Swimming Carnival
I would like to thank Mrs Fisher and her team of staff and parents for yet another brilliant swimming carnival this week. It was a fun day with a great spirit of friendly competition and I know that was largely due to the fabulous teachers and supportive community members we are blessed to have. Having terrific students also helps! Well done to everyone!

Book/Resources Packs and Voluntary School Contributions
Thank you to all the parents who have finalised the school payments for Book/Resources Packs and Voluntary School Contributions this year. It is this money that allows us to provide the great opportunities we offer to students each year along with quality resources. While we try not to be extravagant in the things we do, Mittagong Public School does pride itself on providing a quality education with more than just the bare bones of learning experiences.

Parents both new and long-time regularly express appreciation for the success and enjoyment of learning their children are experiencing at our school and much of this is underpinned by the resources available to staff and students. So thank you again for your prompt payment of these fees.

Book/Resources Packs are $50 per student and Voluntary School Contributions are $35 per student or $60 per family. This is significantly less than many other public schools and also covers some of the performances that students enjoy throughout the year that relate to welfare and anti-bullying.

We hope to see all of these payments finalised by this Friday so that students can all access the online learning programs and books that are covered by the fees. If you are having difficulties with this please contact our friendly office staff who can arrange suitable terms for payment.
Meet the Teacher
17 February - parents of students in years 3 & 4, in the school library from 3:15pm.
24 February - parents of students in kindergarten, in the school library from 3:10pm.

This week Stage One and Three teachers have conducted their ‘meet the teacher’ sessions as per the notes sent home last week. Stage Two and Kindergarten will shortly follow with Stage Two next Wednesday and Kindergarten the week after on February 24th. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to understand the expectations and planning for the year ahead. Also any questions you may have can be answered too. If you need more information after these sessions and or need to make alternative arrangements, please contact our office staff and an appointment can be arranged at a mutually suitable time with your child’s teacher.

SRC Induction
Our SRC Leaders will be inducted this Friday at a special assembly. Parents are most welcome to come and enjoy this special event with us in our school hall.

New Advertising Sign
We are very pleased with our new sign on the corner of Pioneer and Albert Streets. We will be placing information on the board daily (or as news changes). Please have a read and share your thoughts with the front office on how we can do better.

Helpful bits
Acronyms are used at school with assumed knowledge of what they mean. To help you understand what is what:
SRC - Student Representative Council
SRE - Special Religious Education
PSSA - Public School Sporting Association
EOI - Expression of Interest
P&C - Parents and Citizens
Early Stage 1 - Kindergarten
Stage 1 - Years 1 and 2
Stage 2 - Years 3 and 4
Stage 3 - Years 5 and 6

Canteen orders - to be placed before school in the green box near the steps to the brick building (morning assembly area). Lost your menu? We
School Photos

When: Wednesday 17 February
Who: All students will have their photo taken
Cost: Group only - $24. Group and individual packs from $33.
Dress code: All students in full summer uniform including black shoes.

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don’t seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on the day (even if they are not ordering photos)
- Sibling photo envelopes are available at the school office. Online ordering is not available for Sibling packs.
- Please enclose correct money as no change is given.
- Return your photo envelopes to school at anytime or bring them on the day.

Sun Safety

At Mittagong School we have a ‘No Hat Play under cover’ policy for terms one and four. All students are requested to have a green school hat with them at all times. We also sell student sunglasses too.

For your convenience we sell the following hats at school.
$6 - school cap
$12 - bucket hat
$14 - wide brim hat  
$15 - flat cap (currently out of stock)  
$15 - School shades sunglasses

**Kindy News**

Kindergarten will be holding their ‘Meet the Teacher’ information afternoon on Wednesday 24th February. This session provides parents the opportunity to informally meet their child’s class teacher. Parents are asked to meet in the library at 3:10pm for a brief general talk from all Kindergarten teachers and Mrs Allen. Teachers and parents will then move to classrooms where class teachers will provide an overview of their own class program and details of their class timetable. Please be aware this is a short session. If you need to discuss your child’s individual needs please make an appointment with your child’s teacher for an interview at a later date. If you can not make this meeting, your class teacher will provide your child with an information letter to take home. If the ‘bag monster’ eats this important letter all class information letters will be available to download from our school website. All notes and newsletters are available to view and download at any time [http://www.mittagong-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.mittagong-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/).

It is great to see Gymnastics permission notes and money being returned. Our Gymnastics program starts next week. As this is Kindergarten’s Term One Sports Program it is beneficial for all students to attend.

Library borrowing has started this week. It was fantastic to see happy, smiling Kindergarten faces showing off their borrowed book for the week, some even in their ‘Library Bag’ which they received on their Best Start day. To help protect these wonderful school resources we ask that students bring in a library bag for borrowing.

**Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Ethics Education (SEE)**

Today, Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Ethics Education (SEE) classes commenced for 2016. These classes are held each Thursday morning from 9:00-9:40am. This year, we are able to offer Bahai, Catholic and Protestant teachings for all students. We are also offering lessons in Ethics Education to all students in Kindergarten up to Year 6. If you wish for your child to commence a new class or change from their current SRE or SEE class, please send your request in writing to the school office or via the webpage (online forms/newsletters tab).

