



RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



PERSONAL BEST

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 11 March – P&C Family Movie Night

Tuesday 21 March – Harmony Day

Wednesday 22 March – School Photos

Friday 31 March – Mad About Science Incurion (Kindergarten)

Monday 3 April – Stage 1 see *Are We There Yet?*

Mon 3 & Tuesday 4 April – Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

Thursday 6 April – Grand and Special Friends' Day

Thursday 6 April – Last day of Term 1

Wednesday 26 April – Term 2 begins

Tuesday 9 May – P&C Meeting

K-2 Beach Carnival – early Term 2

SHARING EXCELLENCE

On Tuesday 21 February we were very excited to welcome 14 Head Teachers (Principals) from primary schools all over Wales. They were visiting our school to see our teaching, learning and wellbeing programs in action as part of a broad study and travel program. Wales has recently undergone a process of curriculum reform, so they were particularly interested in seeing our approach to quality teaching, planning and delivery of the new syllabus and the implementation of Walker Learning across the school, and how this supports our excellent learning and wellbeing data. Our visitors were highly impressed with the positive learning attitudes expressed and displayed by our students, as well as our teachers' expert skills in curriculum delivery.



It was an absolute privilege to be asked to share our quality, evidence-informed practice at our beautiful school and it's always exciting to engage in collegial conversations about education with enthusiastic and inspiring leaders.

YEARS 3-6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL

There was a wonderful atmosphere at the School 3-6 Swimming Carnival held at Manly Andrew Boy Charlton Aquatic Centre on Friday 24 February. So many of our students showed their personal best throughout the day. Congratulations to all students who competed, especially those who went on to qualify for zone. Congratulations also to our outstanding sports leaders who encouraged and supported their colour house peers for the day.

A very special thanks must go to Mrs Linda Heiler for her outstanding organisation of the day, as well as to our dedicated staff and parent volunteers who helped make the day a huge success.





Thank you Linda Deitz for these beautiful photos which capture the colour, fun and spirit of the carnival so wonderfully!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our student voice and leadership team continues to grow with our Tech Crew, Library Prefects, Environmental Leaders and SRC Leaders receiving their badges at this week's assembly. Congratulations to all.



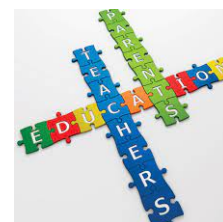


BEFORE SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Please be reminded that teacher supervision is provided on the playground from 8.30am in the mornings. In the interests of children's safety, it is advised that children are not to be onsite before this time unless engaged in supervised activities such as band rehearsals, or attending Kid's Cottage.

COMMUNICATION REMINDER

If you need to communicate with your child's class teacher at any time throughout the year, please send an email to the school office middleharb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au with preferred days and time to meet, and whether you would like it to be in person or over the phone. Before school is important time for teachers in their classroom to prepare learning and resources for the day. Our teachers are always happy to meet with you, however a last minute, unexpected meeting before the start of class can be disruptive to teachers' and students' planned learning for that day.



Laura Barry

Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Moving to Year 7 in 2024 – online portal opens Monday 6 March

Year 6 parents – next week the portal opens for you to let the Department of Education know your high school plans for your child. This year the process will be online.

For those who plan to send their child to a Government high school (including out of area and applying for a selective high school), you will fill in an Expression of Interest (EOI) form.

For those who plan to send their child to a non-Government high school, you will fill in a Placement Not Required (PNR) form.

Both forms will be available [here](#) from 6 – 24 March.

If you do not have an email address or need help, please reach out to the staff at Front Office for assistance.

Please close the gate



In the interest of the health and safety of our students, kindly close the gate after entering and exiting the school.



Please remind students to always have a raincoat in their bags (no umbrellas)



There is no such thing as bad weather – only inappropriate clothing.

