

# Mount Kuring-gai Public School

Leeming Street, Mount Kuring-gai NSW 2080

October 2016

## Principal's Report

### Welcome Back

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing time during the school holidays. The staff and I are looking forward to an exciting and busy Term 4. Congratulations to Miss Weeks and her family, during the holidays she gave birth to a healthy baby boy. Both mum and baby are doing very well.

We welcome the Williams family to our school, Aushor (Yr 5), Iaazaq (Yr 3) and Deearna (Yr2) and I am sure that you will make them feel welcome when you have the chance.

### Year 6 Movie Night

On Friday 23rd September the Year 6 students with the outstanding support of some amazing parents held a Movie Night for the school. From all accounts it was an extremely successful night with the funds raised going towards the Year 6 present to the school. I would also like to thank the P&C for supporting this activity to ensure its success.

### Home & School Communication

We are all extremely fortunate to be part of the Mt Kuring-gai PS community. Our school motto 'Grow in Knowledge' is vitally important, and through effective home-school communication we can facilitate this goal.

Home and school communication is essential in assisting our school's children with the best possible academic and social development. Parents are always encouraged to support their child's school life through making regular contact with the school.

It is also very important to communicate with the best person to help solve your questions. Often our teachers will not be available for a lengthy meeting without it being scheduled. When you deliver your child to school in the morning is not always the best time to catch a teacher for an interview unless it is a welfare issue. All parents are encouraged to negotiate an appointment time with their child's teacher or through our administration office by phone or emailing the following address:

[mtkurringga-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mtkurringga-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au)

The following is our current school practice and will give you some direction.

- ⇒ **Classroom Teacher:** Is always the first and best professional person with whom to speak regarding academic progress, social or behavioural concerns, class policy and procedures.
- ⇒ **Assistant Principals:** If the question relates to a specific issue that is outside the classroom, any questions regarding grade or department programs, issues relating to discipline/bullying, concerns that have not been resolved by speaking with the classroom teacher or queries relating to teaching and learning within the classroom.  
Assistant Principal K-6, especially Years 1-4: Mrs Tudor  
Assistant Principal K-6, especially K & Years 5&6: Miss Harvey
- ⇒ **Administration and Finance:** Mrs Thwaites (School Admin. Manager)
- ⇒ **Principal:** Any issues that relate to the whole school, child protection and student welfare, governance and management, financial and budgeting, community, concerns relating to teachers, issues that have not been resolved through discussions with the classroom teacher and/or Assistant Principal.

## **2018 Selective High School applications**

Selective high schools cater for highly achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 9 March 2017.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2018, you need to do so soon. You will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 11 October 2016 in a printed application information booklet and at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement). The application website opens on 11 October 2016 and closes on 14 November 2016. No late applications will be accepted.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Unit for assistance after 11 October 2016.

You must submit only ONE application for each student. Remember the tear-off strip below is not an application and the school cannot apply on your behalf.

## **Swim Scheme**

Congratulations to the children from Years 2-4 who have participated in the swim scheme over the last two weeks. They have improved so much from this program. A huge thanks to Miss Rigby and Miss Frost who supervised the children during this program.

## **Kindy Kick Start**

Tuesday saw our first Kindy Kick Start (KKS) for the year. We had 22 children in attendance with their parents. Miss Harvey has done an outstanding job this year in organising this program to ensure all the children have an understanding of 'big school' and what to expect when they arrive. Well done to everyone involved and I'm sure the following sessions will also continue to be a success.

## **Bike and Scooter safety**

With the lovely weather we have been having it is quite noticeable the number of children riding their bikes or scooters to school, which is wonderful. A couple of points to remember; all children should be wearing an approved helmet, they know the safest way to get to school and home; and they obey all the road rules. When the children arrive at school, and leave in the afternoon, they are to walk their bike or scooter when on school grounds.

Matt Pinchbeck

Principal (rel)

## **Buddy Reading Program**

The Buddy Reading Program is a Reading Intervention and Leadership program that will start this term. Selected Early Stage One and Stage One students are paired with a Stage Two or Stage Three peer tutor.

The Buddy Reading program will take place Monday – Thursday from 12:25-12:40 (while Stage 2 & 3 students are doing Silent Reading so they are not missing out on any direct instruction).

I sent out Expressions of Interests to classrooms in the last two weeks of term and I was overwhelmed with so many enthusiastic students willing to take on such an important leadership role in our school. The students who were selected will continue with the program through to Term 3 next year.

Peer tutoring develops children's:

- & Self esteem
- & Sharing and kindness
- & Understanding of fairness
- & Creative and Critical thinking
- & Role-taking and communication skills
- & Improvement in attendance and self esteem
- & Reading, writing skills and language development
- & Opportunities for leadership and social responsibility
- & Social behaviours, interpersonal and communication skills
- & A heightened sensitivity to younger student's needs and concerns

Research also shows that the gains for the tutors often outdistance those of the students receiving assistance. I look forward to a successful Buddy Reading program.

