



*Hello and welcome to our MOPS community... Whether you are near or far, if you are reading this, we would like you to feel part of our community - either physically or virtually. Here are some stories about what we've been up to, what we're currently creating or what we're dreaming up for our future...*

## Term 1 | Week 2 | 2020

### STORIES FROM MOPS

*[Just a short newsletter to touch base and welcome everyone.]*

Happy New Year and welcome to MOPS! It has been so fun to reconnect and catch up with many of you! I have thoroughly enjoyed beginning to get to know our new families too. Please come and introduce yourself if we haven't spoken yet. I hope you are settling harmoniously into our school community and finding some like-minded people to connect with.

We have launched into a very happy and harmonious beginning of the year. Our kids have been excited to see their old friends again and make new friends as well! Teachers and students alike have been building those all-important relationships that will set them up for a successful year of learning. During these first few days and weeks, it is really important to focus on building a positive classroom culture that supports wellbeing, learning and, of course, a bit of fun too. We aim to nurture each child to feel known, valued and cared for, and empower them to be the best learners they can be.

Amongst our staff, we welcome back Alana Unsworth who was teaching part-time with us last year on The Innovation Project. This year she is taking a 3/4 class. Welcome also to Harrison Green who is teaching The Innovation Project. Kloe Millet will not be with us for a while as she has accepted a temporary position at the Wollongong Hospital school. We also welcome back Julie, our School Administration Officer who has been off doing amazing things with the Department for a few years. Julie Sims will be in the office Mondays and Tuesdays, and we are happy that we can welcome Jane back from Wednesdays to Fridays.

I am so excited to introduce our outstanding, vibrant and caring 2020 team who will lead learning for your children this year. I am sure you will find them warm, capable and welcoming. Don't

#### FEBRUARY

Thu 6	Swimming Carnival
Mon 10	Back to School night (3-6)
Tue 11	Back to School night (K-2)
Tue 11	P&C Meeting 5pm
Thu 13	Band begins
Thu 13 - Tue 18	Life ED
Fri 14	Sports tabloids
Sat 15	Community Event 'Jackaranda Says No to Bullying'
Mon 17	Our 1st Assembly
Fri 21	Music classes begin
Fri 21	District Swimming Carnival
Tue 25	Harmony Circle

#### MARCH

Mon 2	Assembly
Tue 10	P&C AGM
Mon 16	Assembly
Fri 20	National Day of Action Against Bullying
Sat 21	Harmony Day (date tba)
Thu 26	School Photos
Mar 23 - Apr 3	Parent Teacher Conferences

#### APRIL

Thu 9	Easter hat Parade
Thu 9	Last day of Term 1

forget that your child's development and learning depend on a team effort - involving their teachers, you (their parents and carers), and of course themselves. So please get to know your child's teachers, and to help you in this, we are holding Back-to-School nights next week. As for myself, I am already loving working, learning, laughing and collaborating with our 2020 team, and I look forward to leading learning together this year!

Our classroom teachers are:-

- K/1 Kind - Charlotte Royall
- K/1 Harmony - Chloe Roser
- 1/2 Wonder - Sally Anderson & Wendy Myers
- 1/2 Curious - Laura Drysdale
- 3/4 Unite - James Dixon
- 3/4 Unique - Alana Unsworth
- 5/6 Inspire - Kate Shield
- 5/6 Courage - Chelsea Van Dragt
- 5/6 Create - Savanna Brule

Our specialist teachers are:-

- Learning Support - Leanne Blanche, Felicity Fitzpatrick & Ricki Hart
- EAL/D - Felicity Fitzpatrick, Ricki Hart & Susie Hamers
- School Counsellor - Garry Rosser
- Teacher Librarian - Susie Hamers
- Innovation Project - Harrison Green
- Food Forest Project (Kitchen Garden) - Ricki Hart
- Live Life Well Project - Wendy Myers

Our School Learning Support Officers are:-

- Liz Murphy, Penny Higgins, Leanne Fowler, Ben Higgins & Matilda Wood

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

I am really looking forward to working alongside our Year 6 leadership team this year.

Congratulations again to Jamilah K, Elijah Z, Holly P and Billy B, and our two captains, Ruby P and Johnny B. They have already begun to show real leadership qualities around our school!

## **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHTS**

Next week, we will be hosting our Back-to-School nights on Monday and Tuesday from 3:00 to 5:00pm. Look out for details from your child's teacher. We will have a BBQ as well, so come along and have a free sausage sizzle while you meet the teachers and other parents.