**Stage 2 Meet the Teacher**

A reminder to parents that our Stage 2 ‘Meet the Teacher’ afternoon will be held next Wednesday 17th February starting in the library at 3:15pm. We will discuss general Stage 2 items first then Mrs Smiltieks (3P), Mr Leith (3L), Miss Michael (3/4M) and Mr Abbott (4A) will be available in their classrooms to give you a brief overview of their class programs. Please note that this session is not intended to be lengthy and if you find that you have further questions, do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child’s teacher for a later date.

**Music Notes**

Concert Band rehearsals start next Thursday 18th February. Please arrive promptly by 8:10am so we can unpack and get started by 8:15am. I will be available from 8am at Pioneer Cottage on Thursday mornings.

![Fun at the Swimming Carnival](image-url)
Some private music lessons have already begun while others will be starting in the next few weeks. A reminder that although the lessons are held on school grounds, they are essentially an agreement between parents and the private music tutors. To avoid being charged for any missed lessons, parents should directly inform tutors if their child is going to miss a lesson for whatever reason including sickness or school excursions and events.

*Rebecca Michael, Music Coordinator*

**Lunch Time Activities**

There has been an enthusiastic response from the students to the lunch time activities that started this week. Don’t forget to listen carefully at morning assemblies for reminders regarding the activities available each day. Also there are time tables displayed on the Library window closest to the big tree and next to the sports shed.

*Ms Bowditch*

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**Mittagong Hockey Club registrations**

Mittagong Market Place: Saturday 20 February 9am to 3pm
Boys and girls ages 5-14 years
Contact Denise: 0404 877 008, jondee@westnet.com.au

**Mittagong Soccer Club registrations**

Registrations is now on for all junior and senior teams with Mittagong Soccer Club. Register online at www.myfootballclub.com.au or in person at Ironmines on Feb 12 & 15 from 3:30-5 or Feb 21 from 10-12. For more information email rego@mittagongsoccer.org.au

**Moss Vale Show 4 - 6 March 2016**

The show society has given every student at MPS a free student pass to be used on the Saturday or Sunday. A program is available to read at the school office.

**Mittagong Blue Light Disco**

*Venue: Mittagong RSL*

*Date: Saturday 13th February*

*Times: 4pm to 6.30 pm*

*Cost: $5.00 per child 4 – 14
Parents and children under 4 free.*

**Netball Registrations for 2016 now open!**

Registration Day 20 February, Eridge Park Courts, 9:30-12:30.
For Online registrations: www.southernhighlands.nsw.netball.com.au
With links to your local clubs.
For more information shnetball@gmail.com

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**School Calendar 2016**

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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2016 Week 3</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-6 swimming carnival</td>
<td>Yrs 1/2 &amp; 5/6 meet the teacher</td>
<td>SRE starts</td>
<td>SRC assembly</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>Feb 2016 Week 4</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gymnastics K-2 (not 2F)</td>
<td>Book Club Due</td>
<td>Yrs 4/5 meet the teacher</td>
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<td>Junior assembly</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb Week 5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td></td>
<td>District Swimming</td>
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<td>Gymnastics</td>
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<td>Senior assembly</td>
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<td>Mar Week 6</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1 P&amp;C AGM 6:30pm</td>
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<td>Junior assembly</td>
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Thank you to our wonderful families that have already donated their time, goods for the BBQ and put their name down to help with the BBQ. All donations are gratefully accepted. Thanks once again.

**Canteen Stock Donations:** This week: Serviettes & Paper Towel; Tinned Tomatoes & Tinned Pineapple. Please leave these items at the front office or canteen. Thankyou for donations received from last week’s call out – this helps more profits go back to resources for your children!

**Canteen Red Food Day:** Just an early note to let parents know this term’s red food day is planned for Thursday 24th March. This will be a hot dog meal deal for $6 including hot dog, pretzels/popcorn, apple/orange juice/water and...the Easter bunny might just slip a chocolate treat in as well! Flyer and order form will go out closer to the day.

**Friday morning BBQ:** If you are able to volunteer to cook sausages for the children between 7.30am and 9.15am on a Friday please fill out the slip or leave your name at the front office. If you have a preferred date to be rostered please specify.

**ALDI Give Back Program:** Don’t forget if you shop at Aldi Mittagong and spend over $40, place your token in Mittagong Public School box to vote for us!! You might want to mention this to any grandparents or family members who shop at Aldi. At the end of the program, the charity with the most tokens receives $300, the others receive $100. So get those votes happening!

**P&C AGM:** Next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday March 1st at 6.30pm in the library and will be the AGM. This means that all positions will be declared vacant and a vote will be held to elect the following: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Other roles will also be on offer including Canteen Convenor and Fundraising Coordinator.

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

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**FRIDAY BBQ VOLUNTEER SLIP** Please return this slip to school

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<th>Name: ____________________________</th>
<th>Contact Number: __________________________</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fridays I can help this term: (Please fill in dates available)</td>
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<td>OR please roster me on any Friday (please tick)</td>
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