

Mittagong Public School

Newsletter



Athletics Carnival

Last Friday our athletics carnival for Year 2-6 classes took place on Ironmines Oval. The weather was windy but the sun was lovely! I would like to thank all the parents who were able to attend and especially those who volunteered to help out with the events! Thank you too to Mrs Fisher and her team who organized such a great day of friendly competition!

Term Three Begins on Tuesday July 24

Next term students will return to school on Tuesday July 24. Our Education Department has gazetted the first day of that week as a staff training day. Some other Public Schools have elected to change their training day to later in the year but that is not the case with our school.

Reports Home Next Week

Next Friday our Semester One reports will be sent home with students. I'd like to encourage parents to take the opportunity to review the progress their child has made to date by sitting with them and discussing their grades. Please take note of the **Effort** rating for each area as this is a good indicator of the level of engagement your child has displayed. While a high **achievement** ranking is definitely worth commending, a high **effort** score is

something to really celebrate as this means your child is working hard. Some students can coast along and still achieve high grades, so the effort score is very telling.

Also keep in mind that on the scale of attainment (in Years One to Six reports) a "**Sound**" ranking is not a poor score. This ranking tells you that your child is performing where they *ought* to be at this time. I want to emphasize this as sometimes parents fear this rating reflects poorly on their child's achievement as if it were somewhat lacklustre or just barely getting there. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Without overgeneralising things, to score "**High**" your child would have been working at a similar level to one year above their year level. To score an "**Outstanding**", their work attainment is considered to be the equivalent of two years ahead. For this reason **High's** and **Outstanding's** are not lightly given out. In the "olden days" a middle grade literally meant an average student. If the whole year were outstanding, some students would still get "C" as there were only so many "A's and B's" to give out. The same was true if all the students were of low ability. Today, achievement rankings are **not** mathematically determined by averaging the number of students in the year between



a limited number of grades. Each student is ranked according to actual performance in assessment tasks. A “Sound” ranking means a student is performing well in everything and they are where they ought to be. So please don’t miss-read the grade and conclude your child needs to try harder because they did not get “High” or “Outstanding”.

An explanation of the meaning of each ranking can be found on the front page of each report for Years 1-6. If you have any questions for your child’s teacher in relation to their report please take the opportunity to attend a parent-teacher meeting. The details of those interviews and how they will work for your child’s class should be found with your child’s report. Some are scheduled for the last week of this term.

Please keep in mind that you can also contact our office at any time throughout the year to make an appointment with your child’s teacher. I hope that each family will take the opportunity to celebrate the successes of their children and perhaps discuss any areas where improvement in effort may be required.

LiveLifeWell

Wellbeing – Tips for a Good Sleep

- Have a regular bed time
- Have a routine e.g. bath and read a story
- Turn off screens at least 30 minutes before bed
- Get plenty of exercise during the day

The Mimosa concert was a success.

On Monday fifteen recorder students and nine strings students from years 3-6 travelled up to the Sydney Opera House for the Mimosa Concert. They joined 700 recorder and 200 strings students from around NSW to play in the famous Concert Hall. To prepare for this amazing event our students regaled the Senior Assembly. The recorder students played Different Worlds, the strings played Crossing Pirates Cove, and finally both combined to play Handle Highlights together. The day at the Opera House was a huge success with an incredible effort made by all students in such a short time. Thank you to the P&C for their support in establishing our strings group. Also, thank you to Elise Ali for conducting and inspiring our strings group and Ms. Trifonov for supporting our cello players. Lastly, thank you go to Ms. Ottosson for helping with our very excited recorder group. Let’s also remember that this would not have been possible without the support of the parents. Congratulations everyone! *Mrs Gardiner.*



From the front office

As the weather get cooler, we have a lot of junior students visiting our front office with wet clothes, due to not getting to the toilet in time.

We have now run out of spare clothes. It would be greatly appreciated if your child comes home in spare clothes, that these be washed and returned to the front office.

Ideally, it would be great if all junior students carried spare underwear and trousers in their school bag. That way they can change into their own clothes.

Athletics Carnival

With a bright sky and chilly winds, our students in years 2-6 attended our annual school Athletics Carnival (track events) last Friday. We had a very successful day starting with a large group of students arriving for the early 800m start. We saw record numbers in participation this year with students running in 200m and 100m events. A surprising 15 heats were run just in the junior boys 200m. I am very proud of the efforts and enthusiasm from our MPS students as they competed with their house friends and joined in the novelty events. Many smiles were seen throughout the day.

All events were run in heats and results collated and recorded as timed finals. Just to ensure all students are aware, if they placed 1st in their heat, their time may not have been recorded as 1st place in the overall times of their track event. Still a great effort and points are given to each house for every student who participates in all events, including novelty events. Ribbons will be given out during the morning assemblies this week.

