Dear Parents,

Congratulations Years 3-6 students, teachers and parents for a wonderful Swimming Carnival!

The day was excellent and very efficiently managed across the two pools. It was fabulous to witness the fantastic sportsmanship of our children and to hear all the ‘House Cheers’. Everyone seemed to be having a really good time! Well done to those super fast swimmers who made it through to the Zone Carnival to be held next week. I know that you will represent our school superbly.

Special thanks to:
- Fiona Davis, Stephen Dowler & Matt Fletcher for your faultless organisation and management of the carnival.
- all Years 3-6 students for truly excellent swimming in both pools and exemplary behaviour.
- all teachers who did such a fantastic job throughout the day.
- all parent volunteers, especially Michelle McKinnon, Hannah Bryant & the Sport Committee. Without your assistance and support we could not manage such an event so efficiently.

Well done all!

It was good to see so many of you at the recent Parent / Teacher Nights. I always feel that the year has really started when these are complete. Please don’t hesitate to make an appointment to speak to your child’s teacher or to me if you are still unsure of the expectations for the year. I also hope that many of you were inspired to take on one of the many P&C jobs discussed on each night, it’s a great way to make friends and to get to know more about the operation of our school.

Very special thanks to the tireless Sarah Dunn and her team who organised drinks in the hall COLA at the end of each evening.
Many of you may not be aware, however, this is the amazing Nestor's last week at MPS. Nestor has worked as General Assistant at our school for the past ten years and has done an absolutely brilliant job. His expertise, 'can do' attitude and boundless energy has made a tremendous difference. We have all valued his wonderful loyalty to the school, children, staff and parents.
Wherever you go in the school there is clear evidence of his fabulous work – in the gardens, the grounds, the classrooms, the many cupboards he has built, the walls he has made, the doors he has put in, the repairs he has made to a variety of equipment, the scenery he has built for our musicals, the long days he has worked tirelessly for the Mini-Mos etc. etc. the list is endless. Nestor has saved the school a huge amount of money through his skills in so many areas.

Nestor is returning permanently to his native Argentina where he will be living in his beloved San Martin.

Thank you for everything Nestor! You will be greatly missed by us all, very best wishes for your new life.

Best wishes,
Kate Cooper

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STUDENT HAPPENINGS

SWIMMING WITH 2B

On Tuesday 2B went swimming. First we went to the side of the swimming pool then we met the teachers and hopped into the water. It was very warm. We did breast stroke and then we dived into the pool. Finally, we got out and got dressed into our school uniforms. It was great.

By Douglas M

On Tuesday 2B went swimming. First we got changed. Second we went in the pool. I was the only person who needed a noodle. We blew bubbles in the water. It was fun!

By Adam H

BUDDIES

Today I went to Buddies as this term 6S are participating in the Buddies program. The Kindergarten class that we are paired with is KM. Their Teacher is Ms McCowatt.

My Buddy is Millie. She has blonde hair (which is shoulder length), blue eyes and shares my love for the colour purple.

Millie and I went out with the class and chose a piece of chalk. Millie then laid down and I traced around her with the chalk. We then swapped over and did it again. After that, we drew faces and hair on them. When we finished drawing the face and hair, we drew some clothes and shoes. Yay! We finished! When we were finished we gave back the chalk and walked to the classroom, hand in hand.

My class and I said goodbye to our Buddies and left. As we were walking back, I was already looking forward to the next session knowing that Millie and I got on so well. By Taneka P

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STEWART HOUSE

Just a reminder to please fill, if possible, your Stewart House bag and return to the area near the canteen by tomorrow, Tuesday 26th February. Thank you.
Just a reminder….BAND CAMP 5th & 6th JUNE

LIBRARY NEWS
Premier's Reading Challenge

All the students at MPS have been registered for the Premier’s Reading Challenge. In order to complete the Challenge, you will need to log on to the Premier’s Reading Challenge (NSW) site to enter the codes or titles of the books read. You will be able to do this from March 4th 2013.


Proceed to Logon on the menu on the left. The username and password is your child’s department internet login name and his/her individual password. The booklists and codes are also available on this site.

Kindergarten will be completing the challenge at school.

Years 1 and 2 will have access to a large number of books in their classroom and the library but are strongly encouraged to read widely at home.

Parents/carers of children in Years 1-6 are asked to help their child/ren to create a reading log on the PRC website, help with book entry and encourage wide reading.

