



MOUNT TERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Growing Strong Reaching Far

Principal: Mr David O'Connor

Deputy Principal: Mr Steve Hailstone, Mrs Jemima Gammone & Mrs Mel Kirk

TERM 3 WEEK 4

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Go Mount Terry Game Changers!

Congratulations to our Mount Terry Game Changers who did a sensational job at the State finals of the Game Changer Challenge in Sydney last week. This involved being in Sydney for most of the week undertaking a high level challenge to answer the question: 'How can we humanise technology?' The creative minds of the group relished the opportunity to be part of this competition and did a fabulous job, representing themselves and our school with distinction and were awarded one of the runner up prizes. I would like to thank Mr Livingstone for leading our students throughout the entire competition which began some months ago. It was great to see something like this made possible through our new Gifted and Talented Program – FIERCE. I would also like to thank both Mr Livingstone and Mrs Boyd, who accompanied our students for the three days and nights in Sydney.

Regional South Combined Network Awards

Last Thursday evening, one of our fabulous parents and leader of the P&C Fundraising Committee, Cindy O'Keefe, was acknowledged at the Regional South Combined Network Awards ceremony. Cindy was selected from nominations across 20 local schools to be awarded the Parent/Community Member Network Award for Shellharbour. Cindy received this award for her outstanding contributions and efforts through her work on the P&C and the Fundraising Committee. We are very thankful for all the time, effort and energy Cindy gives so willingly for the benefit of our whole school community and it was so nice to see her recognised through this prestigious and very well-deserved award. Congratulations, Cindy! Please see some photos further in the newsletter.

Book Week

Next Week is Book Week which is always a very exciting time in the school calendar. On Monday, we have a visiting illustrator, Cheryl Orsini, who will be speaking with our students across the day. On Tuesday, we have our Book Week Parades (9:15 – 10:30 for K-2 and 11:30 – 12:40 for 3-6). Every day next week there will be a Book Fair in the library where children and parents can come up and buy a great new book for themselves, or even buy one to donate to our library (please see the library news in this newsletter for Book Fair times each day). We hope to see lots of parents up at the school for the Book Week Parade on Tuesday and to support the Book Fair throughout the week. Please see details further in the newsletter.

Parent Reading Information Session

Next Tuesday evening from 6:30-7:30pm, parents are invited up to the school for a free information session on how to help their children with reading at home. This session will give parents some great practical tips to take away and the opportunity to ask lots of questions about how they can best assist their children with their learning at home. We hope many of you can come along to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Week 4	NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK
Mon 12 Aug	* P&C Meeting 6.30pm
Wed 14 Aug	* District Athletics - Kiama
Thur 15 Aug	* District Athletics - Kiama * Southern Stars Rehearsal - Illawarra Sports Stadium Berkley
Week 5	BOOK WEEK
Mon 19 Aug	* Author Visit
Tue 20 Aug	* Girls Netball Gala Day 9am-2.30pm * K-2 Book Parade 9.15-10.30am * 3-6 Book Parade 11.30am-12.40pm * Parent Reading Information Session – Staffroom 6.30pm-7.30pm
Wed 21 Aug	* 7am-6pm Southern Stars Rehearsal WEC
Thur 22 Aug	* 7.30am-6.30pm Southern Stars Full Dress Rehearsal WEC * Southern Stars Mass Chior Rehearsal at Smith's Hill HS * P&C Fathers Day Stall
Fri 23 Aug	* 7.30am-2.30pm Southern Stars Matinee Performance WEC * Southern Stars Evening Performance WEC
Sat 24 Aug	* Southern Stars Matinee & Evening Performances
Week 6	
Thur 29 Aug	* Yr 2 Excursion to Killalea
Week 7	Fruit & Veg Week
Tue 3 Sep	* ICAS Digital Technologies
Thur 5 Sep	* ICAS Science * Mufti Day - Footy Colours Day

Southern Stars

Things have been really heating up as we approach show week next week for Southern Stars. Our children are very excited about performing and I am really looking forward to watching them shine as they take their part in the dance and choir sections of this fabulous showcase of public education talent. Tickets are still available for the Friday evening and Saturday matinee and evening shows which will be held at the WEC. I hope to see lots of you there!

