Dear Parents,

Thank you to the parents who attended the Teacher Information sessions this week. I have outlined some of the key points from my talk for you and the other parents who could not attend.

- Our school Student Welfare Policy is on the MPS website. A summary of the whole policy is also on the website. Key to good STUDENT WELFARE policies are programs, HSIE Units, and other related activities.
- Our Student Welfare Policy is underpinned by a comprehensive Social Skills Program and a Rules Program for each Year level with appropriate strategies and content for the applicable age group. These programs are taught in Term 1 weeks 1-4 every year.
- I talked about the digital age and the impact it is having on schools and students. Facebook, Instagram and other social mediums are wonderful tools for communication and connection. However, used incorrectly they can cause great harm and cause much distress. I have already dealt with the fallout from inappropriate involvement of MPS students using these sites. If your child uses these social sites you should be monitoring them regularly. You may be alarmed at some of the content. By checking emails, Facebook and stored photos you can give great advice on what is appropriate and inappropriate.
- Students are allowed to bring their mobile phones to school. However, the school does not take responsibility for damage or theft. They are to remain in student’s school bags and should not be accessed during the day. Parents who need to contact their child should do so through the main school office. A message will be given to students.
- Mobile phones, iPads, iPods or other devices capable of taking video or photos cannot be used in this way in the school grounds or to take images of students in our school uniform. If at any time your child receives inappropriate material; which are nasty, threatening or rude in the form of emails, photos or videos please download a copy to a memory stick or produce a printout as evidence and make an appointment with me.
**Invoices:** The term invoices went out last week. There has been a good payment response already. Included on the invoice is a School Resource / Technology contribution. *(This was wrongly labelled and should not have included the words P&C).* Please remember that invoices can be paid off in different ways, all at once, part-payment of contribution and individual payments before excursions take place. The Resource / Technology Contribution is a one-off yearly contribution which is invoiced in Term 1.

Schools are funded in four ways:-

- **Global Funding** - School are given an annual amount of funds to operate. Some funding is tied and can only be spent on fixed programs like teacher professional learning, learning support and curriculum implementation. Other Global funds pay for casual teachers, school maintenance and materials to be used by students.

- **The Resource /Technology Contribution** - This contribution goes to funding the KLA areas (English, Maths, Science, Technology, HSIE, PD.HPE), Mandarin, Student Welfare, the iPad project, extra time for sport and music organisation, extra technology support and technology running costs. Last year we undertook a big step into iPad use throughout the school.

- **P&C Donations** are made to the school from fundraising activities. This year the P&C will fund an extra teacher, an extra 2 ½ day Learning Support teacher, additional Teacher’s Aide time and maths supplies. The P&C has agreed to continue with the iPad rollout if costs are not covered by the Resource / Technology fee.

- **School Library fund** – A separate invoice will be sent out later this term for a library contribution. This contribution goes to replacing books and resources in the library and other running costs.

In term 4 of every year the **budgeting process** is conducted. All the above areas are discussed at a P&C meeting and the Budget is ratified at a following P&C meeting.

**Unjustified Absence from school** - Last year when the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) visited the school to check on attendance she identified that some children were taking UNJUSTIFIED absences from school. School hours are from 9:00am to 3:10pm. Students should not be leaving school early to attend dance, music, swimming lessons or other activities.

**Swimming Carnival:** I was only able to attend for part of the day but when I was there excitement and competition were in the air. Thank you Stephen Dowler, Sports Coordinator, and the 3-6 teaching team for making the day such a success. As always the fantastic parent contingent on hand to help was much appreciated.

Best wishes,

Colin Cobcroft
Acting Principal

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**STEWART HOUSE**

Stewart House clothing appeal bags will be sent home with your child next week. Please fill if possible and return to the area below the mural near the Canteen by Tuesday 4 March. Thank you.

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**School Clean-up Australia Day**

Students at Mosman Public School will take part in ‘Schools Clean Up Day’ on Friday 28th February during the afternoon session. An email will be sent to all families outlining the areas to be ‘cleaned-up’. If you do not wish your child to participate please let your child’s teacher know.

Fiona Davis
Rel. Deputy Principal
Reminders:

Please - No dogs in school grounds

Please - No scooters in school grounds

STUDENT HAPPENINGS

ASSEMBLY ADDRESS to Year 3-6 by Mr John Hare

At this week’s assembly we were very privileged to have a special guest speaker. His name was Mr John Hare, founder of the Wild Camel Protection Foundation who spoke to all 3-6 children as to why these animals are so important. Mr Hare spoke about the countries that have the largest population of wild camels which are China and Mongolia.

He also told us that his foundation is in Mongolia and they are trying to stop the extinction of the eighth most endangered species, the wild camel. The cool thing he said was that a wild camel can survive in extreme temperatures ranging from 50 degrees to minus 40 degrees. Camels are an interesting and useful animal.

I really enjoyed watching the presentation and I would really like to thank Mr John Hare for giving us this opportunity to learn about one of the most interesting animals in the world. Pasa M – 6S
2014 Swimming Carnival

Sport News

This year’s swimming carnival was an entertaining event for all involved. The competitive and non-competitive events again had high attendance. Students and parents were positive and cheered loudly which made for an exciting and lively atmosphere.

A big thank you must go out to all the teachers and the many parents who assisted with the running of the carnival. A special thank you to Sonia Renwick for organising all the wonderful parent volunteers. The carnival would not have been such a success without everyone’s invaluable help.

