Thank you for making the effort to drop them a note or a card to say thanks for making a difference! We have such fine teachers in our school and students enjoy a world class education in NSW so there is a lot to celebrate!

Classes for 2016

At this point in the year we begin to consider class structures for the following year. I would like to ask parents who may be moving or taking an extended vacation to please let us know in writing as soon as possible. This will allow us to either take your child’s placement off the class lists for next year or keep them on while they are still on vacation. Also if you have a particular request related to classes next year, could you please put this in writing and forward it to me for consideration. We will do what we can to accommodate reasonable requests where they do not run at odds with the broader educational factors.

Kindergarten Orientation

Yesterday was our second Orientation Day for Kindergarten students beginning in 2016. Next Wednesday new students will have their last opportunity to meet fellow enrollers from 9.30am-10.55am and spend time in a big school classroom. We encourage anyone who knows of potential enrollers to remind them of this opportunity to get acquainted. If you require any further information regarding enrolment, please contact our friendly office staff.

Teacher Appreciation Week

This week has been Teacher Appreciation Week at Mittagong Public School and I would like to thank the many parents and students who have been letting their teachers know they are appreciated!
Building Your Child’s Reading Skills

Here are some simple tips to encourage your child to become a strong reader and a book lover for the rest of their lives.

Share a book at home
Children love to hear a story read aloud. Try reading with different voices, lots of emotion, invented sound effects and funny faces. Change the tone in your voice and vary its loudness or softness. Have fun and enjoy it. It’s a good idea to practise reading before sharing a book. Listen to your child talk about the story and the pictures. Try asking your child which parts of the books they found exciting, funny or different.

Research the Internet
When kids use the internet they need skills and knowledge that are different from those found in books and other printed materials. These skills include such things as links, images, icons and searching.

The internet is a wonderful resource for finding things to support your child’s literacy development. If you are searching for a good book to read to your child, try entering a publisher or an author’s name into a reliable search engine such as Google. Of course it is always good to supervise your child’s access on the internet as there are many traps for young players so to speak. Keeping the internet linked computer in a shared space in the house is a great way to help keep things safe!

Gymnastics 2016

A reminder, that all students in K – 6 will participate in a Gymnastics program in Term 1, 2016. The cost is $28 per student for an 8 week program. If you would like to start making payments now, please see Mrs Luhr in the office.

Kendall House FunDay!

This term it is Kendall House’s turn to host the last FunDay event for the year. If your child is in year 3-6 and is a member of Kendall House, remind them to attend regular house meetings and make plans for some fun and creative fundraising ideas. Watch this space!

Live Life Well

No time for breakfast? Try some of these quick breakfasts children can enjoy “on the go”.

- reduced-fat yoghurt, or a yoghurt drink.
- reduced-fat milkshake
- healthy cereal in small plastic bag (a small carton of milk can add a calcium boost)
- slice of banana loaf or other low fat fruit loaf.

PSSA State Athletics Carnival

We have had some outstanding achievements in sport this term. Four MPS students attended the State Athletics Carnival in their individual events. Well Done to Justin W on coming 15th in Senior Boys Shot Put, Riley O on placing 6th in 11yrs High Jump, Jackson H in Junior High Jump and Jacob B placing 11th in 8years 100m track event. These are unique opportunities where our students gain experience and develop their personal level of athleticism. Thanks to our parents who supported their children in these events. A big thank you to Mrs Ottosson and Mrs Bahls for giving up their time to assist these students in training in preparation for their events.
PSSA Cricket Gala Day

Last week we had a spectacular day of cricket at the PSSA Cricket Gala Day. All stage 2 students who attended had a great time and enjoyed playing in the T20 challenge against other local schools. The weather was bleak at first but in true Highlands tradition, the mist lifted and made way for a fine day. While the games are non-competitive, the aim of these gala days is to have fun and allow all students the opportunity to play sport. Thank you to Paul Brockley, Cricket NSW for running the games on the day, and the Moss Vale High School students who umpired the games. A huge thanks to Mr Leith who stepped up, in my absence, for overseeing the coordination of schools on the day. It’s important to remember that these days could never occur without the support of sports coordinators, our local community of schools, the PSSA, our teachers, parents and enthusiastic students.

Swim School

Swim school places are filling fast. Parents considering sending their children to Swim School are urged to return the notes and money as soon as possible. Should parents be concerned about finances in regards to swim school, please approach the school to discuss this matter. Parents may speak to their child’s class teacher, Mrs Penn or Mr Mansfield. Swim School is offered every year for students from Year 2. Year 2, 3 and 4 will be given priority in this very important and valuable opportunity. The cost of the Swim School is slightly greater this year due to the need to move the lessons from Mittagong Pool to Moss Vale Pool. We request that parents consider this valuable opportunity and submit notes and money at your earliest convenience.
CBA Visit Stage 2

To enhance our studies in ‘Money Matters’, Stage 2 (including 2P) had a visit from the Commonwealth Bank yesterday to discuss the need to be smart when dealing with money. We thank Miss Michael for organising this educational experience.