## **P&C MEETING**

Our first P&C meeting for 2020 is next Tuesday evening at 5pm in the Outdoor Learning Area. Hang around after the K-2 Back-to-school night, grab a sausage sizzle for dinner and join us for great conversation and laughs. It is the perfect opportunity to get to know other parents and carers, and talk about the things that matter most for our kids.

## **MOPS SQUAD**

We have such an amazing community! Thank you to those who have already signed up to volunteer in our canteen. This makes such a difference to our kids and some of our busy parents!

Just letting new families know that we really value parent and community voice. We have a variety of ways you can be part of our school...

- Come along to the P&C nights;
- Meet us in the Outdoor Learning Area and bring a coffee to our Tuesday morning Harmony Circles;
- Hang out in our Welcome Garden before or after school to chat with others; Come and say 'hi' after morning assemblies; or
- Make an appointment at the school office.

Don't forget our Harmony Circle team is currently working on a community cookbook. Big thanks to Tareyn Varley who has offered to coordinate this initiative. A note will be coming home soon about how you can contribute.

Please get in touch with me or leave a message at the school office if you are keen to help out on this or anything else. Thank you!

#mopssquad #canteensquad #harmonycircle #workingbee

If you need to communicate with me or make an appointment with your child's teacher, please send an email to the school and it will be forwarded to the right place. Our school email address is:- [mtousley-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mtousley-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## REFLECTIONS

What a fabulous start to the year we have had! At our teachers' meeting on Monday afternoon, we all reflected on the things we were grateful for. As we went around each teacher, it became obvious that your lovely children were already making a favourable impression on us. There were stories of kids who have consciously set out to make a positive fresh start, stories of kids who have been going out of their way to help and welcome new students and families, stories of kids wanting to launch straight into Empathy Projects to help bushfire victims, and stories of kids, at first a little nervous and reticent, now transitioning beautifully into new classroom environments and embracing the challenge of making new friends. Thank you for nurturing such amazing human beings.

I am personally thankful to the teachers and support staff for all their hard work and heart... coming in during their holidays to prepare for the term, settling our children into the new year in such a caring and nurturing way, prioritising relationship-building and team-building to ensure positive classroom culture and learning, and genuinely looking out for and caring for each other. It really is an amazing crew at this school! I feel honoured to be a part of it... and the whole community.

*As always, I look forward to building on our relationships,  
and continuing to grow our amazing school.*

*Tiffany Sinton  
Relieving Principal*

## NOVEL CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Please be aware of the latest notification from NSW Health and Dept. of Education.

"Any student or staff member who over the last 14 days has visited the province of Hubei in central China is excluded from schools across NSW and has been instructed not to return to school or child care services for a period of 14 days after leaving Hubei Province. In addition, the NSW Government has requested that children who have visited mainland China not attend school or childcare services until 14 days have lapsed from their date of departure. Although the risk is very low, the NSW Government has taken this step as an additional precautionary measure."



## CANTEEN ROSTER

### FEBRUARY

Tue	11	Simon G, Kath G
Wed	12	Sarah B
Thurs	13	Amanda P
Fri	14	Andy L, Greg F

Tue	18	Simon G & Kath G
Wed	19	Amy W
Thurs	20	Leanne N
Fri	21	Sarah S, Holly S



**WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY**

Year 6 Parents and Students are invited to attend WHSPA's Expo Evening

There will be 2 sessions: 5pm and 6.30pm

Bookings Essential

[www.trybooking.com/BIBTG](http://www.trybooking.com/BIBTG)



- Nationally recognised and award winning Performing Arts Programs specialising in Music, Dance, Drama and Visual Arts.
- Outstanding HSC results with a high percentage of the cohort entering into Tertiary study.
- Professional opportunities offered to students through partnerships with AIPA, BaiMed, Walk Different and other industries.
- Extensive co-curricular programs in the Performing Arts and Sport where students are recognised at State and National levels.
- Leadership opportunities through SRC, Sports Committee, Entertainment Crew, Peer Support and Duke of Ed.
- An extensive curriculum which caters for diverse student needs including Gifted and Talented extension programs.

WOLLONGONG HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

Please note, the online audition application is now available for students in Year 6 2020, who wish to audition for Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts, through the WHSPA school website.

Applications are only accepted online.



## Event description

Jackaranda says NO to bullying is a fun night created to spark dialogue about mental health and bullying. This unique event will feature a wide variety of performances from Drag Queens to Live Music to Dance, this is not a show to miss!

There will be a truck selling \$10 Pizza's, there will also be raffle with amazing prizes with money raised being donated to Kids Helpline so make sure to bring cash!

Tickets available at <https://events.humanitix.com.au/jackaranda-says-no-to-bullying>