



RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



PERSONAL BEST

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 15 December – Last day of Term 4

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

Friday 2 February – First day of Term 1 (Kindergarten)

Wednesday 7 – Thursday 8 February – Best Start (Kindergarten)

Friday 23 February – Swimming Carnival

Friday 8 March – School Photos

Friday 12 April – Last day of Term 1

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2M acknowledge, respect and honour the traditional owners of Cammeraygal land on which we play and learn today.

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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

CELEBRATING 2023

I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the achievements and dedication of all in what has been an incredibly busy year. My heartfelt thanks and appreciation go out to students, staff, parents, the P&C, community members and Kids Cottage staff for the part you have played in making this year so incredible.

It has been a delight to read in many student reports of the growth and progress students have shown throughout this semester, both in their learning, behaviours and attitudes. I am extremely proud of all that they have achieved this year.

Much praise and thanks must go to our incredible teaching and non-teaching staff for all the hard work, enthusiasm, dedication and energy that they put into their profession every day. We have had the pleasure of welcoming many visitors to our school this year, both local and international, and each and everyone of them comment on what an amazing group of educators we have.

Thank you to our P&C Executive and Sub Committees for their work and support throughout this year, as well as all the families who have helped. Thank you for your time and generous financial commitment towards improving the learning and wellbeing outcomes of our students. The Bands, String Ensembles, Uniform Shop, OOSH, Small Events and Class Parent initiatives work because of your involvement – so thank you all so much.

It is always difficult to say goodbye to people who have become an important part of our school community, and we wish all our student leavers the best for the future. It is especially hard to say goodbye to some of our wonderful teachers who will be taking leave from us in 2023 – Miss Susanna Inkinen, Mrs Talia Zantis, Mrs Lou Casali, Miss Belle Erby and of course our amazing Mrs Carole Jaye. We will miss you all tremendously.

Finally, congratulations to all our graduating students! We wish each and every one of you all the very best for the future.

HERO IS COMING!

In 2024 we will be launching our new administration, communication and reporting system, Hero. This is an online sharing platform with complementary smart app.

Hero allows schools to customise an online environment that enables teachers, students, and families to view and share content anytime, anywhere on any device. The software is secure, easy to use and brings together all school-related information in one place.

With Hero, you will have the ability to:

- read and comment on posts relating to your child's learning
- view information on your child's progress and goals,
- read school notices sent to the class or groups your child is part of
- view school term dates
- view a school calendar of events
- notify the school if your child is absent or late
- navigate to other school-related webpages
- customise your account by adding a profile image
- select how you wish to receive notifications

Next year Hero will replace Audiri, Sentral and Seesaw as a one-stop communication platform. To prepare for this, we ask parents and carers to please download the app ready for the start of the 2023 school year.

Hero by LINC-ED can be downloaded



SCHOOL REPORTS

Your child's report is now available to download from the Parent Portal. The login address for the Parent Portal is <https://mhps.sentral.com.au/portal> **If you have forgotten your password there is a link on the page to reset your password. Email the school office with any access queries.**

Please be advised that the Sentral Parent Portal will not be available in 2024. **To this end we would ask that you download any school reports that are required before the start of Term 1 next year as access next year will be limited. Special note for students leaving the school, access will be removed early in 2024.**

RETURNING IN 2024

Please note that students in Years 1 to 6 will resume school on Thursday 1 February 2024. Kindergarten begins Friday 2 February 2024.

Wishing all our families a safe, restful and wonderful holiday and happy festive season.

Laura Barry
Principal



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, goodbye



After close to half a century in education (41 years in NSW), I am moving on to the retirement chapter in my journey. It is a bittersweet moment.

I have been truly blessed to have spent the past 16 years at MHPS. Thank you to the staff and families, past and present who I have been privileged to call our school community. MHPS is a unique environment in so many ways and I am grateful to have had the staff, students and families share in this innovative, fun filled journey with me at MHPS.

Thank you all for the friendships, laughter, successes and love that we have shared. I will miss not being part of this vibrant community and greeting so many of you daily. Take care. Follow your dreams. Don't let opportunities pass you by!

Wishing you all a very safe and happy festive season and a wonderful 2024.

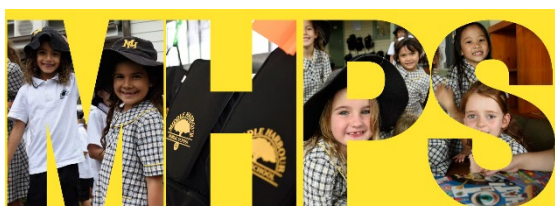
MHPS Christmas Giving Tree



This year we collected gifts for children and families at Dalwood Spilstead Service in Seaforth. They were overwhelmed with the thoughtfulness and generosity of our families. Phillip from the centre came with a big van to collect all the gifts. Grateful thanks to the MHPS families from the Dalwood school community.

