



MOUNT TERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Growing Strong Reaching Far

Principal: Mr David O'Connor
Deputy Principal: Mr Steve Hailstone

TERM 4 WEEK 4

Term 4	
Week 5	
Monday 10 th November	*SRC Blue Mufti Day – Diabetes Awareness
Tuesday 11 th November	*Remembrance Day Assembly *Girls Softball – NSW PSSA Quarter Finals
Thursday 13 th November	*Yr 4 APHS Taster Day
Friday 14 th November	*K-2 Athletics Carnival
Week 6	
Monday 17 th November	*Boys Softball – NSW PSSA Quarter Finals
Thursday 20 th November	*Yr 4 UOW Science Centre
Friday 21 st November	*Yr 3 UOW Science Centre
Week 7	*Swim Scheme
Wednesday 26 th November	*Year 5 Kiama Excursion * Year 6 Jamberoo Action Park
Thursday 27 th November	*Kindy Excursion - IPAC
Week 8	*Swim Scheme
Tuesday 2 nd December	*Year 6 Albion Park Orientation Day
Thursday 4 th December	*Colour Fun Run

P&C Halloween Disco

Many thanks to all those who came along to the P&C Halloween Disco. What a great night it was with lots of fun and dancing. It was wonderful to see everyone dressed up in their ghoulish outfits for the event. A massive thank you to all the parent/carer volunteers who put in so much time and effort to make this disco happen.

School Improvements

Over the holidays, it was great to see some school improvement work take place to replace some seating around the fig trees on the back oval, and a significant portion of the concrete path leading to the back gate. In further great news, work has finally begun to replace the old chook shed and chook run so that next year, we can once again have chickens at the school as part of our Living Classroom program.

Kindergarten Transition

Our Kindergarten transition process concluded yesterday and we have a wonderful new cohort of little people starting with us next year. We hope our parents and carers found the transition process useful in preparing our newest students and we look forward to welcoming them all to the Mount Terry PS community next year. Not long to go now!

UoW Pre-Service Teachers

This week we welcomed a number of pre-service teachers from the University of Wollongong for their second professional experience placement. These pre-service teachers will be working in 1C, 1D, 1J, 2Z, 2C and 3H for the next 3 weeks.

Sports News

On Tuesday 28 October a number of Yrs 3-6 students took part in the Tongarra League Tag Gala Day at Croome Road Sporting Complex. It was a great day and our students participated really well.

Good luck to our softball teams as they compete in the quarter finals of the state knockout in the coming weeks. The girls' team play next Tuesday 11 November at Kiama and the boys' team play the following Monday 17 November. Many thanks to Mrs Cartwright and Mr Fisher for preparing our teams for this competition.

Yr 4 Taster Session at Albion Park HS

Yesterday our Yr 4 students got a taste of what high school will be like with their first of two visits to Albion Park HS. The students and staff had a wonderful afternoon of fun and activities and they'll return for their second visit next Thursday. This program is just one of the ways our local high school demonstrate their commitment to preparing students for the big transition from primary to high school. It's also a great opportunity for our students to see what wonderful things our local feeder high school has to offer. We are very lucky to have such a close association and working relationship with Albion Park HS.

School Counsellor and School Psychologist Appreciation Day

Today is School Counsellor and School Psychologist Appreciation Day and we are so thankful that the wonderful Michelle George works in this space at our school. Michelle works really hard each week to support students and families with their learning and

social development, sometimes working with people in the most difficult of situations. Thank you Michelle for the fabulous contribution you make to our school!

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Next Tuesday 11 November, we will be holding a short assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day, as we do each year. The assembly will begin at 10:30am in the COLA and parents/carers are welcome to attend and lay flowers or a wreath if they wish.

K-2 Athletics Carnival

The K-2 Athletics Carnival will be held here at school on Friday 14 November from 9 – 11am. Parents and carers are welcome to come along and join in the fun. Here's hoping for great weather on the day!

SRC Blue Mufti Day

Our wonderful SRC have organised a mufti day on Monday 10 November to acknowledge International Diabetes Awareness Day. Children will be invited to wear something blue on the day as this is the theme colour for this event. There will be no cost associated with taking part, with the focus being on awareness and understanding of the needs of those living with diabetes.

Game Changer Challenge

Best wishes to our Game Changer Challenge team competing at the State Finals in Parramatta next week. We look forward to hearing how they go at this very pointy end of the competition. Our students have done so well to be one of just 12 primary school finalists from the hundreds of schools that entered the competition. Many thanks to Mr Livingstone for all his efforts in preparing our students through our FIERCE Program, and also to Mrs Piana who will also be going along to support our team.