Nicole Tudor



## PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2016

During Weeks 3 and 4 of Term 4, students will be asked to present a prepared speech to their class. Developing skills in public speaking is a great way to develop confidence and self-esteem. We will be talking in class about the elements of delivery when speaking to an audience – clarity and volume, pacing, expression and tone, audience interaction, content of speech and interesting ideas.

Classroom teachers will be selecting the two best public speakers from each class (with the exception of 5/6J where four students will be selected). This will give us four students from each stage (Early Stage One, Stage One, Stage Two and Stage Three) who will present their speeches to the whole school at a special assembly on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November from 12:20-2:05**. Students will use the same speech as presented to their class.

Parents will be notified at the end of week 4 if their child has made it through to the finals.

### Topics and Times for Speeches

<b>Early Stage One (Kindergarten) 1 – 1 ½ minutes</b>	<b>Stage One (Years 1 and 2) 1-2 minutes</b>	<b>Stage Two (Years 3 and 4) 2 – 2 ½ minutes</b>	<b>Stage Three (Years 5 and 6) 3 minutes</b>
My favourite toy/ game I wish I could... Now that I am 5/6... My hero	If I were magic.. If I had three wishes they would be... If I could be any animal, I would be..... My favourite day of the year	Dogs are better than cats (or other way around) Friends If I could have one super power, it would be..... Wearing a uniform is/is not a good idea	Kids can make a difference Australia : a Sporting Nation Olympic Games Music makes the world go 'round Keeping up with technology

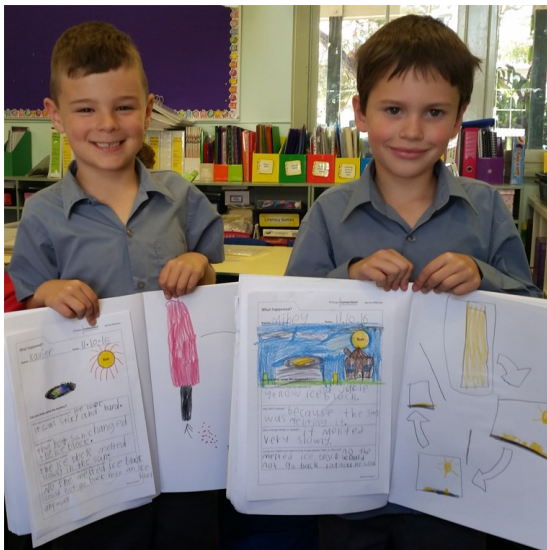




## Year 1 Science Unit – “How do I carry that”

1C had a wonderful time on Tuesday afternoon completing the “Change Mystery” experiment. This experiment captured the student’s interest and they learnt about how everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of ways. Students were able to predict, explore, question and engage in the process of an ice block melting in the sun. Students could make hypothesis and see if their findings were correct. 1C had lots of questions and observations and were very sad to see the yummy ice block melt away on the concrete. They were very eager to write and draw their findings from the experiment.

Classroom Teacher,  
Rebecca Eastgate



## Playground Alternatives for Students

### Lunchtime in the Library for 3-6 students

This term, we are trialling opening the library on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at second half of lunch for 3-6 students. Activities for students include board games, table tennis, drawing/colouring in, listening to music, listening to audio books or reading. So far, it seems to be a success and it provides an alternative area to the playground.

### Sensory Area for K-2

The sensory area for K-2 students continues to be a popular space at lunch time and during afternoon tea. The sensory area provides an alternative to other playground activities and also promotes communication and sharing skills.

If students or parents have any suggestions on how we can improve on these spaces (eg. activities, equipment, layout) please contact Mrs Tudor with your ideas.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2016

### **Thursday 27 October**

Kindy Kick Start #2

### **Friday 28 October**

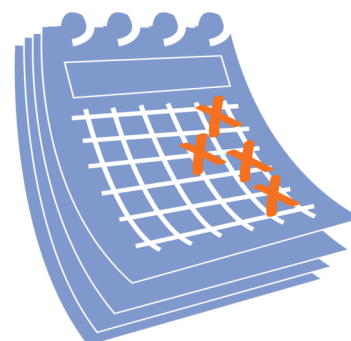
Star of the Month

### **Tuesday 1 November - Friday 4 November**

Book Fair

### **Friday 4 November**

Kindy Kick Start #3



YOGA - now on Thursday mornings from 8.20am. To book a place for your child or for more information, please contact Fiona Lisle on #0425 261 300 or email [thelises@gmail.com](mailto:thelises@gmail.com)

## **MUNCH AND CRUNCH**

As you all know, Munch and Crunch is a set time in our school where students 'refuel' on vegetables, salad and fruit and 'rehydrate' with water. Students who are not hungry and are well hydrated perform better in the classroom, show increased concentration, and are less likely to be irritable and disruptive.