Save the Date – Albion Park Cricket Club Free Clinic

On Friday 30th August, there will be a special cricket clinic for Mount Terry students interested in playing cricket. The clinic will be absolutely free and will be held on the newly opened Albion Park cricket ground. There will be lots of great activities for all ability levels and children can simply go along, have a fun afternoon and see what the cricket club has to offer. The clinic will be open to current players, children interested in playing for the first time and/or those who just want to go and see what it might be like to play cricket. More information and details will be included in the next newsletter.

Kindergarten Enrolment for 2020

Thank you to all the parents who have let us know about their children who will be starting kindergarten at our school next year. This really helps us with our organisation and forward planning. If you have a child starting kindergarten next year, and haven't already done so, please contact the school office as a matter of importance this week. If you know another family with a child starting, please ask them if they have contacted our office yet. We really need to have a good idea about numbers by the end of this week for administration purposes. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Trivia Night

A huge thank you to all the parents and teachers who came along to support the school and have some fun at the P&C Trivia Night on Saturday 4th August. Special thanks to Cindy O'Keefe and the Fundraising Team for their fabulous organisation and also to Mr Bannister and Mr Livingstone for running the trivia side of the evening. The P&C raised \$2802 which was fabulous and will benefit all our students at Mount Terry – thank you!

Education Week

It was great that so many parents, grandparents, relatives, carers and friends could join us for the Education Week Open Day last Thursday. We hope you enjoyed the special assembly performances and the opportunity to pop into classrooms to see what the children have been doing in their work.

Year 4 Visit to Albion Park HS

Last Monday, Year 4 had the opportunity to visit Albion Park HS for some fun activities and a chance to get a glimpse of the high school environment. This particular excursion is the first of a number of transition to high school experiences that are organised for our students to help make the transition to high school easier for our students when they graduate Yr 6. A great time was had by all and as usual, the staff at Albion Park High did a fabulous job. We are lucky to be associated with such a fabulous local public high school.

Year 5 Mogo Zoo Excursion

It was a very big day for Year 5 last Friday when they headed off bright and early for their excursion to Mogo. The day was jam-packed with visits to Old Mogo Town where they learnt about colonial history and to Mogo Zoo where they saw lots of animals, birds and insects up close. It was a late return at about 7pm so I'm sure there were some very tired people on Friday night, including the teachers. A big thank you goes out to our Year 5 teachers for organising such a great experience for our Yr 5 students.

P&C Meeting

Our apologies that the P&C Meeting had to be cancelled last night due to the black-out in Albion Park. Communicating this to people was difficult as there was no power to send a Skoolbag message so I hope the information filtered through to those people who were intending to come along. After discussions with the P&C President, we have decided to have just one P&C meeting this term at the usual time in week 8. This is due to a number of events and commitments in the coming few weeks. Thank you for your understanding about this last minute change.

Father's Day Stall

Our Father's Day stall will be held on Thursday 22nd August, we are aware that a number of students will be out of the school on this day for Southern Stars and District Athletics Carnival. Please rest assured these students will not miss out, they will have an opportunity to purchase a gift/s upon their return to school on that Friday (Athletics) and Monday (Southern Stars) from the office.

District Athletics Carnival

Good luck to all those students who will be representing our school at the District Athletics Carnival this Wednesday and Thursday in Kiama. We know you will do your best and represent our school well.

Staffing News

This week, we welcomed three pre-service teachers from UoW who are completing their internship at our school. This is their last professional experience placement before graduating and we are very happy to have them join our staff team for the next 6 weeks. Miss Jaimi Catterall will be working with 6T, Miss Brooke Redman with 5/6W and Miss Caitlin Sole will be with 1D. Please join me in welcoming them to our school community.

Staff Are Learners Too!

Tue 30th July: Our Year 1 teachers continued their ongoing L3 training.