Lego League Competition

Mr Livingstone will be taking a team of students to the Lego League Competition at Wollongong TAFE next Saturday 15 November. This is the first time we've been involved in this competition so we look forward to hearing all about it on their return.

Stage 2 Excursion to the Science Centre

Stage 2 head off for an excursion to the Science Centre in Wollongong in a couple of weeks. Yr 4 will be going on Thursday 20 November and Yr 3 on Friday 21 November. The Science Centre is always a great excursion of fun and learning. We look forward to hearing great reports about the day after the excursion.

New Website

Our school website is being refreshed and will go live next Thursday 13 November. We hope you like the new-look website and the information it provides about our fabulous school.

Our Staff Are Learners Too

Tue 28 – Fri 31 October: Mr O'Connor attended the NSW Primary Principals' Conference in Sydney.

David O'Connor
Principal

Outstanding Achievement: Knox Stevenson Shines at NSW State Athletic Championship!

We are thrilled to share the fantastic news about Knox Stevenson's remarkable performance at the recent 2025 NSW State Athletic Championship, held on Thursday 23rd October at the Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre. Knox proudly represented the South Coast region, competing in the Junior Boys shot put event against some of the best young athletes from across New South Wales.

From the very first throw, Knox impressed everyone by setting a personal best distance of 11.26 metres—a significant milestone that demonstrated his dedication, skill, and strength. This outstanding effort secured Knox a well-deserved second place, marking him as one of the top junior athletes in the state.

But Knox's journey doesn't end here! Thanks to his exceptional performance, he has now earned the incredible opportunity to represent New South Wales at the upcoming School Sport Australia Track and Field Championships, which will take place later this term in Canberra. This national competition brings together the most talented school athletes from all over Australia to compete at the highest level, and Knox will be proudly carrying the NSW and our school's banner.

This achievement is a testament not only to Knox's natural talent but also to his hard work, commitment to training, and the support of his family, coaches, and school community. We are incredibly proud of Knox and wish him every success as he prepares for this next exciting chapter in his athletic career.

Please join us in congratulating Knox Stevenson on this outstanding accomplishment and cheering him on as he represents our school and state on the national stage!



ACE AWARDS

Week 3

3R	Ella D & Amelia K	5C	Elaina S & Tayne J
3B	Mitchell H & Scarlett C	5B	Jacob S & Lachie McF
3H	Brixton H, Ashton V, Skylah R & Savannah D	5H	Amelia W & Jacob B
4B	Aisha O & Koah F	K/6S	Harry O’R
4M	Avayah K & Ruby McD	6W	Keelan B & Jaxon W
4W	Willow J & Paige G	6F	Sonny V & Jaxon B
		6P	Austin D & Josh C

Week 4

KW	Harrison F & Riley R	1J	James G & Mila R
KI	Mason C & Maddie A	1L	Logan P & Sophie S
KF	Aria B & Arabella M	2H	Leo G & Jaxsyn S
KC	Darcy H & Caleb F	2C	Miya N & Kingsley H
1C	Abigail W & Jordy G	2Z	Rylen P, Kaliyah B & Leo K
1D	Hamish B, Koa Harris & Elliana C	2K	Bentley C & Shai N

A guide to selective high schools and opportunity classes

Selective high schools and opportunity classes are specialist school settings that group together **high potential and gifted** students.

Learning with classmates who have similar abilities helps students' academic development and wellbeing.

Students still follow the NSW curriculum, but teachers may use special teaching methods for high potential and gifted learners.

Within each co-educational opportunity class and selective high school there will be an equal number of places available for girls and boys.

Selective high schools

There are 4 types of selective high schools:

- **fully selective** high schools – these are schools where all students have been selected based on the placement test
- **partially selective** high schools – these are schools that have a mix of selected students and local area students
- **agricultural selective** high schools – these are schools that emphasise the study of agriculture and all students are selected on their academic ability. Some of these schools also provide boarding where students live at the school
- **Aurora College** – these are online selective classes. They are provided at local public high schools in rural and remote areas.

Opportunity classes

Opportunity classes are for high potential and gifted students in Years 5 and 6. They are offered in a number of public primary schools across NSW.

Aurora College provides online opportunity classes for rural and remote students in their local primary schools.

Where are they located?

Selective high schools and opportunity classes are available across metropolitan, regional and rural NSW. Check the maps below for a school near you.

- [Find an opportunity class](#)
- [Find a selective high school](#)

How do I know if it is the right fit for my child?

Does your child:

- enjoy learning
- have intense curiosity
- display a good memory
- ask complex questions
- require fewer repetitions when learning new things
- display creative ways of thinking
- become intensely focused in their area of interest or passion?

If some of these sound like your child, an opportunity class or selective high school might be a good fit.

How do I apply?