We see so many lovely varieties of fruits and vegetables in our classrooms on a daily basis but we are also noticing that some packaged fruits are coming in for Munch and Crunch. The emphasis is on **fresh** fruit and vegetables to promote healthy eating and encourage our students to try new foods. Please see the list below for the foods we will allow for Munch and Crunch.

### **ALLOWED**

All fresh vegetables

All fresh fruit

Frozen vegetables and fruit without other additives such as sauces or coatings

Tinned fruit in water or natural juice on limited occasions

Tinned vegetables without sauces (preferably no added salt) on limited occasions

Dried fruit in small amounts and on limited occasions

Plain water

### **NOT ALLOWED**

'Fruit' products (e.g. fruit leathers, fruit roll-ups, fruit straps)

Fruit jams or jellies

Tinned fruit in syrup

Vegetable or potato crisps

Flavoured and/or carbonated water

Fruit or vegetable juices

Fruit cordial

Any drink other than plain water



**Mount Kuring-Gai Public School**

T: 9457 9088

BUS NO.	TIME	MORNING BUS ROUTE
8071	08:58	From Hookhams Corner via Pacific Highway (L) Beryl, Oxley to loop, then return Oxley, Beryl Ave (L) Red Cedar Drive (L) Foxglove Road (R) Lancelot Street (L) Excelsior Road to Arthurs Circle, returning Excelsior Road (L) Pacific Highway (R) over Pacific Highway Bridge, Church Street (R) Low Street (R) King Street (R) Leeming Street. (09:23}

BUS NO.	TIME	AFTERNOON BUS ROUTE
9038	15:40	To Mt Colah Loops & Hookhams Corner Via (L) Church Street (L) Pacific Highway (R) Excelsior Road, Arthurs Circle, return Excelsior (R) Lancelot Street (L) Foxglove Road (R) Red Cedar Drive (R) Beryl Avenue to Oxley Drive loop return via (L) Red Cedar (R) Foxglove to Pacific Highway then (R) Pacific Highway to Hookhams Corner (16:05}

(L) Bus turns Left

(R) Bus turns Right

Routes in *Italic* refer to public bus services





# Discover Playgroup

## Mt Kuring-gai Jellybabies Playgroup

Mt Kuring-gai Community Centre  
5 Church Street  
Wed 10:00am & Friday 9:30am

Come to Playgroup and meet others in a relaxed and friendly environment.

A Playgroup is a place for you and your children to have fun, make new friends and develop skills through play.

Contact Playgroup NSW on  
**1800 171 882**  
or visit  
[www.playgroupnsw.com.au](http://www.playgroupnsw.com.au)

Learn through play • Make friends • Have fun • Discover Playgroup





ScopelT Education is proud to be running our  
**2016 Tech Tournament!**

During Term 4, 2016 we are running a range of competitions available for all ScopelT students to enter. The competitions include categories such as Coding, 3D Design, Electronic Circuits, JavaScript, and Website Coding.

This is an exclusive competition for those schools who have taken courses with ScopelT Education in 2016.

Prizes include 8 brand new laptops and an electronics kit, and will be presented at the winning schools. Competition will be fierce amongst our ScopelT schools and students!

The competitions are open NOW, with entries closing on the 6th of November, 2016. It's time for your students to put their coding abilities to the test!

Please see the <http://www.techtournament.com.au> website for more information and details on the criteria for each of the categories.

Good luck!

# TECH TOURNAMENT

Brought to you by ScopeIT Education



# TECH TOURNAMENT

As part of ScopeIT Education coming to our school, we are eligible to enter into some competitions to win some great prizes! We think it would be awesome if our students could win, so check out the details on the Tech Tournament website and see which category you are eligible to enter!

WIN  
GREAT  
PRIZES

including laptop computers and an electronics kit!

[WWW.TECHTOURNAMENT.COM.AU](http://WWW.TECHTOURNAMENT.COM.AU)

GAME  
CODING



3D  
DESIGN



STORY-  
TELLING  
WITH CODE





Are you a female and love cricket?  
Want to remain involved in the game?  
Want to learn more about cricket?  
Want to earn some extra **cash**?



CRICKET NSW

## BECOME A CRICKET UMPIRE



Participate in the game from the best spot at the ground.

Become involved in Australia's favourite sport, learn new skills, meet new people and have fun.

Cricket NSW is currently offering the Cricket Australia Community Officiating course **free** for females.

Don't let age or experience be a barrier- everyone is welcome.

Contact [Claire.Polosak@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Claire.Polosak@cricketnsw.com.au) for more information