Wed 31st July: All teaching staff stayed back for an evening of professional learning around the new PD/H/PE syllabus which will be implemented in full from the beginning of 2020. During this time, teachers also completed some mandatory training in the management of anaphylaxis.

Fri 2nd August: Mrs Schmidt and Mrs Kirk attended a workshop on the teaching and learning of mathematics

David O'Connor
Principal



'FIERCE' GAME CHANGER TEAM

On Monday 5th August, the Mount Terry 'FIERCE' Game Changer team departed for Sydney to participate in a competition of creative thinking and future designs, having won a position in the finals: one of nine primary schools, out of 150 competition entries. After unpacking at the Park Royal we explored the nearby Paramatta River and enjoyed a relaxing and tasty Welcome Dinner with the other teams. And then the work began...

Day 1 consisted of a tour of Google Headquarters at Pyrmont, lessons on improving design thinking skills and a Q&A session with future planners and Google staff. This was a highlight for all the students, especially receiving their 'newgoogler' hats and google socks.

Wednesday morning the teams were off to DOE Head Office, Paramatta to work on their presentation ideas. Our students attended workshops to improve their skills in robotics, 3D imaging, 3D maps and creative thinking. This was an extremely busy, long and tiring day as the team prepared their pitch to convince a judging panel of the value of their idea - 'Virtual Anything: The Education Simulation' (VATES). They used all of their new knowledge to create a fantastic presentation about their virtual education world for students who can't access regular education due to illness, rural locations or finances.

The team was up very early Thursday morning rehearsing their pitch and making last minute adjustments before heading to Head Office for the competition, where they were awarded 'Runner Up' medallions.

Mr Livingstone and myself were so impressed with the exemplary behaviour of our Mount Terry team. Whilst working 11 hour days, Ashley, Alannah, Kye, Jordan, Ethan and Noah maintained their cooperative, collaborative and creative spirits and didn't let the pressure of the competition detract from their ability to work as a team. They are true winners in our opinion.

Mr Livingstone and Mrs Boyd





SCOPEIT DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Next term, we are excited to be offering a new program at Mt Terry Public School, referred to as ScopeIT. This program aligns with the new NSW Science Syllabus and will support our teaching of coding for all students from kindergarten to year 6. The program will run throughout Term 4.

ScopeIT are an Australian owned and operated education company, servicing primary schools and high schools with the delivery of digital technologies. ScopeIT will be providing Mount Terry students with all the necessary equipment (e.g. 2:1 laptops, software, ozobots, Spheroes) and differentiated learning workshops to support their development of coding knowledge and skills.

The cost of this program is normally \$60 per student. However, we have been able to subsidise this program through the support of our P&C and school funds. The cost of this program will be \$20 per student and will be included in Term 3 fees.

Kind regards,

Miss Rebecca Hopkins

MTPS SOFTBALL TEAM



The Mount Terry Softball team played in the State Knockout semi-finals against Jerrabomberra P.S on the 1st August in Kiama. They went up against a very strong side but fought as hard as they could, chasing every ball and getting some hits off a very fast pitcher. Unfortunately we lost 22-3 but a special shoutout to the team who have been training weekly and the parents who committed to bringing them every week. Congratulations to Billy, Max, Jake, Ava, Saraya, Kye, Cody, Ben and Jack for playing as a team showing great sportsmanship and representing our school. Mrs Cartwright

SPORT

Congratulations to Sebastian W and Lilly O who were awarded the Beverley Whitfield Swimming award from representatives from Shellharbour council at the Monday morning assembly. The children were recognised as our 2019 senior swimming champions. Well done!

Best of luck to all of the children who will be participating in the district athletics carnival at Kiama Sporting Complex on Wednesday 14th August and Thursday 15th August. We know that you will try your best and be excellent ambassadors for our school.

Special mention to our senior girls netball team who will be playing in the NSW TAFE School Cup after qualifying earlier in the year. We look forward to hearing about your achievements.

Commiserations to our senior boys and girls touch football teams who were eliminated from the state knockout competition last week. The children should be extremely proud of their efforts because we certainly are. Both sides played some impressive touch football and gained a great deal from the experience.

