



# MT KEMBLA PUBLIC SCHOOL

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

**Term Four, Week Ten**

**16 December 2019**

## Coming Events...

<b>Year 6 Farewell night</b>	Monday 16 December
<b>Talent Quest</b>	Tuesday 17 December
<b>Last day of term for students</b>	Wednesday 18 December
<b>Staff return 2020</b>	Tuesday 28 January
<b>First day of term 2020 - Years 1-6</b>	Wednesday 29 January



*Dear Parent Helpers,*

## THANK YOU

*for all of your help at our school  
throughout the year.*



*We would like to invite you to attend  
our "Thank You" afternoon tea,  
on Tuesday 17 December  
1:15pm - 2:15pm.*

### End of Year Presentation Assembly

Our annual Presentation Day was held last Thursday, 12 December. This was an opportunity to recognise particularly meritorious performances. All our winners were very worthy. Special mention to the following students: Dux for 2019 - Micah Braddock, School Citizenship award for 2019 - Jack Brandt, Sportspersons for 2019 - Tayla Tregonning and Billy Lee, Premier Sporting Challenge medal – Fletcher Moulds, Paul Scully Award -Grace Brannon, Ansto Science Award - Porsha Ward and Ruby Spiznagel-Reeves, Rotary Award - Emma Czarnosz, Illawarra Foundary Music Creative Arts Award - Mia Dewhurst, Illawarra Foundary Music Encouragement Award -Sofia Akpinar, and the Figtree HS Scholarship - Taleigha Redfern. Our presentation day appropriately recognised students who had experienced the high levels of success. However, I encouraged those present to recognise and celebrate all the student learning and individual improvement that has occurred over 2019. Any child who has worked hard to improve their learning should be proud of their effort and what they have achieved.

### Farewell YEAR 6

Seven short years ago our Year 6 students began at Mount Kembla Public School. They wandered into their kindergarten classroom in their first school uniform with brand new lunch-boxes that had been carefully packed by their parents. Tonight, to celebrate the momentous occasion of finishing primary school, we have the Year 6 games and farewell night. On Wednesday afternoon, we will follow tradition, sending Year 6 students into the next chapter of their lives through the school arch.

### Sydney Girls High School Performance

Last Wednesday, we welcomed the school band from North Sydney Girls High School. The concert was a fun, interactive performance with opportunities to sing along, use body percussion and two students even conducted the band. I felt goose-bumps on my arms as the orchestra played a range of Disney and other well-known tunes the students knew. The measure of enjoyment by the students was seen as they quickly recognised tunes, bopping and singing along with the music. Many thanks to Steve, Amy and all the students from North Sydney Girls High School. We know it was a long trip to the Illawarra, and we appreciated the opportunity to hear your excellent musicianship.

### Deadly Award Recipient – Tayla Tregonning

Tayla consistently upholds the core values of Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner. During her time at Mount Kembla Public school she has been an active participant in sport. She has represented Mount Kembla School at all District Carnivals including, Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics and was nominated by her peers to be a Sports Captain this year.

Tayla has always been very involved in extracurricular activities. She was previously a member of the school choir for three years and has taken part in Southern Stars and Art Gallery. She continues to demonstrate her leadership skills by reading our Acknowledgement of Country at our fortnightly assemblies and participating in the year six buddy program and Learning to Lead program. Tayla is an exceptionally dedicated student who always strives to do her best in all areas of her learning. She always seeks feedback to improve her work and has a positive attitude when completing all set tasks. She works collaboratively with her peers and is always willing to support others.

### Reading Eggs and Mathletics



Reading Eggs and Mathletics are two online platforms that support the development of automaticity in reading and mathematics. As a school, we are looking at using Reading Eggs for K-2 and Mathletics for Years 3-6 to reinforce what children are learning at school. We have free access to the platform over the school holidays to try it out.

Your child will bring home a username and password for either Reading Eggs or Mathletics by the end of this week. When the children are bored over the break, login and let them play with the programs. Early in the year we will seek your feedback about what children thought of the programs. We hope to provide a subscription for 2020 as a yearly trial, so your feedback will be appreciated.



### Reading over Christmas

There are lots of important messages around Christmas time and here is another one ....