The rules for the Challenge are on the website. Your child will need to read the following number of books.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Number of books needed to complete the Challenge</th>
<th>Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge</th>
<th>Maximum number of personal choice books</th>
<th>PRC booklist selection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-6, 7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-6, 7-9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please be aware that your child might be on his/her way to a highly-coveted gold award for 4 years of successful participation. Please encourage your child to continue the Challenge.

All entries must be entered and finalised by August 23rd so that I can validate them.

A certificate will be sent to the school for your child by the end of Term 4. Your child’s name will also appear on the PRC honour roll.

Thanks,
Maddy Goto
Teacher/Librarian

P&C NEWS

CANTEEN NEWS
What a busy couple of weeks we have had in the canteen. We have already had some fantastic events and positive changes to tell you about.

Thank you Volunteers
Firstly, we would like to take the opportunity to thank all the new volunteers who have signed up to help out in our little hub and also our wonderful returning helpers. Your assistance and your company make our job such a joy! For more information on volunteering, please come and see us at the canteen or email Layle at laylecarlos@yahoo.co.uk.
Welcome to Kindy
Secondly, we would like to welcome our new kindy kids for 2013. What a happy and settled bunch they are proving to be! Many of you are already ordering lunches for your children and they are enjoying the feeling of having a “real life canteen lunch”.

A couple of quick reminders for kindy parents:

- While you can place a lunch order any time, kindy kids can’t come to the canteen for counter service until week 6 and then it will only be at lunch time;
- If you are wondering how much to give your child when they ARE allowed to come, we recommend 50c. We have a good range of frozen and snack items available at that price so they will have a reasonable choice without being overwhelmed; and
- Online lunch orders come in a reusable paper bag. At the moment, we are placing kindy lunch orders in a normal paper bag which they put in the bin. However, from Week 6, they will revert to the reusable bags like the rest of the school and will have to bring their bag back to the canteen. We would appreciate it if you can remind them of this from week 6.

Chinese New Year
Our spring rolls were a great hit on Chinese New Year mufti day. So much so, we had to do an emergency dash for more spring rolls in the middle of the day, so thanks for all your support kids! We had some fantastic Chinese lantern decorations up and Mr Lu had kindly made up some name badges in Mandarin for Tara and her volunteers Paul, Sarah and Kylie that day. We had a great time and wish you all a very happy Year of the Snake!

Swimming Carnival
Many thanks to those who placed lunch orders for the swimming carnival this year. Over 150 children enjoyed a freshly delivered lunch pack to the carnival and the frozen juicies were devoured by the kids on such a hot day. Special thanks go to the AMAZING Jane Clark who made almost every one of the sandwiches that went into the packs! All done with a smile on her face and with wonderful recipe and travel tips along the way. Thanks also go to Vanessa Kyrikos who helped to pack and sort the dry goods into the bags the night before.

We would also like to acknowledge the generosity of Jimmy and Toula from Johnny’s fruit shop in Avenue Road. Jimmy hand-picked the fruit for the packs and provided it to us “at cost”. For any of you who know Jimmy and his legendary generosity, you will know that this means at cost to him! He chose the perfect sized bananas and new season apples so pass on your thanks if you get the chance.

Changes
You will see that we haven’t made too many changes to our menu this term from last year. We have removed a couple of items that weren’t selling as well (eg our yoghurt cups) and certain items have gone up a little due to supplier price rises. We have also removed our mini jelly cups so as to be in line with the Healthy Canteen Guidelines.

We have tried to work up a really good 50c menu so that parents can know that their child will have a good range to choose from if they send them with 50c. Choices on our 50c menu include a small bag of mini cookies, a slice of watermelon, a frozen juice, oat slice, frozen pineapple, 3 breadsticks or a frozen yoghurt pop. You can also buy carrot or cucumber sticks and popcorn for under 50c, so there is a great range.

Online Ordering
More and more of you are registering with our online ordering system School 24! Well done! It makes life so much more simple and efficient for us and for you. We anticipate that the uniform shop will move onto the same system this year so there is extra incentive to sign up. Drop into the canteen if you need any help with signing up.

