

Mittagong Public School

Newsletter



SASS Recognition Week

Next week is the week we recognise the amazing contribution our support staff make to our school and its community. Perhaps you would like to make an expression of thanks in some way to our office staff, teachers' de costanzo aides or our general assistant? I'm sure they would love to hear that you think they do a great job! We are very fortunate to have such a committed team here, so please join with us in celebrating their efforts. Chocolates or cards are always appreciated-despite what they may tell you!

School Attendance

Our school is always working towards the goal of improved student attendance. We aim to reduce the number of whole day absences as well as part day absences. We also hope to reduce unexplained absences by having notes from parents any time a child is away for a full or part day.

How can you assist?

We encourage parents to send their children along to school every day that they are well enough to be here. There are times when students will miss a day because they just don't feel like coming or perhaps a sibling is at home for the day. We would like to avoid this happening wherever possible. Also if a child has a

medical appointment you are encouraged to bring the child to school for the rest of the day when possible. If your child is late to school or has to leave early, please write a note explaining the reason for the absence.

Why is this important?

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school. Whilst our school as a whole has a fairly average pattern of attendance compared to other schools, at times there are students who have a significant number of whole or part day absences each term. Some students are habitually late for reasons that are avoidable with a little more planning or commitment. Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day that it is open for students. The following information from the Department of Education may be helpful to parents:

Arriving at school and class on time:

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

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.



My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

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. Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

• Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the support your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

• Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

• Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

MPS Pride

MPS is pleased to announce that the following students have achieved a place in the MPS Pride:

Hayley : 5/6 Chameleon

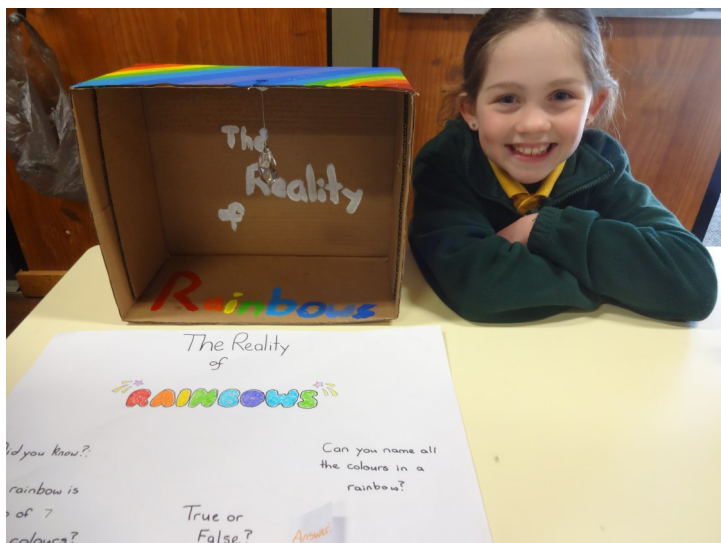
Mackenzie C: 5/6 Chameleon

Ella : 5/6 Chameleon

Annabelle: 5/6 Chameleon

Ben : 5/6 Chameleon

These students have achieved awards for demonstrating all three of the school values: Respect, Responsibility and Cooperation. Well done!



Coles Sports for Schools

Thank you again to all the wonderful families that brought in Coles Sports for Schools vouchers. The equipment has arrived and will be available for student use shortly.



The Magic Flute

Students were fortunate to attend The Magic Flute performed by Opera Australia. It was a great opportunity for students to develop their appreciation of musical storytelling. The performance was outstanding and the students enjoyed the show.

K-2 Tabloid Carnival

On Friday 21 September (Week 9), all students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will participate in our annual tabloid carnival. The carnival is a fun activity morning where all students can participate and have some fun. Students should wear appropriate running shoes and they may wear their house colours Lawson - Yellow, Mackellar - Blue, Kendall - Red and Paterson - Green. The activities will take place on the field from 9:15 - 10:55. Parents are welcome to come along as spectators and have morning tea with your child.

Stage One Excursions

Local Area Walking Excursion - To support students' learning in Geography this semester, all Stage One classes will be participating in a walking excursion around the local area at the end. Students will have the opportunity to identify features of some of the places in our local area and look at ways people interact with and care for these places. Classes will attend the excursion on the following days: **Monday 24 September 2D & 2Q, Wednesday 26 September 1P & 1/2B, 1K & 2M and Friday 28 September 1W & 2/3E**. There is no fee to this excursion, please return the purple permission note to class teachers.