Congratulations to Jake D and Max F (Touch Football), Myles C (Golf) and Ava B (Softball) who were selected in the South Coast team in their chosen sports. Cody C was also selected in the Illawarra Zooka team to play at the country championships. Best of luck in your chosen sports.

Mr Fownes

PARENT READING WORKSHOP

Would you like some suggestions for helping your child with reading at home? The staff at MTPS will be holding a free workshop to help you with this very important job!

The workshop will cover lots of useful tips to assist you in supporting your child's reading whether they are in Kindergarten or Year 6.

Join us in the staffroom from 6.30pm until 7.30pm on Tuesday 20th August.

We know it can be difficult to attend events such as this, so to support you, we have limited childcare available for Mount Terry P.S students. Students will be entertained in a classroom with a movie and some popcorn!

We look forward to seeing you there!

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week is in Week 5 and has the theme: Reading is my Secret Power! We are celebrating! Our school events are listed: Mon 19th August: visiting illustrator Cheryl Orsini. A small fee was included in the term invoice to cover this activity. Our students, in stage groupings, will be entertained by her fast-paced, funny and interactive presentations. Cheryl is passionate about 'colouring-in' for a living, and has illustrated over 30 children's books and several magazines, including the School Magazine. Her work is visible in many of our home readers as well as in the following books: Lucy's Book, The ABC Book of Food, The Tales of Mrs Mancini, The Magic Bookshop, Frederick Goes Bananas and quite a few chapter books too!

Tues 20th August: Book Character Parade. Each student attending in costume will have their name go into a 'participation' draw that is announced at Wednesday's assembly. One student from each grade will win a free book from the Book Fair to the value of \$17.00. Times are below.

K-2 Book Character Parade – 9:15-10:30am

3-6 Book Character Parade – 11:30 – 12:40am

Book Fair runs all week at the times listed below. Students will preview the items on the Book Fair during week 5 in their library lessons, at which point they will be advised of the price range. Unfortunately we can't offer to "order" books that have sold out from the tables this year.

Monday 19th - Before school 8:20-8:45am, Lunchtime – 2nd half, After school 2:50-3:15pm

Tuesday 20th - Lunchtime – 2nd half, After school 2:50-3:15pm

Wednesday 21st - Before school 8:20-8:45am, Lunchtime – 2nd half

Thursday 22nd - Lunchtime – 2nd half, After school 2:50-3:15pm

Friday 23rd - Before school 8:20-8:45am, Lunchtime – 2nd half, After school 2:50-3:15pm

Even if you don't buy, please come and see the great posters that classes have made from the 2019 CBCA Short Listed titles.

The Premier's Reading Challenge for this year also wraps up for students at the end of the month on the 30th! Teachers in K-2 have been sharing 30 selected books with their classes. Students in years 3-6 have been busy borrowing from our Premier's Reading Collection areas and to date, almost half the school have finished their readings. 355 students are well on the way to completing their 20 required books before the cut-off date on the 30th. Successful students will receive their Premier's Reading Certificate at the end of the year, but we will celebrate prior to that with a small yummy treat! Bronwyn Stafford, Teacher Librarian.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS - MSP PHOTOGRAPHY

Our school photos are scheduled for Thursday 12th September & Friday 13th September. Personalised order envelopes have been sent home Tuesday 13th August. We request that students wear full school uniform and be prepared to be photographed on both days. Due to the complexity of scheduling photos across a large school, we need to keep a flexible timetable and it will not be possible to accommodate individual requests. Please take the time to read the relevant information on the MSP photography payment envelopes and remember these important points:

* All students need to bring their envelope back to school **on photo day** even if they are not purchasing photos.

Your child will be asked to present their envelope directly to the MSP photographer.

