



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 17 November – Kids Cottage Disco

Monday 20 November – Selective High Schools applications close

Saturday 2 December – P&C Festive Fete and Carols

Thursday 7 December – Last day to bring in presents for the Giving Tree

Tuesday 12 December – Year 6 Graduation & Celebration of Learning Assembly

Wednesday 13 December – Kindergarten Graduation

Friday 15 December – Last day of Term 4

Thursday 1 February – First day of Term 1 (Years 1-6)

Friday 12 April – Last day of Term 1

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

PERSONAL BEST

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Acknowledgement of Country

We gather today in this special place to continue our learning journey together.

We respect and honour the traditional owners of Cammeraygal land on which we play, learn and show kindness.

We pay our respects to our Elders who help us to care for each other, the plants, the animals and the land.

3L acknowledge the lands and oceans that we learn, play and grow on. We pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who lived on this land before us and who will continue to live on it with us. We acknowledge plants and animals which provide us with food, water and air. We are thankful for the land and the sky which keeps us warm and safe.

Image taken from 'Welcome to Country' by Auntie Joy Murphy and Lisa Kennedy

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

RETIREMENT OF MRS CAROLE JAYE



It is with sadness that I inform our school community that Mrs Carole Jaye will be retiring at the end of 2023. Mrs Jaye has been a much-loved and extremely dedicated member of our school staff and community for 16 years, serving the students and families of Middle Harbour as a specialist science teacher, Assistant Principal, Deputy Principal and Relieving Principal. I know her deep love for learning, energy and care for all will be greatly missed by students, staff and parents alike. We wish Mrs Jaye all the best for her retirement and hope that she will remain an active part of our school community for many years to come. We look forward to spoiling her with gratitude in the coming weeks before she heads through our farewell tunnel on Friday 15 December.

LESSONS FROM ARNHEM LAND

Thank you to all the parents, students and staff who have inquired after my recent study leave. It was an extremely fascinating period of learning for me, who as someone with a keen interest in mathematics, learning about the role cultural bias plays in the acquisition and deep understanding of mathematical concepts. During my time away, I had the privilege of spending time visiting and working with many incredible educators in remote communities. While the teaching of mathematics was my main focus of study, it was hard not to go past the other complex and real struggles faced by teachers, principals and families living in remote communities. I have certainly returned with a greater appreciation of all that we have as 'city dwellers', most importantly access to quality education, and the importance of not taking that for granted.



YEAR 6 GRADUATION & CELEBRATION OF LEARNING ASSEMBLY.

Please note that based on feedback from our recent parent, student and staff survey, we have made some changes to our end of year assemblies. From this year forward there will be only one Celebration of Learning Assembly combined with our Year 6 Graduation Assembly. This will be on Tuesday 12 December at 9:15am. It was heartening to see from all three surveys conducted that immediate teacher praise has the greatest impact on rewarding students' impact, far greater than an end of year award. This aligns with educational research so we have decided to reduce the number of end of year awards and will be putting in place more strategies to provide immediate, positive feedback and recognition to our students. There was also a call for greater clarity over awards given, which I have provided for you below. Please note that all parents are invited to attend the Year 6 Graduation & Celebration of Learning Assembly to celebrate the achievements of the award recipients.

MHPS CELEBRATION OF LEARNING AND YEAR 6 GRADUATION - TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2023

Academic Awards

University of NSW Maths - 1 x Stage 2 + 1 x Stage 3

Criteria: Consistent demonstration of excellence in mathematical thinking, problem solving and reasoning

Dymocks English Award - 1 x Stage 2 + 1 x Stage 3

Criteria: Consistent demonstration of excellence in writing.

DUX - Year 6

Criteria: Highest level of achievement across academic areas of English, Mathematics and Science.

Sports Awards (This will change to be a special assembly immediately after carnivals in 2024)

Swimming Carnival Champions

Athletics Carnival Champions

Premier's Sporting Challenge Medal

Community, Citizenship & Innovation Awards

North Shore Historical Society Award - Year 3

Criteria: Demonstrated excellence in the study of Human Society and its Environment.