NAPLAN – week 8

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Year 3 and Year 5 commences in week 8 (commencing Monday 13 March). The first test (Writing) will be conducted at school on Wednesday 15 March. All tests, except for year 3 writing, will be done online. The Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy assessments will take place over the fortnight (see calendar below). Students have been doing online practice tests in class to become familiar with the format of the assessments. We wish them all the best. Further information is available at: [NAPLAN information for parents](#)

Year 3 NAPLAN Schedule 2023

Monday 13 March	Tuesday 14 March	Wednesday 15 March	Thursday 16 March	Friday 17 March
		Year 3 - writing (paper test)	Year 3 - reading (online test)	

Monday 20 March	Tuesday 21 March	Wednesday 22 March	Thursday 23 March	Friday 24 March
	Year 3 - language conventions (online test)		Year 3 - numeracy (online test)	

Year 5 NAPLAN Schedule 2023

Monday 13 March	Tuesday 14 March	Wednesday 15 March	Thursday 16 March	Friday 17 March
		Year 5 - writing (online test)	Year 5 - reading (online test)	

Monday 20 March	Tuesday 21 March	Wednesday 22 March	Thursday 23 March	Friday 24 March
Year 5 - language conventions (online test)	Year 5 - numeracy (online test)			



Attendance

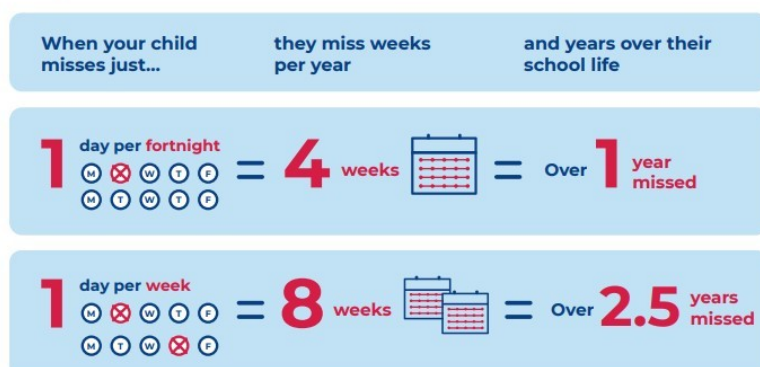
This Department policy sets out the requirements for the attendance of students in NSW Government schools.

[DoE Compulsory Attendance policy](#)

Regular attendance at school is essential to assist students to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



Carole Jaye
Deputy Principal

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

On Monday 13 February we were treated to a special Smoking Ceremony. It was conducted by Uncle Adam from Bush to Bowl who is a Garigal descendent. We sat on the field in yarning circles which are an ancient tradition practiced by Aboriginal people during ceremonies. A Smoking Ceremony is where an Aboriginal Elder lights eucalyptus leaves in a special way and cleanses everyone in the smoke. It is done to ward off evil spirits.

By Evie P and Tomas P 5/5T



OUT AND ABOUT AT MHPS



MHPS STUDENT BLOG

Please check out what our students have been 'out and about' doing at our **NEW** Middle Harbour PS Student Blog!

[MHPS STUDENT BLOG LINK](#)

PERSONAL BEST



Congratulations to Millar H of 2D who recently competed in the Athletics Regionals at Sydney Olympic Park. Millar made the finals in both the 400m and 700m races, and won the bronze medal in the Under 8 girls 700m race.

LIBRARY NEWS

Please visit our Library Newsletter (link below) for details on this year's Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC), as well as how to access eBooks and our library catalogue from home.

'The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is open to all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 10'.

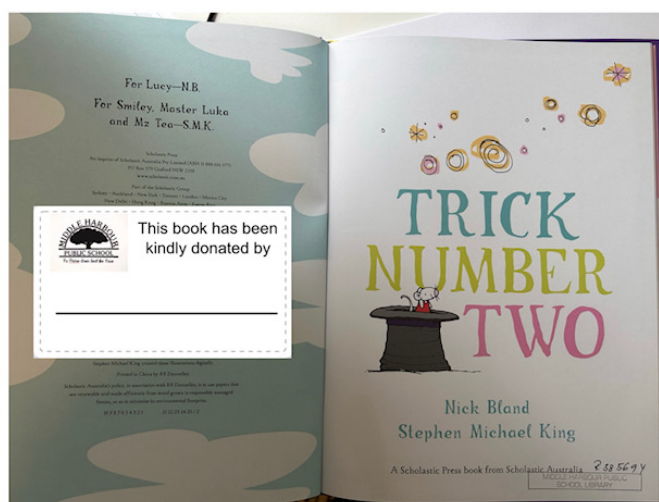
Just a reminder, K-2 Complete the PRC in their library lessons and parents do not need to do anything. Years 3-6 students have been shown how to log on and record books on the PRC. We have included instructions on how to log on so you can assist your child/ren at home.