* Please enclose correct money as **no** change can be given

* Sibling photo envelopes are available at the school office

CHOOK-SITTING-ROSTER

17 & 18 Aug	24 & 25 Aug	31 Aug & 1 Sept	7 & 8 Sept	14 & 15 Sep	21 & 22 Sep
Maddison D 2A	Ruby & Indy A 3C & KH		Archie R KK	Ruby & Indy A 3C & KH	

ACE AWARDS K - 2

KB	Callum T & Kiara G	1C	Toby L & Eliza S
KH	Selena C & Indi A	1D	Tylet O & Brodie M
KK	Starlet O & Olivia B	1H	Emma C & Maci H
KM	Rylan H & Lucas S	2B	Cooper B & Brock M
KT	Mia-Jayde G & Joshua C	2F	Lachlan D & Indy K
1A	Taleisa L & Sophia W	2H	Flynn P & Layla H
1B	Isabella A & Leo B	2A	Mia S & Jaxon M

ACE AWARDS 3 - 6

3C	Thomas O & Ari N	5F	Lani T & Caleb K
3H	Lucas G & Olivia L	5L	Ben K & Mia L
3N	Indiah-Rose H & Chase C	5P	Addison G & Ripley P
3/4K	Brady T & Krystal W	5/6W	Zaliah L & Ariella D
4B	Lennon C & Harmonie P	6B	Jack C & Rhianna R
4H	Sky V K-T & Brynley H	6R	Breanna M & Joshua S
4M	Chelsea S & Storm P	6T	Cohen D & Tayla C

Facebook Page: Mt Terry P&C Fundraising

Obstacool – Obstacool is back!! The event is on Tuesday 17th September. We would love your support in getting as many sponsors as you can! This is a major P&C fundraiser and was the highest earning fundraiser last year. We would love to beat last year's efforts! **All money and sponsorship forms are due back by Tuesday 20th August. No late money can be accepted. Please don't miss out!!**

Father's Day Stall – This year's Father's Day stall is being held on Thursday 22nd August. We will have gifts available for purchase from \$2 - \$7 and notes will come this week. We know that some children will be at the Southern Stars dress rehearsal on that day but due to other scheduled events and availability we were unable to change this date. Please be assured that as usual we will have boxes with a fantastic selection set up in the office for a week after the stall that the children can purchase from. They will not miss out!

Trivia Night – Thank you so much to everyone who came to the Trivia Night last night. We had 97 people come along! I hope you all had as much fun as I did! The night raised another \$2802 for the school and we got to have fun doing it! Win, win!

So many thanks to be given out. Big, big thank you to Mr Bannister and Mr Livingstone for putting all the questions together and playing the role of Quizmasters. You were both a big part of making the night so fun! More big, big thanks to my sidekicks Renee Dumughn, Kelly Owen, Amanda Priestley and Jillian Sikora who ran around all night selling raffle tickets etc and also did all the marking and scoring! They made my job super easy and I appreciate it so much!!

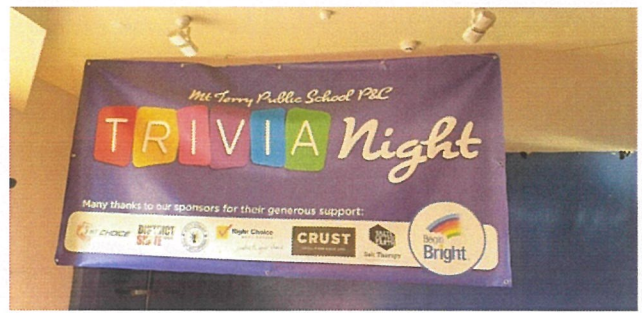
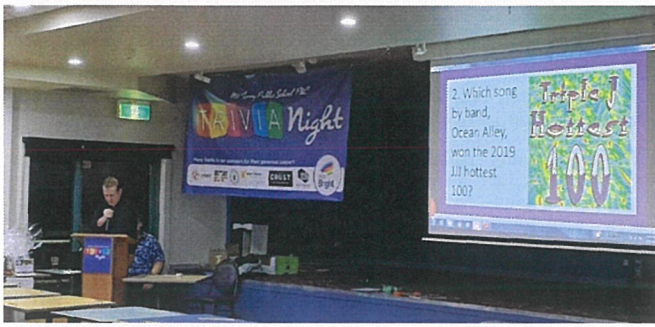
At the end of the night, the Teacher's table took out the top prize, which is kind of comforting seeing they teach our kids. Well done teachers!!

