



# MT KEMBLA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Phone 4271 2565

[www.mtkembla-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mtkembla-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## Term Three, Week Nine

### Coming Events...

<b>Principal's Afternoon Tea</b>	Wednesday 19 September
<b>4/5K Assembly</b>	Thursday 27 September
<b>SRC PJ/Onesie Day</b>	Friday 28 September
<b>K/1 Assembly</b>	Thursday 25 October
<b>5/6 Assembly</b>	Thursday 8 November



### 10. Gather data through all senses

*Use your natural pathways!*

Pay attention to the world around you  
Gather data through all the senses.  
taste, touch, smell, hearing and sight.

### Principal's Afternoon Tea

During assembly last week we held our raffle draw to see who would be attending the Principal's Afternoon Tea (the *Fancy Sh'mancy Afternoon Tea!*). All classrooms have been using our new behaviour system this term where students who finish the day on 'Good Choice's receive one raffle ticket and if they get all the way up to 'Role Model' they receive two. Congratulations to those who won the raffle for each class (two students per class) to be invited to the afternoon tea that will be held this Wednesday. I'm so excited I can hardly wait to see the Fancy Sh'mancy guests!



### Hats

We have been trying to remind our students that our school hat is part of our uniform and just like they wear the proper shirt to school it would be great to see the correct hats. Hats are sold either via the uniform shop OR can be purchased at the office. All hats, regardless of style, are \$15. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs Keech who received a certificate from the Department of Education celebrating 30 years of service. We're very glad she is still 'in service' at our school!

## Enrolments for 2019

If you have a child ready to start school next year, or know of someone else who does, please direct them to our office so we can fill in the required enrolment forms ready for 2019. Similarly, if you will be leaving our school (apart from our Yr 6 students!) also let us know so we can adjust our expected student numbers. There is plenty of space for new families so spread the word! ☺

## Toys

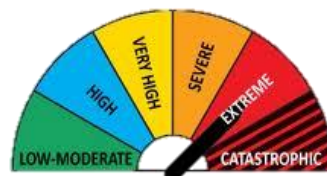
Please be aware that expensive, precious or electronic toys are not to be brought to school in case they get damaged or lost. However, many of our students bring small toys to play with in the shady area or at the tables during play time and that is fine...as long as they realise they are responsible for them. These toys need to be school appropriate, so no toy guns or weapons of any type or toys that have little parts that can be easily lost. Some students currently bring handballs, soccer balls (although for both of these there is limited numbers allowed at one time due to space!), small cars and drawing/colouring books.

## Bushfire Season

As the official bushfire season for the Illawarra was moved forward to September it is timely to remind our community of what happens should our school be evacuated during school hours due to an encroaching bushfire. Should we be informed to evacuate a bus is called and we bus our students to Figtree High School. We contact the department's media unit who will notify local media of our evacuation as well as issue an alert on Skoolbag. The location of our school within bushlands and the dangers of bushfires was actually the initial reason we looked into a form of communication such as Skoolbag, so if you are yet to have this installed on your phone then please reconsider.

On days that are classified as **catastrophic bushfire warning** our school will temporarily cease operation and will not be able to operate until the warning is downgraded.

The State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) notifies the Department of Education at approximately **4.30pm** each day when there are catastrophic fire danger ratings predicted for the following day. Since this is too late in the day to send home a note we will rely on Skoolbag and local media sources to inform our community. Please be vigilant in staying informed of the upcoming levels of danger ratings so you can make arrangements for your children should this occur, as obviously staff are also unable to remain present at our school if deemed too dangerous to be operational.



## Leave

Last week I mentioned I would be on leave for the last week of this term and the first four weeks of next term. While Mrs Newman is relieving in my position, Mrs Ward will be our relieving AP and have 2/3R for Week 10 of this term, and Fridays for Weeks 1-4 of next term. Ms Sazdovski will be on 2/3R Monday to Thursday, Weeks 1-4. Mrs Newman will be working with both teachers to ensure her learning program remains in place and continues as normal. With that, I hope you all enjoy the upcoming school holidays and hopefully some warmer weather.



## Health Alert

Please be advised that we have had a number of reported cases of threadworm in our school. This is very common in children, with one report stating 1 in 6 children are likely to be infected.