North Shore Medal - Year 4

Criteria: Demonstrate excellence in attitude; Exhibit in their behaviour a commitment to the ethos of the school; Be a strong and consistent participant in school and community activities; Exhibit an awareness of others and their needs

Mosman Council Citizenship Year 5

Criteria: Positive student who shows compassion and empathy towards all; Contributor to school and wider community initiatives; Strong role model to all students and an exemplary representative of Middle Harbour Public School.

Creative and Innovation Mosman High - 1 x Stage 2 + 1 x Stage 3

Criteria: Highly innovative student who consistently demonstrates creativity in their approach to learning; Employs critical thinking to analyse and solve real world problems, demonstrating their capabilities as 21st Century learners.

Zylberberg Year 6

Criteria: Consistent demonstration and promotion of school values at school and in the wider community; Exemplary example of showing kindness and fairness in the treatment of others; Recognised as an outstanding friend.

2023 -2024 Leadership Handover

2024 Sports Leaders presented with badges by 2023 Leaders

2024 School Leaders presented with badges by 2023 Leaders

Thank you again to the many parents that completed our positive learning and behaviour survey. The feedback you have provided has been valuable in making these changes to acknowledge and reward our students with greatest impact.

NOT RETURNING TO MHPS IN 2024?



We are currently in the process of planning for 2024. This includes the large task of determining staffing, classes, the location of each class in the school and the learning programs that will run next year. To complete this process, it is essential that we have accurate enrolment numbers. It is especially important that we know if your child is not returning to Middle Harbour for the start of the 2024 school year. Kindly complete this [online form](#) ASAP.

APPOINTMENTS DURING SCHOOL

It is important that children are at school all day. Please make medical and dental appointments outside school hours whenever possible. If it is essential that your child have an appointment through the school day please allow sufficient time for children to come down from the classroom.

Laura Barry
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

RESPECT FOR NEIGHBOURS



Please do not knock on the front doors or press buzzers of our neighbours asking for balls and other items to be returned. Our neighbours report that this happens many times a week. If your ball (or shoe!) is found, they will throw it back over the fence. If an item has not been returned, please put a note in their letterbox.

NSW PUBLIC SCHOOL PHONE BAN

Students in public high schools across NSW must have their mobile phones turned off and out of sight, as the NSW Government delivers its commitment to ban students' use of phones at school from the start of Term 4. Our school expectations around the use of your personal technology at school (smartphones and smartwatches) is fairly simple: **students are not to use their smartwatches/smartphones on the school grounds, during school hours.**



Once students enter the school grounds, phones must be switched off and watches placed in 'school-mode'. When students leave the school grounds in the afternoon, devices can be used again. These devices are not to be used for communication during school hours. If a parent/carer needs to be contacted for any particular reason, the office staff will make the call. Some students use devices to monitor medical conditions and this is permitted.

For students with Smart watches, Apple Watches (or similar), it is a requirement that parents enable 'school-mode' on them for the duration of the day. The reasoning for this is to avoid use in classrooms, on school grounds, including inappropriate communication and photo-taking that may compromise the privacy of students.

CYBER SAFETY



There are great resources for families at the Cyber Safety Project including a family digital use agreement, conversation checklist and ideas for how to manage digital devices at home.

<https://cybersafetyproject.com.au/families/>

INTENTION TO APPLY FOR YEAR 7 PLACEMENT IN A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL IN 2025

Year 5 families – please note, applications for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2025 will be accepted until the **20 November 2023**. If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2025, you need to apply online using a valid email address (not the student's email address).



All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on Thursday 9 May 2024.

Parents must apply online at [Information for applicants—for entry into selective high schools in Year 7 in 2024 \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/information-for-applicants-for-entry-into-selective-high-schools-in-year-7-in-2024)

SCHOOL SHOW - PHOTOS



Many thanks to Linda Deitz who volunteered her time, photographic skills and equipment to capture many magical moments. These photos are available for purchase via the following link. Please share with family especially grandparents who were asking about them.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/HhNC3DWcQZqaR89n9>

MHPS WORK, HEALTH AND SAFETY FYI MESSAGE

As part of our school work, health and safety plan we have scheduled a LOCKDOWN drill in week 7 or 8. Students will be briefed by teachers prior to the drill.

