Reports
On Monday our Semester Two 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. Take note of the Effort rating for each area as this is a good indicator of the level of engagement your child has displayed. Also keep in mind that on the scale of attainment 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 emphasise 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 too much, 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 “C” grade meant an average student. Today C or “Sound” often means a student performing very well in everything, so don’t misread the grade and conclude your child needs to try harder.

Presentation Day
Next Monday our Presentation Day awards ceremony will be held at Mittagong RSL at 9.30 am. Parents are most welcome to attend and join in the recognition of excellent student achievement. Permission notes must be returned for students to attend this out of school excursion, so parents are reminded to please complete these and return them by the due date which is tomorrow, Friday December 4. Students not attending will be supervised at school until the rest of the school returns.

Parent Survey
Parents are invited to complete an on-line survey to give us some feedback on our school. The questions are simple and if you do not choose to add comments it can be completed in less than a minute. The link is as follows but it can also be accessed through our school website:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TQ9CPDN

We are always looking to review and where possible improve or maintain quality programs so we would be grateful for the feedback.
That conclusion is better read from the effort score. If you have any questions for your child’s teacher in relation to their report please contact our office to make an appointment. Our staff will be happy to answer any queries.

Students finish school on Wednesday December 16 and resume next year on Thursday January 28, with the exception of new Kinder students who will begin classes the following week. Each of these children will shortly receive an allocated time to visit school and complete their Best Start Kinder evaluation prior to starting class.

**Kids on Show**
Last Friday saw the opening of the Kids on Show exhibition at the Bowral and District Art Society which showcases art from the local primary schools. Twenty students from Kindergarten to Year 6 from Mittagong had work submitted for judging. The overall standard of work was extremely high but nevertheless, Cavell M. from 6B managed to secure a Highly Commended for his life-like ceramic gecko. The Year 6 Geckos featured again with a Commended in the category For Most Interesting Class Effort. It just proves that clay does make you happy! We have the certificate to support this theory.

**Gib goes 3D**
The boys in the Gib class have created 3D Christmas cards under the skillful direction of Mrs Stafford. It took a few lessons to complete the 3D cards as they require accurate measuring, folding and assembly. Each student chose their own decorations to give each card its own unique style. These cards are amazing as they will fold flat into an envelope then pop up again when they are opened by the lucky recipient. Pop up cards can be adapted for all special occasions. If you are feeling creative you can get the instructions on this website: [http://dianebarnes.blogspot.com.au/](http://dianebarnes.blogspot.com.au/) using the search terms ‘pop up cards’.

**Trainworks**
Last week many classes took part in a Community Art project for the Trainworks in Thirlmere. It’s an Anzac Centenary project called ‘Lives on the Line’. A local artist, Celeste Couke, has coordinated the project which involves clay work with press moulds. Celeste had made moulds based on small objects like keys, badges, whistles etc – the type of
experiences for which Mittagong Public School is renowned. The annual Volunteers’ Morning Tea is a lovely opportunity for all these groups of valuable participants to engage with staff informally and catch up with one another.

People keen to participate in our school as a volunteer for 2016 are invited to contact the school to find out how they can be of assistance. We gratefully accept and encourage people to offer as little or as much time as they can, to contribute to the education of our students.

Once again, ‘Thank you volunteers of 2015’. We trust that your experience helping at Mittagong Public School is as rewarding for you as it is for the school and its students.

Stage 2 News

What a wonderful day we had at our Stage 2 Market & Grandfriends Day on Wednesday. So many Grandfriends joined in with the fun and games and everyone seemed to enjoy our fun Stage 2 dance. The sausages went down a treat and many a book went home to fill empty bookshelves. Overall, a very successful and enjoyable experience. Many thanks to Miss Michael who coordinated this event and to the other stage teachers for their eager participation. We await the final tally of money raised in the hope that we have raised enough money to fund our own end of year class pizza parties!

Stage 2 students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to attend the musical production of Annie at Frensham. Many thanks to Mr Murray for organising our attendance.

Food, Glorious Food

Last Friday, 6B indulged in a bit of Asian cooking making some delectable delicacies such as fried rice and vegetable rice paper rolls. Chopping, sorting, combining, stirring were all attempted and sometimes achieved. Only chopsticks could be used for consumption which made eating more of an endurance sport. Luckily they had already had lunch! Some comments heard were “This is hard work!” “This is a good way to stay slim.” “Why won’t she let me use a fork?” “I’m starving.” One young man decided seconds wasn’t enough...