Here is some information (from [https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact\\_sheets/Worms/](https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Worms/)) however, please follow the link to see the whole fact sheet.

## Worms

There are many different types of intestinal worms, but the most common is threadworm (also called pinworm). Threadworm is a type of roundworm that is commonly found in preschool and school-aged children, however the whole family can become infected. Threadworm causes a very itchy bottom, which is usually worse at night. If your child is infected with threadworm, it is not usually serious and can be treated easily with medication.

## Signs and symptoms of threadworm

If your child has threadworm, they may:

- have an itchy bottom, which may become red and inflamed from scratching
- be irritable and generally 'out of sorts'
- not sleep very well
- have a reduced appetite.

## How is threadworm spread?

Threadworm is spread when children scratch their bottom, causing the eggs to collect under the fingernails. The child then carries the worm eggs back to their mouth with their hands. The eggs can also be spread indirectly, in food, dust, or other items. The eggs can survive up to two weeks outside the body. You cannot catch threadworm from animals.

## Care at home

You can talk to a pharmacist about over-the-counter treatment options. Drugs such as pyrantel (Combantrin) or mebendazole (Banworm) are very safe and often recommended. Follow the instructions on the packet, bearing in mind special precautions may be given for children under two years of age and for pregnant women.

- Treat all the family members at the same time, even if they aren't showing any symptoms. Adults can also get threadworm.
- If possible, your child should have a shower on the night they have the medicine, and again the next morning to remove the eggs laid during the night.

Unfortunately, repeat threadworm infection is very common. To help reduce this and to prevent the threadworms from spreading to others, you can take the following precautions:

- Despite the itching, encourage your child not to scratch their bottom. If they must scratch, make sure it is over their underpants and not directly on their skin.
- Keep your child's fingernails clean and trimmed. Try to stop your child from biting their nails or sucking their thumb.
- Have your child wash their hands and under their nails thoroughly after going to the toilet.
- Wash your child's bedding, towels and toys in hot water.
- Vacuum your floor often to remove any eggs.
- Clean surfaces in your house that your children may touch, in particular door handles.
- Discourage your child from eating food that has fallen on the floor.

## When to see a doctor

If you have tried a threadworm treatment for your child and their symptoms have not improved, take them to your GP. The doctor will examine your child and may want to do blood or faeces (poo) tests. Also take your child to the GP if:

- your child passes a large worm
- they have abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting or low energy levels.



## Habits of Mind

### **Our habit for the next two weeks is: *Gathering Data Through All Senses.***

Pay attention to the world around you. Gather data through all the senses - taste, touch, smell, hearing and sight.

Extract from

**HABITS OF MIND**  
**Arthur L. Costa, Ed. D.**  
**Professor Emeritus,**  
**California State University, Sacramento**

#### **10. Gathering Data through All Senses**

Observe perpetually.  
Henry James



The brain is the ultimate reductionist. It reduces the world to its elementary parts: photons of light, molecules of smell, sound waves, vibrations of touch--which send electrochemical signals to individual brain cells that store information about lines, movements, colors, smells and other sensory inputs.

Many scientists say we actually have nine senses: External senses that are engaged from external sources include sight, sound, taste, touch, and smell. They provide information about the outside world. Pain, balance, thirst and hunger are considered to be our internal senses. They provide information about the body and its needs. For example, the sense of hunger shows that the body needs food.

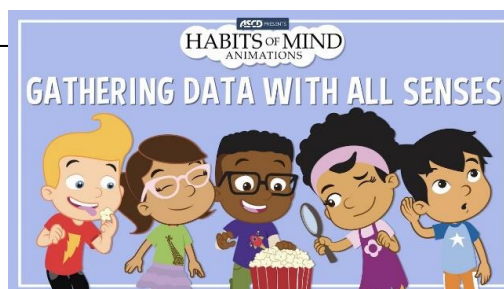
Intelligent people know that all information gets into the brain through these sensory pathways: gustatory, olfactory, tactile, kinesthetic, auditory, visual, Most linguistic, cultural, and physical learning is derived from the environment by observing or taking in through the senses. To know a wine it must be drunk; to know a role it must be acted; to know a game it must be played; to know a dance it must be moved; to know a goal it must be envisioned. Those whose sensory pathways are open, alert, and acute absorb more information from the environment than those whose pathways are withered, immune, and oblivious to sensory stimuli do.

