Dear Parents

Thank you to the many parents who attended Parent Information Evenings over the past 2 weeks. I spoke at meetings and emphasized the vital role parents play in supporting the school in the education of our students. Parents are our partners and I encourage you to work with and support your child's teacher in maximizing both opportunity and performance for your child.

P&C AGM
The P&C will hold their AGM next Tuesday 19th at 7:30pm in the Library. The P&C plays a vital role in linking parents and the school with our core business, quality learning and teaching. In 2013, many of the Executive positions will become vacant and I encourage you to consider standing for these positions to continue to grow the school home partnership.

2012 was a very hectic and demanding year where the P&C managed not only the Centenary Celebration, but also significant structural change within the P&C itself and the new direction set for the school by myself and the senior school executive. I would like to thank and acknowledge the support and dedication of the 2012 P&C Executive and in particular it's President, Mrs Louise Anderson for her persistence, good humour and attention to detail.

21 Bungan Street
I have much pleasure in announcing that the school has been successful in having 21 Bungan St purchased on behalf of the school. I applaud the hard work of the community and our Local Member, Mr Rob Stokes who never gave up on the task of acquiring the land. The purchase of 21 Bungan was a strategic initiative that has removed the possibility of residential development encroaching into our school zone.

2013 School Priorities
If we are to deliver on our commitment to Excellence, Innovation and Community then high expectations and high performance must underpin the strategic direction at Mona Vale.

2013 will see a continuation of our focus on quality teaching and learning with a technology-enabled emphasis where appropriate. Staff are involved in an extensive professional learning agenda focusing on student engagement and differentiating the curriculum to meet the needs of all learners. I have approved the purchase of 20 new Panasonic Interactive White Boards to replace our aging fleet of first generation boards.
Term 1 Week 3  
15th February 2013

Over the next two years, we will deploy a secure wireless network to support our move to a "Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) initiative. BYOD will allow students to bring their own technology to school and interact with our learning programs. Miss MJ Peel will coordinate the implementation of this initiative and the challenges it will present. While BYOD is exciting and one of the 10 world wide trends in both education and industry, we will need to keep our focus on teachers as the leader of learning within classrooms. More information and opportunity to contribute to this exciting initiative will be provided over the year.

You Asked, We Replied

A parent asked, “Is Homework valuable and does it make a difference?” This is a very interesting question with many possible answers. Currently there is a debate occurring with two opposing views, one that says there is a growing body of evidence that suggests there is no correlation between homework and improved student performance. The alternative view is that homework reinforces good study habits and work that has been taught at school. Mona Vale, as part of our Quality Assurance program, will seek the views of our community around this topic. In the interim, grades will set homework each week ranging from 15 minutes for Kindergarten, 20 minutes for Years 1 and 2, 25 minutes for year 3 and up to 30 minutes for Years 4-6.

As always, homework is not compulsory and parents who do not wish to have their child do it need only to send a letter to this effect to the class teacher.

Greg Jones BA, MEd Macquarie
Principal

From the Deputy Principal

It was lovely to see so many parents attending our Parent Information Evenings over the past week – thank you for finding the time in your very busy lives to come and meet the staff and learn more about your child’s education. It is when we work together that the best outcomes are achieved for children.

Time to say goodbye....

As you would now be aware, Mrs Crick has retired after 20 years at Mona Vale Public School. On Thursday the 7th of March we will be holding a special student assembly to enable the students to say goodbye to her officially. Following the assembly there will be a parent morning tea in the hall which you are all warmly invited to attend. We hope to see many of you there.

As part of the assembly, we would like to present a special gift to Mrs Crick from the school community. To raise funds for this gift, we will be holding a special Mufti Day next week on Tuesday 19th February. For our new parents, a Mufti Day is where the children may wear play clothes to school and they bring in a $2 coin to donate. The money will be collected by the class teacher. We ask that children do not wear thongs or tops with straps only (due to sun) on Mufti Days.

Please see the Mufti flyer below and the attached invitation to the special assembly. We would really like to send Mrs Crick off in grand style and we thank you for your contribution towards her special gift.
Young Citizen of the Year Award Recipient

I would like to congratulate Amelia Warde, from class 6B, on receiving the Young Citizen of the Year Award for Pittwater on Australia Day. Amelia is a representative for NSW Keep Australia Beautiful and has been working hard to address environmental issues in our community. She is to be congratulated on her dedication and commitment to such an important cause. You may see an article about her in the Manly Daily soon about her achievement so check your papers! We are very proud of you Amelia – well done!

Class Parents, Parent Contact Info and Class Helpers

Last week the Expression of Interest form for becoming a Class Parent was emailed out, along with the Parent Contact Information slip. There has been some slight confusion around what these forms are so I will clarify them for you now.

Class Parent Expression of Interest – If you are interested in becoming the Class Parent for your child’s class please complete the slip and return it to your child’s teacher. A Class Parent organises a parent contact list, social events and possibly rallies some parent helpers for school events when needed.

Parent Contact Information Slip – All parents need to complete this slip and return it to your child’s teacher. You should list any contact information you are willing for your Class Parent to share with others.