[Library Newsletter - February 2023](#)

Grand and Special Friends' Day

As part of our Grand and Special Friends' Day events on Thursday 6 April, families are invited to visit and explore our library. We will also have a selection of books on display for families to purchase and donate to the school. Donations will be \$10 per book and in return, a special dedication to the student/family will be recorded inside the book. These families will then be the first to borrow their book from the library. Payments can be made using cash/credit card.

We look forward to seeing you all and thank you in advance for your support.



Sarah Rosenberg and Sarah Vaughan
Teacher Librarians

P&C NEWS

Week 6 already, do you believe it? 😊

A note was recently sent out (via the Class Parents), outlining what event your Year group would be managing this year. P&C will be in touch again shortly with a further update about each event.

Our Strings & Band groups have been busy meeting each week and it's lovely to see and hear the progress from week to week.

As a reminder (and for new parents), the P&C runs the Scholastic Book program. For every book purchased, Scholastic gives back 15% of the order to Middle Harbour for the school to purchase valuable educational resources. Your child/ren will come home with a catalogue every term.

The P&C has a few events coming up that we hope you will join us for:

- Garden & Grounds Working Bee this Sunday 5 March
- Outdoor Movie Night Saturday 11 March
- NSW State Election Cake Stall & Sausage Sizzle Saturday 25 March

If you haven't purchased a Movie Ticket yet, you can here. Please note that we are down to the last few Bean Bags!

<https://www.trybooking.com/CGDJK>

The P&C Executive all have new email addresses. Please use these if you need to contact any of us:

President - MiddleHarbourPublicSchool-pres@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Vice President - MiddleHarbourPublicSchool-vp1@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Secretary - MiddleHarbourPublicSchool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Treasurer - MiddleHarbourPublicSchool-treas@pandcaffiliate.org.au

And finally, this will be my last Newsletter entry as P&C President. After 12 months of hard work, I have decided to finish in the role at the end of Term 1. It has been fulfilling to be part of the P&C over that time and I am proud of the state I leave the P&C in. I thank the committee for all their hard work.

As parents/carers, you are welcome to nominate for the President role and if you wish to hear more about the position, please send your enquiry to the new email addresses for both the President & Secretary.

Diana Ferguson
P&C President
mhpspresident@gmail.com

KIDS COTTAGE NEWS

This term the Kids Cottage will be hosting a bake sale on the Tuesday 21 March for Mission Australia between 2:30pm and 5pm.

We would be extremely grateful for any baked goods donations that we would be able to sell on this day. We are also taking donations of clothes and food which we know will be extremely valuable for this charity. Here is the link if you would like to donate online:

<https://act.missionaustralia.com.au/fundraisers/thekidscottagemiddleharbour>

We once again thank you for always supporting our charity events that take place here at Kids Cottage.

MHPS NEW FINANCE SYSTEM

We are excited to announce our school will be transitioning to an upgraded School Bytes finance system on 21 March 2023!

In preparation for the transition to a simplified finance system for both you and the school, we will be required to implement a short payment lockout period where we will not be able to receive any online or EFTPOS payments.

What this means for you

- **No payments can be made online or via EFTPOS from 4pm, Wednesday 15 March 2023.**
- We will advise you when payments can resume closer to the above date
- Any existing payment links that have been sent to you previously in emails can still be used after the transition and will automatically redirect to the new system
- After the transition, a School Bytes portal will be available for you to register and begin using

- All previous payments made will be migrated to the new School Bytes finance system and portal

What is the School Bytes portal?