Carole Jaye
Deputy Principal

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT 2024



Middle Harbour Public School
Enrol now for Kindergarten 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.



Celebration of Learning 2023



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



Congratulations to Harriette B (3L) as she continues her work with Jafa – Juvenile Arthritis Foundation Australia.

Last month Harriette attended the launch of the IMPACT report which is the first comprehensive Australian study in juvenile arthritis.



KIDS COTTAGE

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

Britt
The Kids Cottage

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open Tuesday and Friday 8.45am – 9.15am. ***The shop will be open additionally on Wednesday 31 January 2024 from 9.00 am to 10.00 am for any last-minute purchases before school commences.***

The Uniform Shop is delighted to be stocking the new colour house Tshirts.

These feature a design created by Stage 2 students who worked with staff at Bush to Bowl in 2023. Over 4 sessions, students spent time with Aboriginal artists and teachers walking on Cammeraygal Country, getting a perspective of the Country MHPS sits on, learning about bushfood and artefacts and bringing all that they learnt and experienced into this design.



Tshirts are \$25. They can be ordered through Flexischools.

P&C

A huge thank you from the P&C to everyone who supported, donated and volunteered at events this year. We have had a lot of events including some new ones: from movie night, trivia night, mothers and fathers day stalls/breakfast, referendum BBQ and of course the Festive Fete.

From all accounts our first Festive Fete was a huge success. An extra-large thank you to Andrea and Walt Voigt for leading the organisation and success of this event. The kids were happy their parents were entertained in the Parent Celebration Zone so they could ride, bounce and hungry hippo as many times as possible. If you would like to see the Fete return in 2025, do let us know.

It has been a big year for the P&C with lots of changes. We have lost two P&C Presidents this term (and gained one!) so I'd like to extend a huge thank you to Diana Ferguson and Chanel Bornoff for their terms as P&C President. It is a time consuming to balance a family, a full-time job and to head up the P&C and they both did excellent work for which we grateful.

As we head off to our extend break I'd like to just give a sneak peek into planned events for 2024:

Term 1 Movie Night

Mothers Day plates ordering form to be distributed in Term 1

Term 2 Mothers Day Breakfast and Gift Plates from children to mothers

Term 3 Fathers Day Breakfast and stall

Sparkle 2024

Term 4 Colour Run

We have VACANCIES on the P&C Executive for 2024 and we need support. The P&C aids the school in the most positive ways it can, but particularly in community togetherness and fundraising. The funds go to everything from kindy readers to support teachers and IT equipment but we can't run the P&C without volunteers. If you are interested and can offer support or skills please email mhpspresident@gmail.com

Lastly, a huge thank you also to the Admin Team at MHPS and to Laura whose largely unseen support is invaluable to our success.

Happy Holidays and a restive festive time to all from all at the Middle Harbour P&C.

STRINGS



Congratulations to the MHPS Senior, Paganini and Bach Beginner strings on another successful year. The strings have been busy attending workshops, weekly rehearsals and participating in performances, including the Festival of Instrumental Music at the Sydney Opera House.

We'd like to thank the conductors Will and Miranda and the outgoing Strings Committee for their contribution, dedication and coordination of the program.

This year we have 7 of our seniors moving to high school and we wish them all the very best in their future musical endeavours.

If you would like to know more about the Strings Program, please contact mhpsstrings@gmail.com

BAND



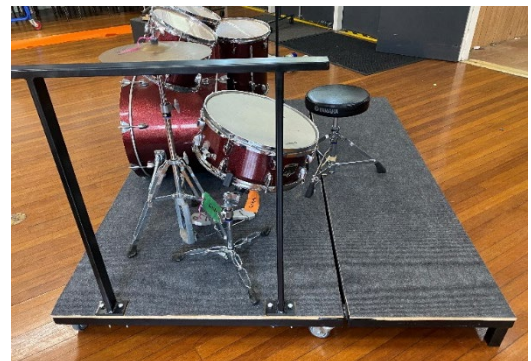
We've had a rockin' year in band in 2023. A wonderful level of musical growth for all 70 band kids alongside fostering existing and making new friendships.

- 2 shiny gold awards and 1 silver award at the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival
- A ripper workshop day at MHPS
- A super-charged weekend away
- A trailblazing inaugural Harbourside Music Festival
- 8 thrilling performances
- 2 jazzed end of year outings – Luna Park and the Zoo

We're getting everything ready to welcome the 2024 Training Band to the MHPS Band Programme. They're all set and ready to go, and we're so looking forward to hearing from them in February.

Thanks to the P&C and the dozens of parents who make the band happen – it's a great community of volunteers offering a legacy for the school and for the children's musical experiences.

Speaking of the P&C... look at our shiny new drum kit cart that we had custom made just to fit in our storage room! Thanks so much to the P&C for donating the funds to the band programme to enable this purchase.



And lastly, happy holidays MHPS band community!

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.

Primary
ETHICS

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