‘Thank you’ to our wonderful volunteers

Last Thursday, our annual Volunteers’ Morning Tea was well attended by a raft of volunteers from around our school. There were SRE (Scripture) Instructors, canteen, P&C, School Council, Literacy Lions, Multi-Lit, Library helpers and many, many classroom helpers on hand to receive thanks from the staff and students of our school.

Our school relies on the goodwill of its volunteers to provide the vast range of quality educational personal items found in the mud on the Western Front following the war. They are creating 8,500 objects – one to represent each of the railway men – and they will eventually be assembled mosaic-like into a beautiful artwork that will be installed into the floor of the museum. Feedback from staff and students has been overwhelmingly positive. Celeste and Ann, from Trainworks, were both extremely impressed with the interest and behaviour of the students. A trip to the museum would be worthwhile when the artwork is complete.
Swim School
This week sees the conclusion of swim school for 2016. The students have gained a great deal of benefit from this two week intensive program, which is a great supplement to weekly swimming lessons or a wonderful introduction to developing vital life-saving skills. We must thank Mrs Bahls, Mrs Fisher and Mrs Schymtizek for coordinating this program and accompanying our students each day.

Positive Welfare System
As many students are now receiving their Gold Lion Awards I would like to remind parents that all awards which their child receives beyond their Gold will count towards the Gold Plus Award. So please remind your children to save all of these awards and give them to their teacher. Three students with the most awards past Gold will receive a Gold Plus Prize. The prizes will be handed out in the morning assembly on Tuesday 8 December. The Gold Pool Excursion will be held on the 14 December at Bowral Swimming pool. Notes for the excursion will be handed out on Friday 4 December. Thank you, Jay Fawcett (Coordinator)

Free courses at TAFE SWSi
Running throughout January – February Listed below:-

Basic Computing Skills includes:-
· Word-processing · Spreadsheets

Workplace Computing Skills (step up from Basic)
· PowerPoint · Word Processing · Spreadsheets · Keyboarding

Complex Spreadsheets
https://enrolmentportal.ebs.tafensw.edu.au/Apply/Process/GetStarted/161/1047920

There are numerous other courses that can be found at https://swsi.tafensw.edu.au/Students/Future-Students/Our-courses/Step-into-TAFE-SWSi

School Calendar 2015

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<tr>
<td>Dec Term 4</td>
<td>30 Swin school</td>
<td>1 3-6 Annie at Frensham</td>
<td>2 Stage 2 Market day</td>
<td>3 Choir to Lake Bowral HS orientation</td>
<td>4 Junior assembly Clothing pool sale 8:30am</td>
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<td>Dec Term 4</td>
<td>7 Annual Presenta-</td>
<td>8 5/6 Drama 6:30pm</td>
<td>9 5/6 Drama 11:30am</td>
<td>10 Talent Quest Rehearsal</td>
<td>11 LAST P&amp;C SAUSAGE SIZZLE</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>tion 9:30am Reports home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec Term 4</td>
<td>14 Gold Pool Day</td>
<td>15 Talent Quest Yr 6 Farewell 5:30pm</td>
<td>16 Last day for students Yr 6 Pool Day</td>
<td>17 Staff Development day</td>
<td>18 Staff Development Day</td>
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Congratulations to the students who received an award at the Assembly on Friday 27/11/2015

IRON LION
3/4L: Dylan 5F: Kurtis 6B: Daemon

BRONZE LION
2/3P: Jake, Will, Lily 3-6M: Hayley, Samuel 3/4M: Sam
5A: Josh 5F: Josh, Janaya, Hayden, Will, Miles 6B: Jackson, Isabell

SILVER LION
2/3P: Amity 3-6M: Jacob 3/4M: Patrick, Kaitlin, Danielle
3/4L: Thomas 5A: Jessica, Emily, Josh 5F: Linnea, Raiden, Milly, Kalinda F
6A: Edwin, Beau 6B: Amee, Sharnee

GOLD LION
2/3P: Hannah, William N 3-6M: Eve, Riley, David
3/4B: Emily 3/4L: Jamee, Massimo, Niamh
5A: Henry, Luke, Claire 5F: Kaeley
6A: Thomas 6B: Mikayla, William, Rose, Cavell, Bella