



Wow, what a term! It is hard to believe that this week brings to a close what has certainly been a very different first semester of the school year for all. As we head into the holidays I feel it is important to reflect on all we have achieved as a school community over the first six months of 2020, given the unique challenges that were laid before us.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our P&C and all parents, carers and families for their cooperation, patience, support and kindness during semester 1. The support and assistance you gave your children and the staff, particularly during the remote learning period, certainly made a difference and had a positive impact on all.

Thank you to the hardworking Middle Harbour staff for their outstanding work this semester. Our teachers, student support officers and office staff have all embraced change and responded with incredible speed, creativity and innovation to maintain continuity of learning for students. The professionalism, adaptability and good humour of our staff are what helps make our school a wonderful place to learn.

Finally, our students, who have displayed incredible resilience and maturity during these tricky times, should be immensely proud of themselves. Learning during a time of uncertainty, away from school or in school without your friends, was a challenge that so many Middle Harbour students rose to.

The uncertainty of COVID-19 has asked us all to show constant flexibility and understanding towards each other and face each new challenge with courage and resilience. As school returns to 'normal', I hope that these values stay with us all so that we may continue to rise to, learn from and support each other through any new challenges the future may hold.

### The Power of Positive Friendships

Over the last few weeks, the need has arisen to talk with a number of students about friendships and kindness – what a good friend looks like and how to maintain friendships. It is important to note that making friends is a vital part of growing up and an essential part of children's social and emotional development. However, it is not always easy for children to know how to manage friendships and learning how to keep and make new friends involves a number of skills young children

need to learn and develop. As parents and a school community, it is important to remember that for some children these skills come very naturally, easily moving to and from friendship groups, sharing their experiences and opening up to new people. For others, the world of friendships can be much harder to navigate. Like learning to walk or read, all children progress at different rates.

Maintaining positive relationships with peers is taught throughout K-6 as part of the PDHPE syllabus. When the need arises, teachers also engage in additional learning activities to support students in understanding how to address and navigate friendship issues they may be having. If your child is experiencing difficulties with friends at school, you can support them at home by:

- talking with them about how they feel and how their friend might be feeling
- sharing some advice and helping them to understand that there are always ups and downs in friendships
- demonstrate how friendships work by modelling the behaviour you want them to display

Friendship issues are often best dealt with as they arise, so please always encourage your child to talk to their classroom teacher.



## Education Week 2020



Education week is traditionally an opportunity to invite the community into our school and classrooms to showcase all the wonderful efforts and successes of our students. Unfortunately, current restrictions in place mean that we will not be able to have parents and family onsite to celebrate as we have done traditionally. At this stage, it is our plan to bring Education Week 2020 to our families virtually and have our students share learning with you through a digital format. More information to come in early Term 3.

### Unauthorised use of school grounds

In line with current Department advice, the school must continue to be closed on weekends and in the school holidays in an effort to keep our school site and community safe.

Over the last few weekends we have unfortunately had some youth coming on to school grounds unauthorised, damaging school property and making a deliberate mess in our playground. It has been reported that this is mostly taking place in the early evening and at night. Our students and staff do a tremendous job keeping our school grounds tidy, clean and safe throughout the week so it is always disappointing to arrive on a Monday morning to vandalism.

As a community, please work with the school and report any unacceptable behaviour you may see taking place within school grounds outside of school or Kids Cottage hours to School Security on 1300 88 00 21.



### School Development Day on Monday 20 July

A reminder that term 3 for students commences on Tuesday 21 July. Teachers will attend professional learning on the Monday where they will continue to build their professional knowledge in highly effecting teaching practices to improve student growth and achievement.

Wishing all our students and families a safe and restful winter break. Stay warm and stay well!

*Laura Barry*  
Principal

## OUT AND ABOUT



## Exciting learning in classes K-6

### Investigations:

Kindergarten and stage 1 are learning to interpret and represent data. Last week Kindergarten observed and analysed the number and colours of cars that passed the school at a given time. They presented their results in a graph.

Year 3 were estimating and measuring by making direct comparisons of size using informal and formal units.

### Writing:

Creative ideas, arguments, plots and plays abound in classrooms throughout the school. MHPS students are aware of their audience. This concept is central to writing, with students needing to make choices about what type of text is appropriate for their audience.

### Appreciating and making

Students have been looking at, talking about and creating artworks through drawing, painting or making.