We need to of course thank our sponsors again! [Begin Bright Shellharbour](#), [Salts of the Earth Shellharbour](#), [1st Choice Mechanical Repairs](#), [City Coast Pest Solutions](#), [District Skate Oak Flats](#), [Right Choice Real Estate](#) and [Crust Pizza](#) The sponsorship money that came from these guys helped us raise more money on the night so a big thank you for that!

Also, we had so many amazing prizes donated and we are super grateful for that! So many thanks to the following businesses that helped us out! [Flip Out Trampoline Arena](#), [Illawarra Inflatable Play Centre](#), [Novotel Wollongong Northbeach](#), [UOW Early Start Discovery Space](#), [Shane Dowel's Swim School](#), [The Roo Theatre Company](#), [Entertainment Book](#), [Shoalhaven Zoo](#), [Nardi's Italian Restaurant](#), [Mercure Gerringong Resort](#), [Inflatable World Wollongong NSW](#), [Illawarra Performing Arts Centre \(IPAC\)](#), [Salts of the Earth Shellharbour](#), [Australian Geographic](#), [District Skate Oak Flats](#), [A little bit of Meka](#), [Anytime Fitness](#), [Gala Twin Cinemas](#), [Crust Pizza](#), [The Coffee Club Australia](#) and [Holy Moley](#).

Thanks to Albion Park Bowling Club for donating the room for us to hold the night again also!

Let's support the businesses that support us where we can!



Entertainment Books –Last year's Entertainment books have now expired!! If you haven't already ordered an entertainment book this year, now is the time! We will not be sending a book home with each student this year. If you would like to order you can order through the link below. This year's book is packed with heaps of savings and it isn't hard to make your money back on the book plus make heaps of savings on top of that! If you order a hard copy book rather than a digital copy, please contact us after you have done so with your child's name and class and we will get the book delivered to their classroom! We get \$11 from every book sold which adds up so if you have any friend's or relatives who purchase or want to purchase the book, send them our link to buy through! <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2a81546>

Uniform Shop Opening hours!!

Tuesday and Thursday 2.30pm – 3pm
Friday 8.30am – 9am

CANTEEN

The canteen needs you!!! The canteen has been super busy lately which is fantastic BUT this means our kids have been standing longer waiting in lines which is not so fantastic. To try and combat this we are asking for an extra volunteer to come in each day just between 12.30pm and 1.30pm purely to help serve at the counter. If you can help with this on a regular basis or even just on a random day or two, please contact the canteen or message us on our facebook page to let us know you can help. We would love to get these kids out of the line and off playing sooner! We also definitely don't want kids missing out which is known to happen on occasion!

Remember, if you want to help in the canteen but can't do a full day that's fine! The canteen is always super grateful for any time you can offer. It may be an hour in the morning, maybe you can pop in and serve at recess or come for an hour just before lunch to help pack lunch orders. Any help in the canteen is always welcome!

CANTEEN ROSTER 0455 960 129

Thank you to all our volunteers for your valuable assistance.

Week 4		
Monday 12th Aug	Beata Bezold	
Tuesday 13th Aug	Linda Bertenshaw	Marleen Took
Wednesday 14th Aug	Nadine Smith	Sonia Tayler
Thursday 15th Aug	Marleen Took	Heather Astill
Friday 16th Aug	Nadine Smith Mel Singh	Alison Christensen
Week 5		
Monday 19th Aug	Beata Bezold	
Tuesday 20th Aug	Bec Coghlan	Marleen Took
Wednesday 21st Aug	Nadine Smith	Kelly (12-1.30)
Thursday 22nd Aug	Nadine Smith	Marleen Took
Friday 23rd Aug	Emily Austin	Lauren Gray
Week 6		
Monday 26th Aug	Beata Bezold	
Tuesday 27th Aug	Linda Bertenshaw	Marleen Took
Wednesday 28th Aug	Nadine Smith	Sonya Tayler
Thursday 29th Aug	Marleen Took	Heather Astill
Friday 30th Aug	Jayd Marsh	Nadine Smith

Mount Terry Public School Kindergarten 2020 Enrolling Now



Kindergarten 2020 Enrolling Now!! Please speak to our friendly office staff to collect your enrolment forms and book in your tour. Your tour will be led by Mr O'Connor, Mr Hailstone, Mrs Gammone or Mrs Kirk.