The School Bytes portal provides flexibility for you to conveniently:

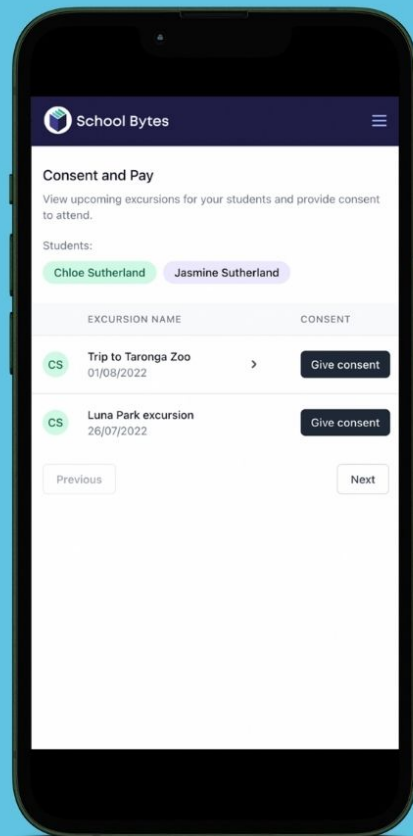
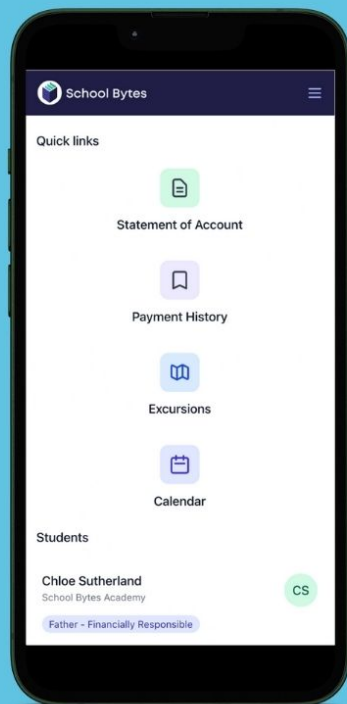
- Make school payments online (including paying for multiple siblings at once)
- Use a family credit to pay for an activity or school contributions
- Download a receipt for payments made
- View all historical payments in one place
- Complete and submit digital permission notes
- View the status of all permission notes
- Request a refund if required

This can be done where you want at any time: day or night.

Through the portal, you will easily be able to download a receipt once a payment has been made and have access to view all historical payments when needed. Online payments are processed in real-time and can be viewed by school staff immediately. While our preference is for payments to be made via the portal, we will still accept payment via cash, cheque, money order and EFTPOS.

AVAILABLE NOW!

We are excited to announce our school will be transitioning to a more flexible and simplified way parent/carers can make payments



The Parent Portal

- Easily make a payment online
- Download your receipt
- Sign and return permission notes digitally
- Use any credits on your account to make payment
- View your complete payment history
- Request a refund



School Bytes

AVAILABLE DURING

TERM 1

Register for the Parent Portal via the QR Code or visit

<https://portal.schoolbytes.education>



BACK TO SCHOOL NSW PROGRAM

You can now apply for the Premier's Back to School NSW program, offering \$150 worth of vouchers (3 x \$50 vouchers) to help pay for school supplies like school uniforms, shoes, bags, textbooks and stationery

Every primary and secondary school student in NSW is eligible for the vouchers.

You can apply for and access your vouchers in your MyServiceNSW account, in the Service NSW app, by calling Service NSW on 137788 or by visiting your local Service CentreExternal link.

To be eligible, your child needs to be a NSW resident and enrolled in a NSW primary or secondary school in 2023.

For more information and to access all vouchers, visit the Service NSW website.

The MHPS Office is able to accept the Back to School vouchers for excursions. Please come in to the Office to use your voucher.

The MHPS Uniform Shop is able to accept the Back to School vouchers. Please come in (Wednesday 8.45-9.15am and Friday 8.45-9.15am) to use your voucher. We regret that the vouchers cannot be used for online purchases.

2023 SCHOOL TRAVEL PASSES

2023 school travel applications are now open

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 as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody). You can apply [here](#)

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAY



Willoughby Girls High School Open Day on 22 March 2023

Details and bookings at
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=1027332&>