### Student Reports – Semester 1

Your child's report will be available to download from the Parent Portal on Friday 24 July at 4pm. The login address for the Parent Portal is <https://mhps.sentral.com.au/portal>

**Please take the opportunity now to check your portal access and email the school office with any access queries or requests to re-set passwords.**

To access the portal (years 1-6) just use the same code that you have been previously issued. If you cannot remember your password use the reset function (forgotten password) <https://mhps.sentral.com.au/portal> and follow instructions. Kindergarten 2020 and new families to MHPS will receive access codes and instructions later this week.

*Carole Jaye*

Deputy Principal

## SRC

Last week our 2020 SRC class representatives received their student badges at our virtual assembly. Congratulations to the following students:

2G	Rhys K	Josi P	4M	Max R-C	Emma W
2T	Freddie A	Morgan S	4T	Hunter H	Lucy P
2K	Thomas P	Charlotte R	5H	Harvey K	Matilda B
3T	Kingston P	Lucinda T	5K	Harry D	Amelia C
3S	Tomas P	Alana S	5B	Sam G	Sienna M
3W	Jordie M	Aaliyah P	6I	Dean L	Marley S
3/4J	Coco K	Hayato N	6R	Riley S	Mickey C
4B	Marnix E	Kara S	6H	Marco M	Tara B



## PERSONAL BEST

Well done to Kabir K from 3/4J who participated in the Bebras Australia Computational Thinking Challenge for 2020 earlier in the year. He achieved the highest distinction and his name is now on the honour roll. Congratulations Kabir!



## KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2021

We are now taking enrolments for our Kindergarten students commencing in 2021. Enrolling your child in Term 2, assists the school to plan for Kindergarten numbers for next year.

1. Download and complete all applicable forms found on the Middle Harbour Public School website – link [Enrolment at MHPS](#)
2. Scan/email completed forms, with all additional documents to the school, at [middleharb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:middleharb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

To be eligible for enrolment at our school, your residential address must be within our local area. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept out-of-area enrolments at this time.



We intend to have our Kindergarten 2021 Parent Information Session (for adults only) on Thursday 6 August, 2020. Please register your interest here <https://forms.gle/j4g5MSv4bJwibyHt9> If you have any questions, these can be included in the form, email the school office at [middleharb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:middleharb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or call us at (02) 9953 6232.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TERM 2 2020	
JULY	
<b>T2 Wk 10 – Friday 3</b>	Last day of Term 2
TERM 3 2020	
<b>T3 Wk 1 – Monday 20</b>	School Development day (staff only)
<b>T3 Wk 1 – Tuesday 21</b>	First day of Term 3
AUGUST	
<b>T3 Wk 3 - Education Week 3 – 7 Aug</b>	<b>Education Week is going virtual this year!</b>
<b>T3 Wk 3 – Tuesday 4</b>	Athletic Carnival years 3 – 6 Warm up area Sydney Olympic Park <b>(TBC)</b>
<b>T3 Wk 3 – Thursday 6</b>	Kindy 2021 Information evening <b>(TBC)</b>
SEPTEMBER	
<b>T3 Wk 7 – Wednesday 2 – Thursday 3</b>	<b>School Photos</b>
<b>T3 Wk 9 – Wednesday 16</b>	OC Placement Test (Year 5 - 2021)
<b>T3 Wk 10 – Friday 25</b>	Last day of Term 3
TERM 4 2020	
OCTOBER	
<b>T4 Wk 1 – Monday 12</b>	First day of Term 4
<b>T4 Wk 1 – Saturday 17 – Sunday 18</b>	<b>Band Camp (TBC)</b>
<b>T4 Wk 3 – Friday 30</b>	Kindy transition #1
NOVEMBER	
<b>T4 Wk 4 – Friday 6</b>	Kindy transition #2
<b>T4 Wk 5 – Friday 13</b>	Kindy transition #3
DECEMBER	

**Red** indicates the event has changed since previous newsletter

*Sign up!*

## **Introduction to Netball Registrations Open**

**Join us for the 2020 Intro to Netball!**

Our clinic covers the foundation skills of netball including ball throwing, footwork, coupled with drills for agility, co-ordination and balance. Our Coaches will introduce the game of netball, playing positions, court and the modified rules to playing a game.



**Mosman Netball**

Fridays 4pm to 5pm

Venue: Drill Hall Precinct Netball Courts, Cross St. Mosman

Term 3: Friday 24th July - Friday 11th September (inclusive, 8 week program)

The last session will run longer to allow for round-robin matches.

Cost: \$150 per child (inc.GST)

**Go to [www.mosmannetball.com.au](http://www.mosmannetball.com.au)  
to sign up!**