous resources for our school so please come along!

Highland Strings

Rehearsals at St Jude's Church, Bowral

Thursday 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Open to students in years 3-6 who currently play the violin, cello, or viola.

Please note that the time has changed from last week's rehearsal.

Soccer Gala Day

It was with great excitement that Stages 2 and 3 from MPS attended the annual Soccer Gala Day at the Church Rd fields last Friday. After 3 postponements and a cancellation, the weather finally decided to agree with us and put on a hot day! Mittagong fielded no less than 30 teams on the day, with 300+ students attending the event. There was plenty of excellent footwork, passing and scoring, as well as great sportsmanship on display. Each team had the chance to play at least five games as well as attend a skills session with the Western Sydney Wanderers. Mr Berry from Colo Vale did a great job of organizing such a huge event.

Parents and teachers from Stages 2 and 3 had fun managing our teams and we'd like to thank them again, we couldn't take so many students without their help. The wonderful Stage Two parent helpers were Bec Houghton, Josh O'Neill, Graham Isedale, Angelina Jones, Sarah Pryor, Scott Lawrence, Glenn Turner, Cath Dawes, Jon-Paul Guseli, Christine James, Katie Hinton and Steve Myles. You all are awesome! The next Gala Day is in Term 3, hope to see you then :-)!

Stage 3 students had a fantastic day at the PSSA 2018 Soccer Gala day last Friday. I would like to extend my thanks to the wonderful parent helpers who made the day possible by managing a team. They did an excellent job helping out. The Mittagong Public School staff and myself are very grateful for all parents who help out with our gala days. Special thank you to the parent helpers: Michelle McTavish, Jonathan Bull, Tony Kinsley, Sylvia Brandmayr, Sarah Farnese, Louise Haskins, Ben Hughes, Fred Martin, Andrew Searle and Jen Ferrie.

Thank you again!



P&C News

f Mittagong Public School P&C
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Thank you to Jennifer White who was nominated and voted into the role of Treasurer at the latest P&C meeting – I'm sure you will learn the ropes in no time. We are excited that an enthusiastic parent has nominated to fill the role of Fundraising Coordinator which will become official at next P&C meeting. And with more good news, we have a new Friday Morning BBQ Coordinator for next term! Heather Mitchie has offered to co-ordinate this weekly fundraiser. If you would like to volunteer on the Friday BBQ or have any queries she can be contacted on 0428 624 567.

And while on the subject of the Friday BBQ, we would like to acknowledge **Kennards Hire** who very generously donate the gas for the BBQ each week. Please support this local business in return. Next Friday BBQ is Term 2, Week 2. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time at the school and have a lovely holiday!

Run4Fun Fundraiser: Money is due back and/or to be finalised online by TOMORROW (Friday). Don't forget your prize selections. The prize order will be placed over the holidays and prizes distributed next term.

Canteen: Thank you to our canteen volunteers who give up their time to prepare and serve food to our children. You do an amazing job and I'm sure your child is happy to see you working on canteen. Thankyou also to the parents who support our canteen with lunch orders. We hope to have our new online ordering system up and running next term and will then gradually phase out mykidslunchbox.com.au.

P&C Meeting: Our next P&C meeting is to be held on Tuesday 8th May at 6.30pm. A motion to amend our By-Laws (or Rules) that are attached to our P&C Constitution will be put forward. Our current by-laws were adopted by the P&C in 2009 but do not reflect current best practice or the way we are currently operating. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Farnese, President, on 0414 963 383.

Mothers' Day Stall: Wednesday and Thursday 9th & 10th May, a range of gifts will be for sale from \$1 - \$10.

School Banking: Just a reminder school banking day is Friday. Deposit wallets can be added to the school banking box before the Friday morning assembly. Our lovely school banking volunteers will collate all the deposits and have your wallet returned by the Monday following. Children receive reward tokens to encourage saving and this is also a great fundraiser for the school - P&C receives \$5 when a student signs up to school banking and a commission on each deposit made. For further information, you can contact one of our school banking coordinators: Amanda Hayes 0407 713 437, Mel Strachan 0488 130 148 or Kate Sarty 0418 499 545.

School Calendar 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Term 1 April Week 11	9 Melissa Perrin visit 11:30am	10	11 <i>Mufti Day – African theme</i>	12 <i>Fun run money due</i> Winter jacket orders due	13 Last day of term 1 <i>Junior assembly with 2 Dingo item</i>	14	15
Term 2 April/ May Week 1	30 Staff development - Pupil Free	1 Students return to school	2	3 <i>District Cross Country School ANZAC assembly</i>	4 <i>Junior assembly with 1 Possum item</i> <i>SRC leadership day</i>	5	6
Term 2 May Week 2	7 Book Fair Author visit 1 - 6	8 Book Fair <i>Grandparents Day</i> P & C meeting 6:30pm	9 Mothers' Day stall Book Fair	10 <i>Mothers' Day stall</i>	11 <i>Senior assembly</i>	12	13 Happy Mothers Day