Parents apply during the application period online at: shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au

2027 entry into an opportunity class or selective high school

The application period for 2027 entry is from **6 November 2025** to **20 February 2026**.

What year is my child in when I apply?

Opportunity classes

Parents apply when their child is near the end of Year 3 in 2025 or at the beginning of Year 4 in 2026.

Selective high schools

Parents apply when their child is near the end of Year 5 in 2025 or at the beginning of Year 6 in 2026.

Learn more on our website about the [application process](#) and residency requirements at [who can apply for opportunity classes](#) and [who can apply for selective high schools](#).

The placement test

After you apply, your child must sit a test. Students are then selected for placement based on their test performance.

When is the test?

The test will be available across a 2-day period:

Selective high school test: Friday 1 May and Saturday 2 May 2026

Opportunity class test: Friday 8 May and Saturday 9 May 2026

Students attend one test day only and do **not** need to bring their own computer to sit the computer-based placement tests.

Where will the tests be held?

The tests will mostly be held in local NSW public high schools. Students will be allocated a test centre location based on where they attend school. Parents need to take their child to the test centre on test day.

What's in the test?

The test assesses how well students understand what they read, reason using mathematics and their thinking skills. Applicants for selective high schools are also tested on their writing skills.

Learn more at: [Placement test](#).

When will I find out about my child's results?

After your child sits the test, you will get an email in Term 3 with their test performance and next steps. If your child is offered a place, you will get information on how to enrol.

The Equity Placement Model

The [Equity Placement Model](#) helps all students to have fair access to selective high schools and opportunity classes.

Under the Model, up to 20% of student places at each selective high school and opportunity class are held for high potential and gifted students:

- from low socio-educational advantage areas
- of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background
- from rural and remote locations
- with disability.

The held places are offered to students based on their performance in the placement test.

Learn more at [Fair access](#).

Supporting gifted students in all NSW public schools

Selective high schools and opportunity classes are just one of the ways that the NSW Department of Education supports high potential and gifted students.

High potential and gifted students are supported in all NSW public schools to reach their full potential. Learn more about the department's [High Potential and Gifted Education Policy](#).

Need more information?

Check the following webpages for more detailed information.

Webpages for parents and carers

- Selective high schools and opportunity classes: education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc
- Selective high schools: education.nsw.gov.au/shs-yr7
- Opportunity classes: education.nsw.gov.au/oc

Webpages for students

- Selective high schools and opportunity classes – information for students: <https://edu.nsw.link/shs-oc-students>
- Applying for an opportunity class: Student resource hub – edu.nsw.link/OChub
- Applying for a selective high school: Student resource hub – edu.nsw.link/SHShub

Social media

Join our official department Facebook groups:

- Selective high school placement: edu.nsw.link/shs-fb
- Opportunity class placement: edu.nsw.link/oc-fb

Contact Us

Contact the Selective Education Team at:

Email: set@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 1300 880 367

Telephone interpreter service: 131 450

If you need an interpreter to assist with your enquiry please call the telephone interpreter service and tell the operator:

- the language you need
- the phone number you want to call.

The operator will call the number the Selective Education Team phone number (1300 880 367) and get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

ILLAWARRA

EDIBLE GARDEN TRAIL

22ND - 23RD NOV
10AM TO 3PM

BOOK YOUR
TICKETS



Healthy
Cities
Australia

**FOOD
FAIRNESS**
ILLAWARRA



GKKR KARATE
KARATE FOR EVERYONE



UNLIMITED CLASSES

**2 WEEK
TRIAL \$35**

INCLUDES FREE UNIFORM

Why Choose Karate?

- Build strength, flexibility and focus
- Boost self-esteem and confidence
- Meet new friends and join a supportive community

What You'll Get:

- 2 weeks of unlimited karate classes
- Expert instruction from certified instructors
- A Complimentary Uniform (rrp \$70)

SCAN HERE TO GET STARTED
OFFER STRICTLY LIMITED

- ✓ Trial Starts from 1st booked class
- ✓ Trial must be activated within 2 weeks of purchase





GKR KARATE

KARATE FOR EVERYONE



There are over 600 muscles in the human body & you will use every one of them during an average karate class.



Karate is an excellent way to improve strength and fitness with many students reporting significant weight loss.



Karate kicking engages all muscle groups in the upper and lower abdominal areas & strengthens the lower back.



Enhanced flexibility from karate training can greatly increase posture & vitality.



Children who train in karate are much less likely to be bullied as they develop greater self-confidence & respect.



Children's school work & class behaviour can be greatly improved through karate's disciplined training environment.



**SCAN HERE TO GET
STARTED**

OFFER STRICTLY LIMITED

ONLY AVAILABLE AT: Albion Park Rail Mittagong
Vincentia Wollongong Moss Vale Bomaderry