Finally, thanks to the following wonderful MPS parents who will be joining us in volunteering in the canteen over the next fortnight:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>Mon February 25</th>
<th>Tues February 26</th>
<th>Wed February 27</th>
<th>Thurs February 28</th>
<th>Fri March 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30 - 11.30</td>
<td>Adi G</td>
<td>Claudia</td>
<td>Cathetine S</td>
<td>Fleming C</td>
<td>Sofia T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30 - 11.30</td>
<td>Tina S</td>
<td>Hitomi C</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hitomi C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30 - 11.30</td>
<td>Sumin L</td>
<td>Nicole T</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Riko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30 - 2.00</td>
<td>Lindy D</td>
<td>Emily F</td>
<td>Paul C</td>
<td>Monica G</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30 - 2.00</td>
<td>Mirri</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>Mon March 4</td>
<td>Tues March 5</td>
<td>Wed March 6</td>
<td>Thurs March 7</td>
<td>Fri March 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30 - 11.30</td>
<td>Karen N</td>
<td>Anna K</td>
<td>Layke C</td>
<td>Bonnie W</td>
<td>Sleen M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30 - 11.30</td>
<td>Tegan B</td>
<td>Fleur C</td>
<td>Kylie S</td>
<td>Sofia T</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30 - 11.30</td>
<td>Sumin L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nicole T</td>
<td>Riko</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30 - 2.00</td>
<td>Steph H</td>
<td>Pam H</td>
<td>Jane C</td>
<td>Sarah A</td>
<td>Paul E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30 - 2.00</td>
<td>Nicole T</td>
<td>Kate R</td>
<td>Karen K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As you can see, there are still a few gaps so please pop your name down on the board outside the canteen if you are free to help.

We look forward to sharing lots of laughs and some great food with you in 2013!

Simone (Mon), Sonia (Tues) and Tara (Wed – Fri)

COMMUNITY NEWS

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July. The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

North Sydney Brothers Junior Rugby League Football Club
We are looking for additional players from 5 years old to Senior Players. We have great coaches & provide excellent training skills. It only cost $80.00 per player which includes socks, shorts, jersey & player insurance, End of Season Trophy & a 2013 NRL Pass to all Club Games. If you would like to join a great family orientated club & have lots of fun, please register by calling Annette Hema on: 0404 610 048 or email: nsbros@hotmail.com or visit our website: www.nsbrothers.com.au

AFL
• On the back of an AFL Premiership in 2012 for the Sydney Swans, 2013 is the year to play AFL with the Mosman Swans. Registration is now open at www.mosmanswans.com.au
• In 2012 the club ran a fantastic Auskick program for boys and girls aged 3 to 7, and fielded teams from under 9s through to under 16s.
• And for the first time in its history the Mosman Swans fielded a Youth Girls team. In 2013 the club hopes to field under 12 & 16 Girls only teams
• Live the Dream, Play AFL in 2013 for the Mosman Swans

FOOTBALL
For 5 and 6 year olds. For registration please visit http://mosmanfootball.com/mfcevent.aspx?256. For all enquiries please contact Jane Randall on 0416 207 120 or via ajrandall@hotmail.com

CHESS COACHING
Chess coaching for students at Mosman Public School is held on Fridays from 3:15pm – 4:15pm in classroom 2V. Term 1 lessons commenced on 15th February, 2013 but it is never too late to join! Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board, puzzle solving and fun practice games. Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can either pick up an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.
MOSMAN HIGH SCHOOL
Military Rd, Mosman

OPEN NIGHT

Thursday 7 March
5pm – 8pm
Displays & student performances
Information on Special Programs
Sausage Sizzle & drinks provided

WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL
A Leader in Girls Education

Please join us for

OPEN NIGHT

Wednesday 13 March 2013
6.15 – 9.00 pm
School Hall

Principal: Ms Elizabeth Diprose
Phone: 9958 4141
Fax: 9967 2174

WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL
A Leader in Girls Education

Extension Class Placement Test for Year 7, 2014

Year 6 students will have an opportunity to sit a placement test for our Year 7 extension class for selected students.

Saturday 16 March 2013
9.15 – 11.30 am
School Hall

Please ring the school for further information and to book a test place.

Principal: Ms Elizabeth Diprose
Phone: 9958 4141
Fax: 9967 2174
KIDS TRI-MOSMAN

When: 3 March 2013 at 6.30am
What: Kids only triathlon (swim, bike, run)
How far: 7-11y swim 100m, bike 3km, run 500m
               12-17y swim 300m, bike 9km, run 2km
Where: Chowder Bay Mosman
Cost: $30 (incl. BTC membership, event kit, prizes)
Enter: www.balmoraltriclub.org.au
More info: Josh Burns info@balmoraltriclub.org.au