Research is clear that children who don't read during the summer holidays can lose up to three months of reading progress and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect

As a child's first and most important teachers, parents have a major role to play in motivating children to read. Over the coming holidays please take time to consider some of the following ideas about how to make reading a fun part of your child's Christmas holiday and help them maintain their level of achievement and not fall behind next year:

- **Visit the library** - If your child doesn't have a library card, summer is a great time to sign up for one. In addition to a wide selection of books to borrow, many libraries have fun, child-friendly summer reading programs.
- **Lead by example** - Read the newspaper at breakfast, pick up a magazine at the doctor's office, and stuff a paperback in your beach bag. If kids see the adults around them reading often, they will understand that literature can be a fun and important part of their summer days. Talk it up. Help kids find time to read. During the school year, children have busy schedules and often have required reading for classes. Summer is a time when children can read what, when, and how they please. Don't set daily minute requirements or determine the number of pages they should read. Instead, make sure they pick up books for fun and help find ways for them to choose to read.
- **Relax the rules for summer** - You may even want to make bedtime a little bit later if you find that your child can't put down a book. Talking with your kids about what you have read also lets them know that reading is an important part of your life. Tell them why you liked a book, what you learned from it, or how it helped you - soon they might start doing the same.
- **Use books to break the boredom** - Without the regular school regimen, adults and kids need more activities to fill the hours. Books that teach kids how to make or do something are a great way to get kids reading and keep them occupied. Don't forget to take your kids' favourite reading series along on long road trips.
- **Read aloud with kids** - Take your children to see a local storyteller or be one yourself. The summer months leave extra time for enthusiastic 'read-alouds' with children, no matter what their age. Don't forget to improvise different voices or wear a silly hat to make the story that much more interesting! **Over to you .....**

### GOODBYE 2019

Thanks for your support in 2019. Education at Mount Kembla Public School really is a whole community effort. The support we get from both parents and community members in this school is exceptional. Your contribution may appear small at the time, but it is vital. If 2019 marks the end of your association with this school, I know your memories will be overwhelmingly positive and enjoyable ones. The staff loves to hear how our former students are going, so please stay in touch. My personal thanks to the entire staff of this school. I feel very privileged to turn up here each day surrounded by such a dedicated group of people. Their level of contribution is just outstanding. Have a great festive season and enjoy your kids in this beautiful place you are all so fortunate to be able to call home. School resumes for students on Wednesday, 29 January, 2020.

Enjoy the week.

*Mrs Maria MacDonald*

Principal

### ***From the Office..***

#### Student Health Care Plans



We are currently reviewing our student medical records. It is essential that our office has a copy of your child's most up to date Action Plan. Additionally, if your child is on any medication that we may not be aware of (this includes medication administered regularly at home) please contact the office and we will send the required paperwork home with your child to be completed and returned.

#### School Fees

Thank you to those families who have paid their school fees. The year is quickly coming to an end and there are a small number of families who still have fees outstanding. Please finalise payments ASAP. You can pay by cash or cheque at the office or through Parent Online Payment on our school website. Thank you.

### Head Lice Reminder

Unfortunately our little unwanted visitors "NITS" do not go on holidays when we do. The School Holidays is a perfect time to check and treat so we ask that everyone PLEASE check your children's hair for Nits and/or eggs over the break.

**Please treat if any are found and if in doubt please treat anyway.**

The only way to eradicate our school of these unwanted visitors is if **EVERYONE** is proactive in checking and treating. **Treatment needs to continue for at least 6 weeks.** Remember to wash all bedding and pillows and ALL members of the family need to be treated.

**See further information at NSW Health**

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/treatment.aspx> or the Departments Website <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php>.


Thank you for your help in this matter.



### Scholastic Book Club 2020


**From 2020 all Book Club Orders must be submitted online. There will be no cash or forms taken at the school office.** Below are the instructions for the LOOP platform for parents to process their book club purchases. Ordered books will be returned to the school and distributed to the students by the office staff.

Introducing

 SCHOLASTIC

**Book Clubs LOOP**  
for Parents

AVAILABLE  
AS AN APP!



**LOOP** is Scholastic Book Clubs **Linked Online**  
**Ordering & Payment** platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, **LOOP** makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Log-in to [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) or download our iPhone and iPad app from the App Store or get it on Google Play for Android.

