DATES TO REMEMBER

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Principal’s Message

Hello Parents, Carers and Friends,

It has been another great fortnight of teaching and learning at Mortlake Public School and I am delighted that I am working with an outstanding parent community, staff and children. I feel like I have also won the jackpot by working at this sensational school.

Officially we have formed 15 classes with an enrolment of 377 beautiful students, 17 new students from this time last year. (That is reassuring for me that I have not scared parents and students away.)

The week started off with Grade Night on Monday, the Swimming Carnival on Thursday and culminated with the Welcome Disco on Friday 21st February. I truly enjoyed my first grade night and felt an immense sense of pride meeting the wonderful parents of the children of Mortlake Public School.

Currently I am convening a panel for the new Assistant Principal at Mortlake; I will keep you informed over the coming weeks the outcome of this process.

Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents and carers for all of your support ensuring a great start to the new school year.

Swimming Carnival

What a great carnival! Mrs Bastianon and her team did a great job organising the swimming carnival, including organizing the weather. The staff, parents had a great time and importantly so did the students.
I was very impressed with all the parents who attended, cheering on their children and supporting the teachers by timing, lifesaving and marshalling the swimmers. What a great day. Congratulations to all.

School Leadership

The elections for school captains and prefects had taken place at the end of 2013. The school captains and prefects for 2014 are:

**Captains** Stella H and Jayden T

**Vice Captains** Vincent F and Mia B

**Prefects** Inji T and Katherine A.

Congratulations!

House Captains 2014

The House Captains and Vice Captains were elected at the beginning of the year. Congratulations to the following students.

**Parkes Captains** ~ Matthew E and Sydney P

**Parkes Vice-Captains** ~ Jack T and Ciara

**Macarthur Captains** ~ Axel C and Erika B

**Macarthur Vice-Captains** ~ Alessandro A and Georgia R

**Phillip Captains** ~ Nicholas K and Alana K

**Phillip Vice-Captains** ~ Samuel K and Joanna Y.

**Wentworth Captains** ~ Jack B and Sophie M

**Wentworth Vice-Captains** ~ Bailey B and Lydia S.

Executive Staff

You will be aware that Mortlake Public School is fortunate to have a vital, experienced, dedicated, skilled and knowledgeable executive team. This group of teachers/administrators are an integral part of ensuring the smooth running of the school.

Our dedicated Executive staff comprises of:

Anne Claro (Mon-Thur) and Jill Emmans (Fr): Assistant Principal (Leading Stage 3)

Bernadette Wilson: Assistant Principal (Leading Stage 2)

Diana Hartman: Relieving Assistant Principal (Leading Stage 1)

Natalie Miles: Relieving Assistant Principal (Leading Early Stage 1)

Linda Hardgrove: School Administration Manager
After School Supervision

Parents, you are also reminded that if you are supervising your children in the playground after school they must be visible to you at all times and they must abide by the school’s safety rules and that you are responsible for your children.

If you allow your child to use the play equipment after school, please ensure that you are at the play equipment to supervise. To avoid any injuries, please discourage your child from walking or jumping on the silver seats in the playground.

Health Plans

If your child is an asthmatic, anaphylactic or has an allergy, you are asked to provide the school with an asthma/health plan with a photograph of your child.

Coming to School Everyday

Coming to school is very important. The following is some information that is vital for parents to be aware of: Regular attendance at school is essential, if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, (as part of their duty of care), monitor part or whole day absences.

- Parents are responsible for:

- enrolling their children of compulsory school age in a government or registered non-government school or registering them with the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling
- ensuring that their children attend school regularly and are NOT LATE for school.
- explaining the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven days to the school.
-- taking measures to resolve attendance issues involving their children.
- organising holidays so students take leave within the allocated school holiday period.

Thank you

Elizabeth Bransgrove

Websites

Primary and High school

What is Kik and why is it popular?

Kik is a free texting app popular with younger teens who generally have a limited texting plan or use an iPod Touch.
School weeks

Q: Why does the school use "week 6" instead of dates?

A: We find it useful for planning each term.

Here are the actual dates for the rest of this term for most of NSW.

TERM 1

Week 3  10/2
Week 4  17/2
Week 5  24/2
Week 6  3/3
Week 7  10/3
Week 8  17/3
Week 9  24/3
Week 10 31/3
Week 11 7/4

Primary school

Helping with homework

How much should you help your child with homework? When your child makes a mistake, should you fix it? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns.


Back to school

Homework, hot weather and class sizes – here are some answers to frequently asked questions about going to a NSW public school.

The benefit of team sports

If you want your child to grow up to be a confident and well-adjusted adult, then team sports may well be the answer.


Teen or tween moods

As a parent you may feel distressed by disrespectful or rude behaviour in your teenager. Although the phase will pass eventually, there are some strategies that can help you manage this kind of behaviour in the meantime.

Dealing with disrespectful or rude behaviour