Dear Parents and Carers,

School Student Transport Scheme applications

From 2 November 2015, a new online SSTS application process is being introduced for schools within the Opal network, coinciding with the introduction of the School Opal card.

Benefits for schools

Automatic renewal. Most parents, guardians and students won't need to apply for a School Opal card if they have already been given a school student travel pass for the current year. School Opal cards which are being automatically renewed will be sent to the student's school at the beginning of the new school year in 2016.

School Opal cards applied for using the new online process will be sent to the student's nominated address ready for term one 2016.

Students should use the new form if they:

- are just starting school and have not had a pass for travel before
- are in moving from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7
- are changing schools or campus, including going between primary and secondary school
- or, if their personal details have changed (e.g. address)
- Online application form. Schools no longer need to stock the SSTS application form.

- Online SSTS eligibility assessment. The new online application portal will automatically assess SSTS eligibility based on distance rules.
- Less paperwork. Schools only need to endorse a single application form for each student's eligible home address (and one for each eligible address in shared custody arrangements) and send it to Transport for NSW
- More efficient distribution. All new applications for 2016 travel will be sent directly to the student's nominated address.

Simplified replacement. To order a new School Opal card, students go direct to www.transportnsw.info/school-students or call 131 500.
If you think your child would be interested in attending our chess classes, which occur every lunch time on Thursday, please collect a form from the office and enrol now before the year comes to an end (Kindergarten are also eligible to enrol).

School Leader Elections
On Monday, 23rd November from 2-3pm all students from Years 3-6 and K-2 class Student Council representatives will meet in the school hall to elect the senior SRC leaders. Good luck and congratulations to all the candidates who have done such a great job in preparing for the SRC election.

Deadly Kids Awards—2015
13th October 2015

Congratulations to Jade Barrington of 5/6 T who has been awarded the school’s 2015 Deadly Kids Doing Well Award for her overall effort and achievement at Maroubra PS. The term ‘deadly’ in Aboriginal English means doing well, achieving and talented. Representatives of Jade’s family, Mrs Wojcinski and I were present to see Jade accept the award presented by Mr Murat Dizdar, Executive Director Public Schools NSW at the University of Technology in Sydney. We are very proud of you Jade!

Vasilka Jovanovska
Acting Principal

Chess Update
Chess develops the scientific way of thinking. While playing, you generate numerous variations in your mind. You explore new ideas, try to predict outcomes and interpret surprising revelations. Chess is a test of patience and concentration. It enhances your ability to interact with other people and tests your sportsmanship in a competitive environment.

For the last week students have thoroughly enjoyed the new chess equipment during recess and lunch. Students have been developing certain skills when playing games of chess, such as calculation, pattern recognition and visualisation.

Utilising the chess equipment during lunch time has enhanced the ability of students to interact with others. They have enjoyed forming new friendships, as students who already know how to play chess have been teaching other students.

Miss Hatziantoniou
NO–PLASTIC  NO–VEMBER

Recycle Your Plastic Bags at School!!

MBPS will be participating in National Recycling Week (9th-15 November) by raising awareness in our school community for the need to recycle plastic bags. Bring in your soft plastic bags and place them in the special classroom box for the whole month of November. Parent volunteers will take them to recycle locations. Classes will be competing for the honour of being named the MBPS Recycling Champions. Each week there will be a ‘weigh-in’ at assembly so each class can see their progress.

**Soft plastic bags include more than just shopping bags:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plastic shopping bags</th>
<th>Biscuit packets</th>
<th>Confectionary packets</th>
<th>Bread bags</th>
<th>Rice and pasta bags</th>
<th>Produce bags</th>
<th>Frozen food bags</th>
<th>Zip-lock bags</th>
<th>Re-usable shopping bags</th>
<th>Clean cling-film</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Why recycle plastic bags?**

- Plastic bags go to landfill, take up space, and leach toxins if you place them in your red bins
- Plastic bags contaminate the otherwise recyclable load if you place them in your yellow bins
- Plastic bags are harmful to marine life if they end up in the ocean (for example turtles who mistake them for jelly fish)
- Plastic bags can be made into new products (like fleece jumpers and outdoor furniture)

**Where to recycle your plastic bags AFTER November’s competition?**

- Coles and Woolworths now provide bins for recycling your soft plastic bags near the check-outs (Eastgardens, South Maroubra Shops, South Point, and Pacific Square.)
- Randwick Council’s Perry Street Recycle Centre in Matraville accepts plastic bags