Year 4 Camp 2016

Further to our item last week, it was mentioned that there would be a survey distributed this week regarding moving the Year 4 Camp for 2016 to Optimum Outdoor Experience Camp at Fitzroy Falls. Unfortunately, we are awaiting final costing from the camp coordinators before we can send the survey home. We hope the costings will be available next week so we can distribute the survey.

Stage 3 go to Canberra

Students from Stage Three have been very busy and the excursion to Canberra is over and work is being done around finding out how we are governed and how democracy works in Australia. Canberra is always a good place to visit and if you haven’t been in a while I suggest a family trip to all the main tourist sites is well worth while, especially the National Art Gallery. Thanks to Mr Abbott, Ms Buchanan, Mrs Fisher, Mrs Stafford and Mrs Anderson for giving their time so enthusiastically. Our teachers acknowledge that the value of the excursion is more than just the educational learning and that the social learning that the student’s experience from being away from home for the evening is also very valuable for some. The behaviour of the students was brilliant and they continued to display the manners and thoughtful-ness that defines our school.

In class assessments

All teachers are currently conducting assessments to compile the end of year reports on how students have achieved in the stage outcomes in all subjects. There have been a few changes to the student report layout this semester and we hope that the information provided on your child gives a more easily understood picture of how well they have achieved the outcomes for their year. Remember that a ‘C’ is not like a ‘C’ in the old days when we went to school. A ‘C’ today means that your child is doing well and successfully doing the work that is required. A ‘B’ and an ‘A’ means that your child is achieving beyond most of their peers.

Mobile Phone Recycling

We have been approached by a group called ‘Gorilla Girls’ who have asked that we approach the community to consider sending us their old broken or out-dated mobile phones, MP3 Players and chargers. These will be collected by this group who will organise for a mineral called Coltan which is used in these devices to be recycled. This drive is to reduce the need for illegal mining of Coltan in sensitive areas which are the natural habitat of Gorillas. Our SRC have decided to support this group and would be grateful to anyone who would support us in this by sending their old redundant devices to school to be collected at a later date.

Thanks Gavin Murray

P&C News

Canteen: Thank you to all the parents who supported our Red Food Day yesterday by ordering or allowing their children to bring spending money to school. The kids look forward to special treat days like this! Also thank you to volunteers who helped out on the day. All our canteen volunteers are appreciated – without them we could not keep our canteen open.

Family Fun (draiser) Night: Sunday 8 November from 4.30pm to 6.30pm. Time is running out to book. Tickets will not be on sale at the gate so make sure you send your pink form back by tomorrow (Friday 30 October) so you don’t miss out on the sausage sizzle, family games, scavenger hunt, trivia and general fun catch up with other families, and the opportunity for Santa Photos.

School Sunshades Sunglasses - orders close tomorrow 30 October.

Facebook: Are you on Facebook LIKE our Mittagong Public School P&C Facebook Page.

Email: We now have a P&C email address mittagongpublicpandc@gmail.com
Congratulations to the students who received an award at the Assembly on Friday 23/10/2015

**BRONZE LION**
KA: Aidan, Delaney, Rory, Mattilda, Addison
IL: Alannah
2S: Armani, Ellah, Hallie

**SILVER LION**
KA: Isabella, Ava, Amelia, Samuel
KS: Thomas, Tane
1/2F: Monique, Phoenix
2S: Brock, Jacob, Will, Ben, Mackenzie, Thomas
1E: Samuel, Isabelle
2/3P: Austin, Xanthe
1C: Mackenzie, Abigail, Jesse, Jack G, Abbey, Jack W, Brody, Rhiannon

**GOLD LION**
KH: Amelia
1C: Sofia, Lucas, Aiden
1E: Erica
1L: Sebastian
2S: David
1/2F: Jason, Aimee, Olive, Alec
## School Calendar 2015

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>Kindy Orientation 2</td>
<td>Halloween Food Day</td>
<td>3/4 CBA visit</td>
<td>Senior assembly</td>
<td>Sunglasses order due</td>
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<td>Nov Term 4 Week 5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 School Council 5:30pm</td>
<td>P&amp;C mtb 6:30pm</td>
<td>4 Kindy Orientation 3</td>
<td>5 Year 6 cake stall</td>
<td>6 Chess</td>
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<td>Nov Term 4 Week 6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 Kindy Symbio</td>
<td>11 Social Skills Show</td>
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<td>Nov Term 4 Week 7</td>
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<td>19 Kendall fun day</td>
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<td>Junior assembly</td>
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### Community News

**St Paul's Community Fair**

**Sunday 8th November 2015**

**Art & Photography Competition**

Judged by local Artist & Photographer Corinne Dany

**Entry is Open to All**

Contact us at stpaulscommunityfair@gmail.com for entry details or pick up the entry form at the school office.

18 Garrett Street Moss Vale

**Age Groups for Entry**

- Infants: Kindergarten to Year 2
- Primary: Year 3 to Year 6
- Senior: Year 7 to Year 12
- Open: Adults

**Photography Topics**
- Friendship
- Learning
- Prayer

**Art Topics**
- Landscape
- Portrait
- Still Life