Furthermore, we are learning more about the impact of arts and music on improved mental functioning. Forming mental images is important in mathematics and engineering; listening to classical music seems to improve spatial reasoning.

Social scientists solve problems through scenarios and role-playing; scientists build models; engineers use cad-cam; mechanics learn through hands-on experimentation; artists experiment with colors and textures. Musicians experiment by producing combinations of instrumental and vocal music.

Some students, however, go through school and life oblivious to the textures, rhythms, patterns sounds and colors around them. Sometimes children are afraid to touch, get their hands "dirty" or feel some object might be "slimy" or "icky". They operate within a narrow range of sensory problem solving strategies wanting only to "describe it but not illustrate or act it", or "listen but not participate". To insure powerful learning, we want students to experience the world through as many different avenues as possible.

Have a good day!  
*Raelene Redfern*  
Principal



### ATSI Ensemble Performance

This week, our students were wowed by the students in the Wollongong High School of Performing Arts ATSI Ensemble when they visited our school to share some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural performances. The talented students explained the importance of a Welcome to Country and shared one steeped in local cultural history. They also performed songs in 'Language' (Aboriginal dialect) gifted to them from other community members and showcased the dance they created to represent the story about butterflies. Our whole school watched on, enjoying every minute of the authentic experience.



## **The Tell Them From Me parent survey (Term 3, 2018)**

This Term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 27 August and 26 October. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>. To access the survey for our school go to: <https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/mkps2018>

The survey is available in 23 languages.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Melissa Newman

Rel. Assistant Principal





# Tell Them From Me parent survey Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

## 1. What is the Partners in Learning parent survey?

The Partners in Learning parent survey is part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys on student engagement. The parent survey helps to clarify and strengthen the important relationship between parent and school.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights from the parent point of view at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

## 2. What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey questions aim to understand parents' perspectives on their child's experience at school, including teaching, communication and the school's support of learning and behaviour. The survey also aims to understand parents' perspectives on activities and practices at home related to their child's learning.

The survey will ask parents questions about:

Parents feel welcome	Parents are informed	Parents support learning at home
School supports positive behaviour	Safety	Inclusion
Communication preferences	Parents' participation at school	School supports learning

## 3. How have schools been selected to take part?

The survey is open to all NSW government schools at no cost to them. Your school has decided to participate.

## 4. How will taking part in this survey benefit my child's school?

The parent survey provides school principals and school leaders with parents' perspectives on their school as well as learning at home. Communication between parents and staff, activities and practices at home, and parent views on the school's support of learning and behaviour help build an accurate and timely picture that schools can use for practical improvements. Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

## 5. How does the parent survey relate to the student survey?

The parent survey is complementary to the *Tell Them From Me* student survey that your child may have been asked to complete. These surveys are offered (along with a teacher survey) to ensure schools can capture the views of students, teachers and parents.

For more detail on each of the surveys, see the survey website: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/>

## 6. What do I need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes 15 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, *The Learning Bar*. You can complete the surveys on desktop computers, laptops, ipads, tablets and smartphones. You will be provided with a link to complete the survey at home or your school may make computers available so that you can complete the survey during school hours. This link will be distributed to you by your school during Term 3.

## 7. Do I need to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Whilst your responses are very much appreciated, if during the survey, you feel uncomfortable, you can stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped.

## 8. Will the school be able to identify me or my child from my responses?

Survey responses are anonymous so staff in schools will not be able to identify individual parents or students from parent responses. Data suppression rules are applied to the school reporting tools where there are fewer than five responses. In other words, schools only see responses to questions which have been answered by five or more parents.

## 9. What sort of analysis will be done of the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders can use the data to better understand the experiences and views of parents at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the survey data in conjunction with existing student data held by the department, including performance data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between

parents and students' engagement, students' wellbeing, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE's analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the department's continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

## 10. When will the Partners in Learning survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 27th August (Week 6, Term 3) and Friday 26th October 2018 (Week 2, Term 4).

### What is CESE?

The Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) is part of the Department of Education.

CESE has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in New South Wales. CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all of education.