At the parent information evenings, many grades asked for volunteers for reading groups, maths etc. If you would like to help out in your child's class, you simply need to let your child’s teacher know. All class helpers need to complete a Child Protection form which can be obtained from the front office or our website. Hopefully this clears everything up!

Leesa Martin BEd, Dip Teach UTS

Mona Vale Planner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Monday 18th February</th>
<th>Tuesday 19th February</th>
<th>Wednesday 20th February</th>
<th>Thursday 21st February</th>
<th>Friday 22nd February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>P &amp; C AGM 7:30pm-9:30pm</td>
<td>PCS Student Leadership Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the office

Administration hours are Monday to Friday 8.30am – 3.15pm

**Term 1 Accounts & Excursions**
Term 1 accounts are being finalised. They should be out at the end of next week.

**Student Medical Plans**
It is imperative that we have student medical details updated regularly. If your child has a Medical Plan please make sure you keep us informed of any updates to this plan. We have quite a number of students with Asthma medication without an Asthma plan. Please provide the office with a copy of your plan immediately.

**Impetigo**
We have had a case of Impetigo in Year 3. Please find attached to this newsletter a helpful fact sheet “Too sick for school?” from the NSW Department of Health.

**Have your details changed?**
When you change address, mobile phone numbers or work phone numbers, please notify the school in writing. It is very important to have these details updated in case we need to contact you.

**School Website**
The school website [www.monavale_p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.monavale_p.schools.nsw.edu.au) has been updated with copies of the Uniform Shop price lists, Canteen price lists and the Chess Club enrolment form. There is a new parent tab that I will use for notes that need to be referred to eg. The current PSSA note is on the website in case you need to refer back to the draw. It is not my intention to put every note sent home on the website.

Thanking you
**Leonie Gallard**
School Administration Manager
2013 P&C NEWS - AGM Nominations

With our enthusiastic and dedicated teaching staff getting things off to a great start already, and a dynamic year planned for the classrooms, be inspired to support your school.

Employing 6 staff, the P&C needs your help to provide the services we are accustomed to via the wonderful canteen, uniform shop, band, chess and social and events sub committees and the team that supports them. Some sub committee Chair and Assistant Treasurer roles are available, as well as a President needed.

With 8 weeks of term left we have the excitement of the Rotary Car raffle ahead of us and we seek 2-3 enthusiastic parents to run it. The lottery will be drawn 6 April. As the only fundraising event this year we are tempting you with a H U G E! Panasonic plasma screen. Profits will be spent in the classrooms benefiting all our children.

Please contact me if you can help in any of the above or come join in next Tuesday 19th February in the school library at 730pm for the 2013 Annual General Meeting. Come with some friends, nominate together and co-share roles.

Best wishes,
Louise Anderson (outgoing President)

Mona Vale Public School P&C Association  monavalepspandc@yahoogroups.com.au
President: Louise Anderson  Secretary: Naomi Porter
Vice-President: Aid Bisson, Susan Senior  Treasurer: Kathryn Loudon

Band News

Welcome back to MVPS band for 2013, and a huge welcome to our new band families!

If you have not done so already, please register your email address at monavaleband@gmail.com so that we can communicate with you electronically as well as on paper.

Training Band workshop

What an exciting afternoon it was last Saturday for our new Training Band students. They now have their long awaited instruments and have already started rehearsals. The workshop was very successful and many thanks must go to Mrs Shaw, Deb Thomas and the Band Committee for all of their valuable time and hard work.
This year band camp will be from April 5th – 7th at the Sydney Academy of Sport in Narrabeen. Notes will be sent via email shortly.

**Fees and Invoices**

After a complete review of our budget, the Band Committee has decided to retain all fees, including band camp, at the 2012 rates. Invoices for Band fees (Performance and Concert bands) and Band Camp will be sent out next week by email. **Please note that the band committee has a new bank account. Please update your online banking details as follows:**

**Bank:** Westpac Mona Vale

**BSB:** 032-196  **A/C:** 395943

**Stage Band**

As Term 1 is a very busy term which can be quite expensive, once again the Band Committee has decided to stagger the Stage Band fees. Fees for Semester 1 will be invoiced and payable at the start of Term 2. Fees for Semester 2 will be invoiced and payable at the start of Term 4.

**Missed rehearsals reminder**

A letter of explanation addressed to The Conductor is required should a student arrive late or have to miss rehearsals. Continued unexplained absence will jeopardise the students place in the band program. On days where students are on excursions, they are still expected to attend rehearsals.

**Term 1 Primary Disco: new trial venue**

Our first band run disco of the year will be on the last day of term 1, Friday 12th April. We will be trialling a new venue for this disco – the Pittwater High School Hall. The PHS hall is much larger and the toilets and canteen are inside the hall which should make the disco easier to manage for the parent helpers, not to mention a lot more room to move for the kids. More details to come closer to the time.