Mt Terry Public School

Growing Strong, Reaching Far

Transition to 'Big' School 2020

Session 1

Tuesday 15th or Thursday 17th October
9.15am – 10.30am

- ★ New Kindergarten students in classrooms
- ★ Parent meeting in the hall
- ★ Meet your Year 6 Buddy

Session 2

Tuesday 22nd or Thursday 24th October
9.15am – 10.30am

- ★ New Kindergarten students in classrooms
- ★ Parent meeting in the hall

Session 3

Tuesday 29th or Thursday 31st October
9.15am – 10.30am

- ★ New Kindergarten students in classrooms
- ★ Parent meeting in the hall
- ★ Bring fruit for 'Fruit Break'



Principal: Mr David O'Connor
Deputy Principal: Mr Steve Hailstone,
Mrs Jemima Gammone & Mrs Melissa Kirk

Phone: 4257 4370

Email: mtterry-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Mount Terry Public School

Growing Strong Reaching Far



Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are delighted to inform you that Mt Terry Public School will be participating in the ICAS Assessments this year. ICAS is developed by UNSW Global, a wholly owned subsidiary of the University of New South Wales, with over 35 years' experience in educational assessments.

ICAS is designed to assess students' higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling and Digital Technologies.

Each assessment celebrates students' accomplishments by providing opportunities for recognition. Every student will receive a certificate and an online result report. Top performers will be eligible for medals and are invited to attend special award ceremonies to have their academic excellence publicly recognised.

ICAS Assessments are now online, a move that reflects a sector-wide transition to computer-based assessment. This allows greater accessibility for students and faster delivery of results. Assessments available for students in Years 2-6 are, English, Mathematics, Science and Spelling Bee. Years 3-6 can also select Writing and Digital Technologies. The cost of each assessment is \$15.95 inclusive of GST and you can learn more about ICAS here: unsw.global/ICAS.

Subject	School Years	Official Sitting Dates	Participation Price
Digital Technologies	3-6	Tuesday 3 September	\$15.95
Science	2-6	Thursday 5 September	\$15.95
Writing	3-6	Tuesday 10 September	\$15.95
Spelling Bee	2-6	Thursday 12 September	\$15.95
English	2-6	Tuesday 17 September	\$15.95
Maths	2-6	Thursday 19 September	\$15.95

Online parent payment

This year payment is to be made online. There is no option to pay at school or via school invoicing. The online parent payment system is a simple and secure online payment service specifically for parents to purchase ICAS Assessments. You can access this service by typing unsw.global/parentpay into a browser and then entering the unique access code below. Select the ICAS assessments that your child will be sitting and ensure this is paid for by 31 July 2019. You will also need to enter your child's name and date of birth. You will be asked for a student number but this field can be left blank. Your next step is to select the assessments you would like your child to complete and then make payment.

Our unique access code is: **9ac53f30af**

If you have any questions about ICAS or how it will work this year, please don't hesitate to contact me at school.

Kind regards,

Steve Hailstone
Deputy Principal

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Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Gives students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.



My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, Information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities



DOUBLE DELIGHT FOR ACTIVE KIDS

Thanks to the Active Kids vouchers local kids are keeping active while their parents are keeping the cash.

I am so pleased to advise that from 01 July 2019 each school-enrolled child will now be able to access two \$100 Active Kids vouchers per year.

The money will help you pay registration costs for sport and recreation, so that your kid(s) can participate and stay active all year-round.

Families across the region keep telling me how much the Active Kids Vouchers help them manage the cost of living. Now with two Active Kids \$100 vouchers per school enrolled child, you can keep even more money in your back pocket while your kid(s) stay happy and healthy.