More information about CESE is available at: [www.cese.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cese.nsw.gov.au)

### What is *The Learning Bar*?

*The Learning Bar* is a Canadian education company that specialises in school surveys for both primary and secondary students. Its survey, *Tell Them From Me*, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada's ten provinces. More than 6,300 schools and 5.4 million students have participated in the survey. Australian schools have been participating in the *Tell Them From Me* surveys since 2012.

*The Learning Bar* is led by Dr J Douglas Willms. Dr Willms is the President of the International Academy of Education, a Member of the US National Academy of Education and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He recently held the Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Literacy and Human Development for 14 years. Dr Willms has played a lead role in the development of questions for the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

More information about *The Learning Bar* is available at: [www.thelearningbar.com](http://www.thelearningbar.com)

If you have any questions about the parent survey, please contact CESE via email: [TTFM@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:TTFM@det.nsw.edu.au) or by telephone: **1300 131 499**.





**PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY  
AUSTRALIA**

### **Respectful Relationships Peer Education Project**

PWDA is looking for women with intellectual or learning disability. We are doing a project about respectful and healthy relationships.

Does this sound like you?

- A woman with intellectual or learning disability
- Lives in Sydney, the Central Coast, Newcastle, Wollongong or Bowral
- Comfortable talking about relationships

The project will run in 2018-2019. From September 2018 to mid-2019 PWDA's 8 peer educators will be teaching other women with intellectual disability about respectful and healthy relationships.

Our aim is to provide information to women with intellectual disability about how to have respectful relationships. In our 8 session course we will cover the following topics:

- Group safety
- Trust and agreements
- Introduction to relationships
- Who do I have relationships with?
- Consent
- What is a respectful/healthy relationship?
- Intimate relationships
- Exploring touch – who can I touch and who can touch me with my permission?

If you are interested in the project, please contact the project officer:

**Polly Seymour**

**0434 692 845**

[pollys@pwd.org.au](mailto:pollys@pwd.org.au)



RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA

RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA MUSEUM

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

SPRING 2018



## Check out our activities for primary school students this school holidays

- Get an interactive presentation on the new \$50 banknote and discover banknote security features.
- Explore the Museum with a treasure map and learn about the history of Australia.

### Spring session times

Tuesday, 2 October, 11.00 am – 12.30 pm  
Thursday, 4 October, 11.00 am – 12.30 pm  
Tuesday, 9 October, 11.00 am – 12.30 pm  
Thursday, 11 October, 11.00 am – 12.30 pm

### What to bring

A current banknote so that you and your children can follow along with the interactive presentation.

### Cost: FREE – Bookings essential

Email: [museum@rba.gov.au](mailto:museum@rba.gov.au)  
Phone: (02) 9551 9743

### Reserve Bank of Australia Museum

Ground Floor, 65 Martin Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

### To find out more, visit:

[www.museum.rba.gov.au/events](http://www.museum.rba.gov.au/events)





# Proud Sponsor of the First PSSA Basketball sports Program at Illawarra "Snakepit"

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\*Association of School  
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NSW

# bike week

Proudly supported by NSW Government

22 - 30 September 2018



## Ride the Gong!

Saturday 22 September, 9am - 1pm  
Lang Park, Wollongong

**FREE** activities for riders of all ages and abilities

**Getting back on your bike or building your riding skills?** Register for one of our free workshops at [www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety](http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety) or 4227 7111. BYO bike and helmet or borrow one of ours.

**9.30am - 10.30am: Family cycling workshop** Learn how to ride together safely as a family. Includes tips for supervising children on your rides, as well as some basic bike skills.

**11am - 12pm: Bike fundamentals workshop** Get some skills and tips to make your riding safer and more enjoyable! Includes braking techniques, hand signals, bike set up and helmet fit.

**Free bike safety checks** Check your bike and pump your tyres thanks to Simple Cycles.

**Free helmet exchange** Swap your old helmet for a new one with RMS (while stocks last).

**Check out our coastal shared paths** Bike rentals available from South Coast Bike Hire (discounted fees apply - \$10/hour or \$25/four hours).

**Children's entertainment** Circus and magic on the move with Tom Foolery.

**Information and advice, free giveaways and prizes to be won!**

Contact Wollongong City Council (Road Safety Officer) on 4227 7111 or [rso@wollongong.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rso@wollongong.nsw.gov.au) for more information.

Proudly supported by Wollongong City Council and partners



For more information visit  
[wollongong.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety](http://wollongong.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety)



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