Carole Jaye
Deputy Principal

DALWOOD CHILDREN'S SERVICES GIVING TREE



This year the MHPS GIVING TREE is supporting Dalwood Spilstead Services. The spirit of giving infuses the holiday season. At Middle Harbour PS we have the opportunity to share with those less fortunate than ourselves. This year we are supporting families at Dalwood Spilstead Early Intervention and Support Services by providing food or gifts. They would like **unwrapped gifts** for children or hampers for families.

Please see the [wishlist](#) of gifts at the end of the newsletter. All gifts of **new** toys can be placed in the box or under the tree in the front office **by Thursday 7 December**. **Please do not wrap gifts.**

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT 2024

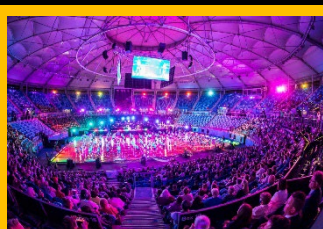


Do you have a child who turns five years of age before 31 July 2024 and will be ready to start school?

We encourage all families with children starting school next year to complete an Application for Enrolment form if you have not already done so. This can be done online. [Enrolment Information - Middle Harbour Public School](#). If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

The Uniform Shop is open Tuesday and Friday 8.45am – 9.15am.

OUT AND ABOUT AT MHPS

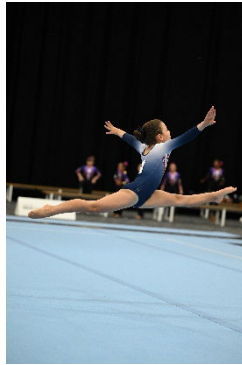


MHPS STUDENT BLOG

Please check out what our students have been 'out and about' doing at the [Middle Harbour PS Student Blog](#)!

PERSONAL BEST

While many of us enjoyed downtime over the holidays, two of our year 4 students were on the Gold Coast competing in the National Gymnastics Club Championships. Congratulations to Sienna V and Mia C, who represented the Manly Warringah Gymnastic Club (MWGC), competing for the national club title. The girl's team placed 1st on beam, 2nd on bar and 3rd overall in division 2. MWGC placed 3rd overall in the country across the women's and men's disciplines.



Amelie T (3/4R) was recently selected to represent Northern Sydney district to compete in a state-wide competition for Level 3 WAG (Women's Artistic Gymnastics). She competed in all 4 apparatus and achieved consistently high 8 scores across all. Although her team didn't place in a medal position she was awarded a Silver banding and a Silver medal for her individual performance.



KIDS COTTAGE

With the end of the year fast approaching we are getting everything finalised for our Kids Christmas Party on Friday 8th of December from 3:30pm to 6pm. Spaces are limited to get your bookings in quick for a fun afternoon full of Christmas cheer, we will even be getting a visit from special guest!

The theme is Winter Wonderland and we will have Christmas crafts, jumping castle, snow cones and fairy floss and games. Along with BBQ for afternoon tea. Throughout the afternoon we will have the Christmas tunes pumping to get us all into the festive spirit and a surprise guest! We hope to as many of you as possible to join Kids Cottage in celebrating Christmas and the wonderful year that was!

Please note: Kids Cottage will be closed from 25 December 2023 and we will reopen 8 January 2024.

Britt
The Kids Cottage

Just three short weeks to go until the Festive Fete on Saturday 2 December from 3pm. We're looking forward to hosting you at this live fun-filled event for the entire family.

There will be loads to do. Featuring:

Parent only celebration zone
Giant inflatable course
Festive Season Family Photos
Human Hungry Hippo Game
Gladiator Duelling
Face Painting
Giant Jumping Castle
Craft and Bake stall
Sausage Sizzle
Snow Cones
Fairy Floss
Kid-Preneur Alley
Carols starting at 7pm

There will be limited locations to buy tickets so we do encourage you to pre-purchase to avoid wait times. Extra tickets will be available at select locations on the day but please note this is a CASHLESS EVENT.

Ticket prices:

Single Ticket = \$2

Single Ride (3 Tickets) = \$6

Book of 30 tickets (equalling 5 rides) = \$25 BONUS TICKETS

Unlimited Ride Armband = \$35 BEST VALUE

The canteen will transform into a celebratory drinks arena. No under 18s will be permitted in the arena. Celebratory drinks are on consumption in accordance with the responsible service of alcohol.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CNGZS> or through this QR Code



BAND



On Wednesday 8 November, the Middle Harbour Concert band had the privilege of performing at the first ever Harbourside Music Festival. Bands from Neutral Bay, Beauty Point and Mosman High came together to play in Mosman High's newly opened Hall.