A big congratulations to all the students that partook in the day’s events and earned valuable points for their House. Well done to the students who excelled in the competitive events and have been selected to go on to the next level of competition. We wish them well at the Zone Swimming Carnival.

Swimming champions will be announced and ribbons will be awarded after all results have been calculated.

Stephen Dowler - Sports Coordinator

Swimming Carnival
Wow, what an unbelievable swimming carnival. Everyone was cheering and participating in the many races. The atmosphere of the carnival was incredible. Being House Captain of Red Rangers was a real experience for me. Leading all the cheers, congratulating all the participants directly, with a lolly provided by the House Captains and other Year 6 Rangers, but most of all leading a whole House to try their best made me feel like a real leader.

All the parents were amazing! They spent the whole day helping with time keeping and assisting in the running of a very successful and fun carnival. Many parents also showed their support by watching their child swim, which would have put a big smile on any child’s face.

Teachers were also extremely helpful on the day. Keeping score, making sure all races were timed correctly and which student was in what race. I believe that running all these things and having to control hundreds of other children would put a lot of pressure on all teachers. Without the wonderful teachers, there would be no swimming carnival.
I think that all of Mosman Public School’s swimming carnivals have been fun and competitive and I have loved every one of them. I hope all the future carnivals are just as enjoyable for everyone. *Sophie G - 6S*

**Stage 3 Tennis**

Every Friday all of Years 5 and 6 go to Primrose Park and play one hour of tennis. We leave from school at 12pm and arrive back just before 3:10pm.

At 12pm all of Year 5 and Year 6 go down to the Mola where we wait for the buses to arrive.

When we arrive at Primrose Park we all walk from the bus to where we eat. Years 5 and 6 don’t play tennis together. Year 5 play an hour of tennis while Year 6 have lunch and play. At 1.30pm we swap.

Ever since the first day of tennis Years 5 and 6 get split up into groups according to their level of skill so that the coaches can plan and run appropriate games that suit individual skill levels.

I think tennis is a fun way to end the week. *Caley M and Chloe T - 6S*

**Cross Country training**

Every Wednesday morning all of stage 3 students participate in cross country training. We run around the inside and outside of Allan Border Oval. We have been running three laps inside the oval and two laps outside. After our tiring running training we do various stretches for thirty seconds including some strength work such as planks, squats, burpees and push-ups. Ms Tan also runs around the oval with us and keeps us moving. Mr Dowler and the other teachers stand at certain points around the oval and encourage us to keep jogging and not give up. *Stephanie B - 6S*
iPads in the classroom

Throughout the term, all of Year 6 will be using iPads in the classroom. We use iPads in lots of different subjects. Today we used the iPads to research Government, using the Internet to learn about the different levels of Government and what they are responsible for. We presented our findings using an Application called Popplet. (My research is on the left).

Throughout the year we will also use a variety of different presentation programs that are available for us to use on the iPads.

Possibly the most used and valued program on the iPads is Edmodo. Edmodo is like a safe and secure way that teachers can send messages, tasks and assignments to students and we can send completed work back to the teachers. Parents can access Edmodo to see what their children have been doing in class and look at stories about recent events and news that have been posted on the stage 3 page.

The iPads are a valuable resource that teachers and students are looking forward to using more frequently throughout the year. Jac M - 6S

It is unbelievable how fast technology is growing and how it makes life easier. During the past few years our school has gone from using desktop computers to laptops and now we are using iPads. This week we used iPads in our class and based on my opinion it is an amazing experience for students compared with previous technologies. iPads are light-weight, portable, fast and easy to use. Today I created a Popplet about Government Services which we are learning about this semester. Many thanks to the school for providing the new communication technologies which bring us joy and comfort like never before. Parsa M - 6S
**Buddies 2014**

Every Thursday afternoon, 6S go to their buddy class, KM to help with activities and to bond with each other. My buddy is called Berkeley and her birthday is in March and she is turning 5. We talk to them about all sorts of things and read story books. This week, we helped them to write when their birthday is going to be and how old they are turning. We also coloured a birthday cake together. Next, we read a book to them with fun pictures.

Year 6 are the leaders of the school so we have the responsibility to look after the younger children and to be role models. Each day after our recess and lunch, two students from each Year 6 class go out to the playground and help the Kindy children during their recess and lunchtime. We help with tying their shoelaces, opening packets of food or just simply telling them what’s wrong and what’s right.  

*Chloe Kang – 6S*

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

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**Netball**

Mosman Netball is particularly looking for Year 3 or Year 4 girls (born 2005 or 2006), who have not yet registered for the winter season, to play in a Nettas 9 group. New players are very welcome. Please contact Karenfwiles@yahoo.co.uk for more information.
Save the date: Tuesday March 4

Have a kick with a Sydney Swans player at our season launch at Middle Head Oval on March 4 from 5pm.

Mosman Public School families and friends are invited to join in our first training session for the year, have a kick and a sausage and meet the stars of the game.

Swans players will be there to sign autographs, pose for selfies and offer advice to aspiring young AFL players.

Willoughby Girls High School

Open Night
To be held on Wednesday 12 March 2014 from 5.00-7.30pm in the school hall. Ph: 9958 4141.

Extension Class Placement Test for Year 7, 2015
Year 6 students will have an opportunity to sit a placement test for our Year 7 extension class for selected students. Saturday 15 March 2014 from 9.15-11.30am in the school hall. Please ring the school for further information and to book a test place. Ph: 9958 4141.