- For a quick start, just click on **ORDER** in the top menu or **REGISTER** first to save your details for next time
- Select your school and your child's class
- Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- Enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue
- You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
- All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date
- There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school!

# PRESENTATION DAY 2019

On Thursday 12 December we held yet another successful end of year Presentation Day. There were lots of awards presented to our deserving recipients. We saw some amazing performances from our students showcasing their skills learnt this term through our Dance2bfit program. Our school also sung a very special farewell song to Mrs Keech and Mrs Hush which saw lots of tears flowing. We finished with farewelling our Year 6 2019 students. Thank you for all of the effort that was contributed by staff and thank you to all of the families that attended.





# *Sydney Girls High School Performance*



## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



**MOUNT ST THOMAS PRESCHOOL** is now taking enrolments for 2020!

At Mount St Thomas Preschool we provide a nurturing and home like environment to help make children's first transition to a school setting a positive experience.

Learning is fun at Mount St Thomas Preschool

We help each child reach their full potential by planning experiences that are challenging, interesting and fun!!

For enquires please call 42 295 114 or visit [www.mountstthomaspreschool.com.au](http://www.mountstthomaspreschool.com.au)



### Event Website:

Link to <http://www.aquathon.com.au>

### Event Fan Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AustraliaDayAquathon/>



Big Fat  
Smile

# KIDS AQUA

**WOLLONGONG HARBOUR**  
**Sun 26 January 2020**

Individual or Tag teams



**Finishers medals**

AGE	
u10s:	140m + 2km
10-12s:	200m + 2km

[aquathon.com.au](http://aquathon.com.au)

*Australia Day is a fun day at Wollongong Harbour and it all kicks off with the huge all age fun of the Australia Day Aquathon and Funrun-walk.*

*The Kids Aquathon distance is just for kids 6-12 years, and is all about participation.*

*The 140m swim (7-9 years) or 200m swim (10-12 years) is held in the safe confines of the Wollongong Harbour, with lifesavers galore and parents can even accompany their child (if you can swim of course). The run for both ages is 2km along the coastal blue mile.*

*Kids receive a finisher medals and with everyone cheering on, they will feel like superstars!*

*Longer distances for older children and adults, along with the popular 4km Warrigal Funrun and walk the whole family can do.*

**Sunday 26 January 2020. Info:**

<http://aquathon.com.au>



# Summer Writing Club For Kids

**35 BOREDOM BUSTING** creative  
writing challenges over summer!



- Beat boredom and become a better writer
- Sign up anytime
- 1st challenge available from December 16th
- New challenges unlocked daily
- Access challenges online anywhere, anytime
- Improve creative writing skills while having FUN
- Awesome Christmas Gift idea
- Sign up at [www.juniorwritersclub.com.au](http://www.juniorwritersclub.com.au)
- Use Codeword **SUMMER19** to claim your discount

[www.juniorwritersclub.com.au](http://www.juniorwritersclub.com.au)



## **KIDS FISHING WORKSHOP**

Kids fishing workshop for **8-14 yr** olds run by NSW Fisheries at **Windang** on **22nd January**. The workshops run for 4 hours, including lessons on casting, knot tying, tackle and rules before 90 minutes fishing. Kids get to take home a quality rod and reel, all for \$40. Bookings are essential, contact Stephen on: [stephen.thurstan@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:stephen.thurstan@dpi.nsw.gov.au) or 0438245190.

**Come & try**

# FootGolf

**School holiday fun**

FootGolf is ideal for all ages and played just like golf, but with a football being kicked over 9 holes. It's loads of fun and is ideal for a casual game, social, school groups, kids parties and team building activities.

- Bookings recommended ph: (02) 4283 5322
- Ages 5+

- Enclosed footwear (strictly no football boots) and t-shirts essential
- Bring your own ball or book ours

**Cost**  
 Adult: \$14 • Under 16: \$9.50  
 Pre-booked groups (10+): \$7.50 ea

**Times**  
 Monday to Thursday, 3-6pm  
 Sundays 12 noon - 6pm

**the vale**  
 RUSSELL VALE GOLF COURSE

**Pro Shop** (02) 4283 5322  
**Club House** (02) 4285 1286  
[wollongong.nsw.gov.au/golfcourse](http://wollongong.nsw.gov.au/golfcourse)

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 city of innovation  
 A service of Wollongong City Council

**f thevalegolfcourse**