

THE MORTLAKE MESSENGER

Mortlake Public School



This photo of MPS which is located in the office area was donated by the Coulson Family in 1987

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TERM 3		CALENDAR OF EVENTS
23 July	Staff Development Day – no students	<p>NOTES/PAYMENTS THIS WEEK</p> <p>Textbooks/fees/camp/coding Please finalise</p> <p>Class of 2018 Year 6 Farewell and Year Book Please finalise</p>
24 July	Students return for Term 3	
25 July	Students perform @Christmas in July at Senior Citizens'	
26 July	Coding for Stage 1 and Stage 2 students	
6– 10 August	Education Week	
7 August	Open Day @ MPS	
10 August	Stage 3 Art Exhibition - all welcome	
21 August	Zone Athletics Sydney Olympic Park	
24 August	Winter PSSA ends	
30 August	Interrelate program for Stage 3	
3 September	Footsteps Dance program	
4 September	Sport and special photos. Bring your smile.	
5 September	Activities Day - Year 6	

Principal's Message

I would like to warmly welcome back our Mortlake community for Term 3. I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday and I look forward to catching up with each of you on the playground and around the school.

The Term 3 Staff Development Day was a huge success for our teaching staff. The teachers engaged in professional development and collaboratively planned for the students with their colleagues.

Mrs Cantali is currently on leave. In her absence, Mrs Di Donato is relieving as Assistant Principal for Stage 2.

Parents of students beginning Kindergarten in 2019 are reminded to enrol as soon as possible. We are preparing packages for children who will be starting at Mortlake next year. If you have a child who is eligible to start or, you know a friend or family member that has a child in area for our school, please ask them to visit the school office to pick up an enrolment pack. Information will then be distributed regarding the Orientation Days in Term 4.

Have a wonderful term back at Mortlake Public School!

We educate the whole child of today to become the successful person of tomorrow.

Anne Claro
 R/Principal

Facilities Upgrade

During the holidays we have had quite a few projects undertaken around the school. These upgrades included solar panels on the hall roof, handball courts resurfaced in the south playground and the Moduplay equipment installed also in the south playground.

Education Week

The theme for 2018 Education Week is: *Today's schools – creating tomorrow's world*. The theme communicates how NSW public schools are equipping young people with the skills and capabilities they need to thrive in a rapidly changing, globalised world. We will be celebrating Education Week on Tuesday, 7 August with an Open Day. The flyer went home this week.

2018-2020 School Plan



As part of our Strategic Direction 2, we have budgeted for a new staffroom that promotes our whole school team collaboration approach. During the school holidays work commenced on this new space. The previous staffrooms are being converted into two small collaborative group work areas for the teachers and students. This is a very exciting milestone that is being achieved at Mortlake Public School.

Our newly appointed wellbeing officer, Lewis Bird, has commenced in his role this week. He will be an asset to our community and this initiative is also part of Strategic Direction 2.

Senior Citizens' Concert

On Wednesday, 25 July, the Irish dancing troupe, recorder ensemble as well as the junior and senior choirs performed for our treasured senior citizens.



Seesaw App

In response to parent feedback and to improve our communication channels, we will be implementing the **Seesaw** app (a platform for sharing student learning with their families). This App is a way for teachers to record and share what is happening in the classroom. Parents can stay connected with their child's learning via a digital portfolio with glimpses into their day, enabling you to support your child's learning at home. Mrs Timmins will be leading the implementation of the Seesaw app, starting with Kindergarten initially and then, Years 1 and 2. We would love to hear your thoughts once this is initiated. Kindy parents, look out for the note outlining how to access 'Seesaw' in your child's bag.

Tuesday's P&C Meeting was a great night and we thank the teachers for their presentations and for sharing some of the exciting strategic directions for the school.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to be part of the steering committee review for the canteen. This team will focus on how we can achieve a sustainable canteen for now and in the future that will best serve the needs of our children and the community.

We have great feedback from the kids regarding the upgrades of the handball courts around the school, with the most recent being upgraded down the K-2 end over the holidays.

We are also pleased to announce that some of the money raised from P&C fundraising initiatives has been allocated to purchasing laptops for the library. Currently our School Library computers are over 10 years old and they are struggling to keep up with the needs of today's dynamic learning environment.

A special thank you goes to West Connex for the \$10,000 grant towards the new playground equipment and to the 'Stronger Communities Program' for the \$10,000 grant towards the new softfall.

This term, we have the Father's Day Stall coming up and next term get ready for Halloween with the Spooky Disco.

The P&C is always looking for feedback; if you wish to contact the P&C and share your thoughts or ideas please email Chris Thuell at mortlakepandc.president@gmail.com