Since the Active Kids program was launched in 2018, more than one million vouchers have been redeemed and more than \$100 million saved by NSW families.

It is a big win for NSW when more kids can participate in sport because of the Government's drive to take down the barriers to expensive registration costs.

Whether it is soccer, scouts, AFL, rugby, netball, golf or volleyball, you're sure to find an activity your kid(s) will love. Active Kids really is making a difference to children's participation in sport and active recreation in NSW.

From January – June there was an overall increase of 13 per cent in the number of Active Kids' vouchers created, including a 17 per cent rise in vouchers created for girls following an influx of registrations for dance, gymnastics, tennis and swimming Active Kids providers.

These are incredible results and demonstrate why the NSW Government is investing an additional \$40 million this year to expand the Active Kids program."

From 01 July, parents of school-enrolled children can access a second \$100 Active Kids voucher to use towards registration and membership fees for sport and active recreation each year. For further information visit sport.nsw.gov.au/activekids or call 13 13 02.

GARETH WARD MP
Member for Kiama

Hey Mumma!
When are 'you'
getting YOU time?...I
thought so! Come
and try Heartbeat
Dance with other
mummas and get
your groove on.

FIRST CLASS
FREE... you know
you wanna

TUESDAY NIGHTS
MOUNT TERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL
7PM

FSC Summer Football

imb BANK

10 week tournament commences from Monday 14th October

Fees include playing kit:
U6 & U7 Players \$80
U8 - U18 Players \$100

3 Locations

Ian McLennan Park
Mon night - U6 & U7*
Tues night - U8 & U9*
Wed night - U10 & U11*
Thurs night - U12 & U13*

Thomas Dalton Park
Fri night - U12 - U18*
Fri night - U12 / U14**

Holy Spirit College
Sat morning - U6 - U11*

*mixed tournament **girls only tournament

Number of teams per age group will be limited at each venue
Active Risk Waivers accepted
Registrations close FRIDAY 6th SEPTEMBER
For more information go to www.footballsouthcoast.com

COME ALIVE FOR SOUTHERN STARS 2019

Rehearsals for Southern Stars 2019 **COME ALIVE** are in full swing, with public school students taking part in a wide range of dance, music, drama and vocal rehearsals around the Illawarra - and the state.

COME ALIVE, featuring 3000 public school students, will take place over four performances at the WIN Entertainment Centre in Wollongong on Friday August 23 (10am and 7.30pm) and Saturday August 24 (2pm and 7.30pm).

This year **COME ALIVE** features circus, the NSW Millennial Marching Band, 2000 dancers, a 600 strong choir, a full orchestra, our hugely popular boys vocal ensemble, the Aboriginal Dance Ensemble Yanggaa Garaba, and the amazing talents of the best featured student vocalists and performers in Southern NSW, and much, much more!

You don't have to know someone in the show to buy a ticket. Southern Stars is a world-class arena spectacular show which is suitable for all ages, and most of all is entertainment at its finest. Buy your tickets now before they sell out!

Remember to purchase your tickets **ONLY** through the registered ticket seller - Ticketmaster at:
www.ticketmaster.com.au

You can keep up to date with the show's progress with pictures and video from rehearsals uploaded daily to our Facebook page **Southern Stars – The Arena Spectacular** and our Instagram page at [southernstarsarenaspectacular](https://www.instagram.com/southernstarsarenaspectacular).



BERKELEY EAGLES JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB

JUNIOR BASEBALL

FOR CHILDREN AGED 4 - 16

TRY BASEBALL
16TH AND 23RD AUGUST FRIDAY
4:30PM - 5:30PM
SATURDAY 24TH AUGUST 2:00PM
(FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE & DRINK)
FRED FINCH PARK
HOOKA CREEK ROAD, BERKELEY

Bring the kids down and let them give the great game of baseball or T-Ball a try!
Learning some basic throwing, fielding and hitting skills in a fun and friendly environment.



Contact Phil 0429555012
facebook: Berkeley Eagles Baseball Club