We still have our field events to complete during school time, so final points for the winning house will be recorded on completion of all events.

All qualifying students will be invited to represent MPS at the WDPSSA Athletics Carnival on Friday 3rd August. Permission notes will be sent home at the beginning of Term 3.

Thank you to our House Captains, Ella, Niamh, Oliver, Mia, Danielle and April and our substitute captains Campbell and Olivia. They confidently led their sports houses in well rehearsed opening marches and chants throughout the day.

A big thanks to our teachers in their roles as they marshalled students and recorded results, encouraged and supported all students which is evident in the number of students participating. A special mention of thanks to Mr Luhr and Mr Konz in assisting in the set up and organisation of the track.

Thanks to Mr Cooke and Bowral High School students for assisting in the organisation of events throughout the day.

Finally a huge thank you to all our students, staff and parents for making our athletics carnival such a success. We are not able to have these wonderful experiences for our students without your continued support.

Michael Fisher - Carnival Coordinator

"But my friend is allowed to play that game!"

It's often tricky to know what online games are safe and beneficial for our kids. A helpful government website has information about games that some of our school aged students are asking to play.

Take a look at this website <https://esafety.gov.au/> and particularly head to the 'esafety information' tab to learn about the latest apps, how to protect your information and where to get more safety guidance. The information helps us as parents to decide whether an app, game or social networking site is appropriate for our own children and our family.

Sarah Bull- Pastoral Care

Stage 2 Learn about our Local History at Berrima

We were very worried that the weather was not going to be in our favour, but yes it all worked out!

Stage 2 visited Berrima on Wednesday and Thursday this week, taking in all the sights and sounds of a by-gone era of the Southern Highlands.

The children learned about our local history through the eyes of locals of the past. Ten volunteers from the Berrima District Historical Society described living conditions, school experiences and work history of the early European settlers in the Southern Highlands.

The children also visited Berrima Courthouse to catch a glimpse of our convict history. They were mesmerised by the mannequin display of the first trial to be held in Australia. And they all survived to tell the tale!

Stage 2 Anti-Bullying Focus Day

Next Tuesday, 26 June all Stage 2 students and the Year 2 students from 2/3 Echidna will take part in a day of lessons which focus on Anti-Bullying strategies. This unit is a mandatory unit which is studied each year. The teachers all deliver a component of the unit through fun, non-threatening, engaging activities that include discussions and poster making. The activities are all derived from the Bullying No Way! website and can be viewed by following this link <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/>.

Should there be any concern or if parents wish to discuss this matter further or clarify the content of this day, please feel free to contact Mrs Penn, the Stage 2 leader.



P&C News

Mittagong Public School P&C
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MOVIE NIGHT SUNDAY 1 JULY – DON'T MISS OUT!

– 2 sessions 12.00pm or 3.30pm. There is still time to book your tickets - get your money and order forms in ASAP so you don't miss out. It is first in best dressed so include the DATE (day your form was handed in) on your form so we can assess who was first in. The pink form went home last week with all the details of times, movies, and food!

We will also be selling raffle tickets before school and at lunch time. The prizes are amazing and we would like to thank our sponsors:

Castle kingdom, Mcdonalds Mittagong, Neenys playhouse, Highlands ten pin, Bowral Sweets and treats, Highlands health club, Highlands Fresh.

Tickets are 50c each or three for a dollar.

The winners will be announced on Monday 2nd of July.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS WEDNESDAYS – Cindy is short on Wednesday volunteers, if you can help out on canteen please contact Cindy on 0435 842 035 or drop a note to the front office.

Mittagong Blue Light Disco We thought it would be fun if we had a masquerade theme, let see how many different masque's styles there will be, mums and dads welcome to join in. If you don't want to wear a mask that's ok as well, just come and have some fun singing and dancing with your friends out of the cold. If you are looking to have a birthday party, please contact the RSL for help! There are a number of vouchers given out by ticket draws, only those who pay to enter receive a ticket in the draw.

Venue: Mittagong RSL

Date: **Saturday 30 June 2018**

Times: 4pm to 6.30 pm

Cost: \$5.00 per child 4 – 14 years

Parents and children under 3 free.



School Calendar 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 8	18 Book club due <i>Mimosa concert</i>	19	20 Yr 4 Berrima <i>SRC meeting</i>	21 Yr 3 Berrima <i>Clothing pool 8.30am</i>	22 Senior assembly	23	24
Week 9	25	26 Southern Stars	27 Debate at MPS	28	29 Junior assembly with Kinder item Student reports home	30	1 Movie Night
Week 10	2	3 Yr 5 Hyde Park P&C meeting 6:30pm	4 Parent / teacher interviews	5	6 Last day term 2 Senior assembly	7 School holi- days begin	8