**2013 MVPS Band Committee**

Congratulations to our new committee President and Vice President who were elected at our first meeting of 2013. We are very lucky to have a large committee this year with many positions in order to share the workload. The 2013 committee is:

President:  Bede Seymour

Vice President:  Mark Thornton

Communications Coordinator:  Kylie Backer

School Liaison:  Jacqui Shaw

Treasurer:  Nicole Graham

Assistant Treasurer:  Clare Wilson

Events Coordinator:  Deb Thomas
Thank you to all committee members for volunteering your time to assist in running the band committee.

If you need to contact anyone on the Band Committee or the band conductors, please email monavaleband@gmail.com and your email will be passed on to the appropriate person.

Canteen

Thank you to all the lovely canteen volunteers who have made my first few weeks as Canteen Supervisor really enjoyable. Thanks for your patience with the start of the term and using Flexischools. There have been a few hiccups but hopefully things are running smoothly for everyone. Please remember to adjust your child's classroom details when ordering lunches.

We are always looking for new volunteers to come on board in the canteen :)

It's a great way to make new friends and also contribute to school life. One morning a term makes a big difference!

Over the next few weeks the Canteen needs helpers on:

- Tuesday 26th February
- Tuesday 5th March
- Tuesday 19th March

Enjoy the weekend

Rebecca

Uniform shop

REGULAR OPENING HOURS

Mondays 2.30-3.00pm (Terms 1, 2, 4)
Tuesdays & Thursdays 8.30-10.30am (Terms 1 – 4)
WINTER UNIFORM

Uniform shop has most winter stock available to purchase for those keen early birds (change to winter uniform Term 2). Shop should be fully stocked by mid to late March.

SALE OF BOYS GREY SOCKS ONE SIZE - 3 PACK $5.00

ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 18th February</th>
<th>Tuesday 19th February</th>
<th>Thursday 21st February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Gregory</td>
<td>Kylie Webb</td>
<td>VOLUNTEER REQUIRED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 25th February</th>
<th>Tuesday 26th February</th>
<th>Thursday 28th February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jenny Dael</td>
<td>Kylie Webb</td>
<td>Joulia Avagliano</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Profits made during the year in the uniform shop are given back to the P&C to support initiatives within the school.

Tracey Cranston - Uniform Shop Supervisor.

Volunteers are always needed so if you can spare a couple of hours once or twice a month please call Tracey on Mobile 0427 224 893 or contact via email mvpsuniform@yahoo.com.au

Replies to enquiries will be returned in shop opening hours.

MADD at Mona Vale

2013 promises to be a great year at Mona Vale for the creative and performing arts. Our new acronym is MADD: which stands for Music, Art, Dance and Drama.
Planning and rehearsals are already underway before school, after school and in lunchtimes to assist all our groups in achieving their goals.

At Mona Vale we offer bands, choirs, dance groups, recorder groups and are exploring various ways to enhance our students art education. In the music classroom Year 1 is also lucky enough to be learning to play violin this year and Year 2 continue their music education by learning the recorder.

I have had some parents and students voice interest in a strings group starting this year. If your child has been learning a string instrument privately and would consider being in a small ensemble please email me directly and I will see if it is feasible to form this group in 2013.

Jacqui Shaw (MADD Coordinator)
B. Mus. Ed.: Conservatorium of Music
Jacqueline.shaw@det.nsw.edu.au
Sport

Interested in playing PSSA netball?

Mrs Rizzuto will be running pre-season netball training for junior girls who are interested in playing PSSA netball. The training is for girls who have no (or very little) netball/nettas experience. The sessions cover basic rules, footwork, throwing and catching and game play.

The sessions are on a Wednesday morning at 8.00am and start in Week 4. Please note that numbers are limited and that attendance at the pre-season sessions does not guarantee girls a position on the PSSA squad. Trails for the PSSA Junior Netball team will be held towards the end of term.

Please see Mrs Rizzuto if you are interested.

Community News

High School Open Days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 February</td>
<td>Mackellar Girls &amp; Balgowlah Boys Open Day 9:30 - 11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>Balgowlah Boys Info Evening 6:30 - 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 February</td>
<td>Manly Selective Open Day 9:30 - 11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 February</td>
<td>Mackellar Girls Info Evening 6:30 - 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>Cromer Campus Open Day 9:30 - 11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>Academic Placement Test Closing Date &amp; Pittwater High Open Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th March</td>
<td>Mosman High School 5-8pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>Barrenjoey High Open Night (Please note change of date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>PCS Academic Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>Selective High School Placement Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>Year 7 Academic Placement Test Mackellar Girls &amp; Cromer High 9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>Year 7 Academic Placement Test Balgowlah Boys 9am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please contact relevant High Schools for any enquiries
Mums for Mums Newport Family Outdoor Movie Night

Mamma Mia!

$25 per family

Saturday 23rd March 2013

Bert Payne Reserve, Newport Beach. Gates open 6.30pm

Please email MumsForMumsNewport@gmail.com for tickets

Cheese platters available (please preorder and pay, then collect on the night)

Drinks and BBQ available from Newport Surf Club on the night

Movie commences at sunset

Bring along picnic rugs and pillows