Our concert band enjoyed playing three pieces - 'Xs and Os' 'Hooked On a Feeling' and 'The Hanging Tree' - for the big crowd of family and friends.

Whilst all the bands played separate pieces, the highlight was at the very end of the concert, all the bands squeezed onto the stage and played Dance Monkey together. We had never practiced as a whole big group before but somehow it came together really well and we had fun doing it!

Leyli and Alex

STUDENT TRAVEL PASS 2024 – APPLY NOW



Students who need a new or replacement School Opal card or travel pass for 2024 can apply now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement because of a new shared parental arrangement (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, have repeated a year or received an expiry notification for their school travel entitlement should renew or update their details before the end of term 4. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications, and travel passes remain valid for the start of the 2024 school year. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new eligibility criteria, we will send an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2024. <https://transportnsw.info/school-travel-apply>

BECOME AN ETHICS TEACHER AT MHPS IN 2024

Primary Ethics provides the opportunity for NSW public primary school students who don't attend scripture classes (SRE) to participate in philosophical discussions.



In order for all Ethics classes to continue at MHPS in 2024, we need more volunteer teachers.

Ethics teachers receive full training by Primary Ethics, the not-for-profit organisation approved to design curriculum and training for the Ethics program. Training consists of short online learning modules and a two-day in-person workshop (or four online classes).

You will learn facilitation and behaviour management techniques that are useful at home and in the workplace too!

As an Ethics teacher, your role will be to facilitate discussion between students. All lesson materials are provided for Ethics teachers by Primary Ethics.

Middle Harbour Ethics classes are currently held on Monday afternoons, 2:30-3pm but that may change next year.

For more information, please contact **Diana Coffey**, Ethics Coordinator for Middle Harbour Public School at dpizzari@hotmail.com

Middle Harbour Public School

Christmas Photo Fundraiser!

Saturday 2nd December, 2023

\$35



20cm X 25cm



13cm X 18cm



9cm X 13cm



2.5cm X 4cm

Please call the Santa's helpers at Don Wood Photography (9542 5370) to book your spot and make payment for your beautiful, festive photos!

Time Slots:

3:00pm - 3:30pm

3:30pm - 4:00pm

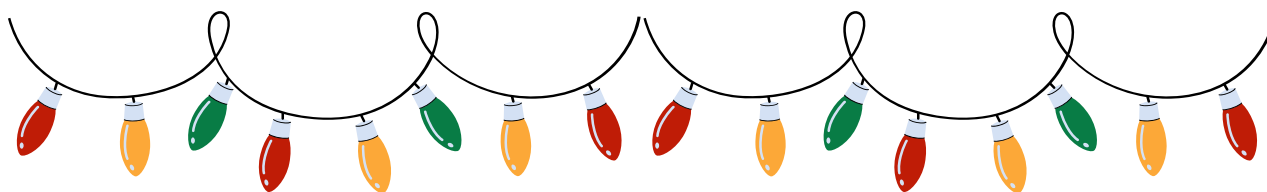
4:00pm - 4:30pm

4:30pm - 5:00pm

Postage available \$11.00

Photos will be delivered back to the school by
11th December 2023, just in time for Christmas.





MHPS Giving Tree

Supporting Dalwood Spilstead

Age range	Toy preference
0 - 2 years	Puzzles, stacking, transport, bubbles, musical toys, sand and water play, books
2 - 4 years	Playdoh and tools, construction, puzzles, home corner, dolls house, sand and water play, dress ups, music, baby dolls
4 - 6 years	Threading, craft, dolls house and furniture, imaginative play eg. doctors, science, games, home corner, water and outdoor play
6 - 8 years	Magnetic tiles, construction, kinetic sand, LEGO, threading, craft, Shopkins or similar, transport, puzzles, games, sports, balls

Hamper item ideas

- Non-perishable food
- Celebration foods eg. packaged confectionary, lollies, chocolates, Pringles
- Toiletries eg. shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, moisturiser
- Christmas decorations

Please bring unwrapped items to the MHPS Office by Thursday 7 December