Wollongong Science Space Excursion - As part of Stage One's Science studies, they will visit **Science Space** in Wollongong. On this excursion students will visit the planetarium, watch a science show and explore the hands on science exhibits. Classes attending on **Tuesday 30 October 2018**; 1P, 1/2B, 2D, 2Q and Year 2 Gib students. Classes attending on **Wednesday 31 October 2018**; 1K, 1W, 2M, 2E and Year 1 Alexandra students. The cost of the excursion is \$27. Please return notes (fluro pink) and money by the 28 September 2018 (Week 10 Term 3). No payment or notes will be accepted after this date.

Science Fair

Our annual Science Fair is on again this year. Stage Three students have recently placed their science robes on, and have been busily researching, investigating and experimenting on new and exciting projects to wow you. Students will be ready with their projects and any answers to questions that you may have on Wednesday 5 September. The fair will commence at 11:30am in our school hall. All parents and friends are invited to attend from 11:30 in our school hall. We thank you for your support of this exhilarating program. It is valuable in allowing students to practice their research, planning and construction skills in an enjoyable way. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs C Williams

School Calendar 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 6 Aug	27	28 Fathers Day Stall OZ Opera	29 Yr 4 Fitzroy Falls	30 	31 Senior assembly	1	2 Happy Fathers Day
Week 7 Sept	3 SASS Recognition Week	4 P&C meeting	5 Stage 3 Science Fair	6	7 Tag Gala Junior assembly	8	9 Vintage Car Day
Week 8 Sept	10	11 Book Club Due	12 Return Stewart House bags	13 <i>Senior Choir busking</i>	14 Senior assembly	15	16
Week 9 Sept	17	18	19	20	21 K-2 Tabloid day Junior Assembly	22	23



P&C News

Mittagong Public School P&C
 mittagongpublicpandc@gmail.com

P&C Meeting next Tuesday 4th September 6.30pm all welcome to come along. Please contact P&C if there is any matter you would like raised and it will be added to the Agenda.

Happy Fathers Day for Sunday to our Dads and Grandads, hope you enjoy your day and your gift from the Father's Day Stall. A massive thank you must go to Angelina Marcon-Jones who coordinated the Father's Day stall. She did an amazing job organising, ordering, pricing and wrapping gifts and ensuring it all ran smoothly on the day. Also thanks to those who helped with gift wrapping (sorry I don't know your names). A thank you must also go to the small band of helpers on the stall – Jen White, Jody Grimes, Kate Sarty and Sarah Farnese – who managed the hordes of children choosing gifts!

FROM THE CANTEEN:

Volunteers: We are still short on Fridays. Contact Cindy on 0435 842 035 if you can help.

Fruit & Veg Month starts next week and will run for the rest of the term! The theme for this year's Fruit & Veg Month is "Happy Fruit & Veg'tember". Canteen will have daily fruit & veg specials. We will be giving out stickers for purchase of fruit and veggie items and there will be a competition between classes with the class earning the most stickers receiving a prize. Make sure you check out the Canteen Facebook page over the next few weeks to keep up to date with fruit and veggie month specials! Our hope is that the Fruit & Veg month will result in improvements in students' knowledge and behaviour towards eating fruit and vegetables.

Vintage Car Day Sunday 9th September (10am to approximately 2pm) to be held on the school grounds and catered by P&C. Entry will be by gold coin donation – you will be able to see a variety of vintage cars on display and P&C will be running a barbecue, cake stall and market stall (produce and plants).

We are asking for donations of: cakes, scones, sweets etc (cake stall) and succulents, plants, fresh produce or herbs (market stall). Please bring any donations to the canteen next Friday (7th September), give to a member of P&C or bring to the stall on Sunday morning. We still need some VOLUNTEERS to help with the sausage sizzle, cake stall, market stall and to collect gate donations – please see below for any gaps you would like to fill. Thankyou for helping P&C support our wonderful school!

TIME	BBQ	CAKE/BOOK/MARKET STALL
8AM- 10AM SET UP Sarah Stokes and Jay Stokes all day Sarah Farnese on coffee		Angela Hartnup Noemi Bull
10am - 12 noon	Sarah Pryor?? Matt White Jecca Blake	Angela Hartnup
10AM – 12PM		Jecca Blake
12PM – 2PM	Amanda Collins Ryan Collins Annie DiNatale	Cath Dawes Paula Williams Paul Williams Jecca Blake
2PM-3.30 PM PACK UP	Paul Williams Annie DiNatale	Cath Dawes Paula Williams Jecca Blake