PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE -

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

The school has a strong reputation for providing a quality learning environment, a caring welfare structure, fantastic facilities and great achievements in many areas of the school program. This is further enhanced by the school providing the best education including a focus on academic achievement and excellence. It is not about lessening any focus on the performing arts, sport or a broad curriculum, but rather enhancing what we have to truly cater for the needs of all students.

The core of our business in school is teaching and learning, to provide the environment for the best learning outcomes for all students. We need to foster the value of education and learning, and the importance of students giving of their best. We need to prepare students not only for success in examinations, but also for their path after school, whether that be university, TAFE, other studies or work.

Emailed newsletters - The initial newsletter of the year was posted to ensure that all families received it. All other newsletters will be emailed, not printed for distribution. The newsletter will also appear on the school website.

School Contributions for Years 7 – 12 - In the first newsletter of the year, parents received their school fees information that relates to their child / children. This indicated the payments that are applicable to all students, as well as the costs involved in studying elective subjects in Years 9-12. These fees are now due.

We really appreciate that Mackellar parents pay these fees promptly. It allows us to purchase teaching and learning resources for use for the whole year. Parents, please realise that the only thing we do with your financial contribution to your child’s learning is spend it on their learning.

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, direct debit, visa/master card or eftpos at the School Office or by telephone.

Year 12 and the HSC - As we are in the final five months of schooling leading to the HSC Trial Examinations it is extremely important that our Year 12 students develop a focused study plan so they can achieve the best possible results in the HSC. Doing your best and being successful in the HSC provides more options for your future. I ask parents to assist their daughters to allocate their time wisely over the ensuing months so that sufficient time is given to study for these important examinations. Each student should be averaging 3 – 4 hours per night and at least 6 – 7 hours on the weekend.

On Show - Each year the Northern Beaches Secondary College presents On Show – a showcase of outstanding performances in music, dance and drama from each of the five schools of the college, including Mackellar. This year Mackellar will be featured in a number of musical and singing items. On Show will be held in the School Hall of Balgowlah Boys Campus. Come along for a great night on 17th and 18th March – tickets are available by visiting www.trybooking.com/GXDY

New Parents Welcome Evening 18 February - I want to sincerely thank our new parents who came along to our introduction to the school night. Parents left saying that the night was informative and fun. We are always pleased to build stronger relationships between the school and our parents and have parents work with us to achieve the best for our students. And I know that parents were very impressed with our commercial kitchen and the
opportunities it affords our girls.

The P&C Executive did a fabulous job organising and catering for this event.

**Open Day 24 February and Open Evening 26 February** - Our Open Day for Years 5 and 6 with their parents and the Parent Information Evening were held this week. Primary students discovered more about the excellence of their local girls' high school and participated in school activities and parents discovered the high quality education that we provide at Mackellar.

Applications for Mackellar's 2016 Gifted &Talented programs were due by 27 February; enrolment forms for Year 7 2016 should have been issued by primary schools by now and are due to be returned to them by 20 March 2015.

**Scripture Board Service** - Our scripture teachers, Ms Jennie Dally and Ms Victoria Giovanelli, are sponsored by the Mackellar Area Scripture Board. The Board warmly invites all parents, staff and students to the Commissioning Service for Jennie and Victoria at St Matthews on the Corso at Manly on Sunday 22 March 2015, commencing at 6.30 pm.

**Student Merit Award System** - At Mackellar we have an extensive award system designed to acknowledge achievement and encourage effort and improvement. Every student is encouraged to give of their best, and every student is eligible for these awards.

Personal Best Assemblies - Each semester students who are achieving their personal best, as indicated by their School Report, are acknowledged. In Years 7-10, a Gold Merit Award indicates personal best in all subjects on their semester report; a Silver Merit Award indicates personal best in all but two subjects. In Years 11-12, a Gold Merit represents 5 subjects of personal best and a Silver Merit all but one subject.

Mackellar Merit Certificates - Merit Certificates are issued by teachers for academic excellence, sport, school service, leadership and extra curricular programs. Points from 1 - 5 are assigned to each certificate, depending on the excellence of the achievement.

Merit Certificates are issued for successes such as outstanding assessment tasks or tests, commitment to homework, excellent organisation, representing the school individually or in a team, school service, consistent punctuality, fundraising, band, debating and rock eisteddfod.

Merit Certificates are tallied by the Assistant Year Adviser and may result in the award of Merit Banners, Medallions and Plaques that are awarded at the end of the year on Presentation Day.

Upon receiving 3 or more Merit Banners, a student receives a Merit Medallion; upon receiving 6 Merit Banners a student receives a Merit Plaque.

**Congratulations to:**
- **Brittany (Y10)** for her kayaking success, competing in the National Grand Prix 2 Regatta and the Nationals Selection Regatta
- **Julia (Y8)** for her NSW Kayaking Championships placings - 1st in U14, 2nd in U16, 3rd in U18
- **Lara (Y12), Brianna (Y11) and Jenna (Y9)** for their being members of the winning regional team at NSW CHS Softball Knockout
- **Tylah (Y10), Bojana (Y9) and Nicci (Y7)** for their competing in NSW CHS Tennis
- **Eva (Y10)** for competing in the NSW Secondary Schools Sailing Championship
- **Laura (Y10)** for her performance with the NSW Public Schools Singers at Government House for the Norwegian King and Queen
- **Cameron (Y9)** for her being awarded Northern Beaches Branch 2015 Junior Female Lifesaver
- **Tahlia (Y11)** for her selection as the Northern Beaches representative for the Surf Life Saving NSW Youth Opportunity Makers Workshop
- **Katie (Y10) and Bianca (Y9)** for their selection in the Regional Basketball team
- **Alysse (Y10)** for winning the Newcastle Now Schools Surfing Competition team event and **Anne (Y9)** for 4th the School Swimming Champions:- 17yrs: **Lara (Y12)**, 16 yrs: **Christine (Y11)**, 15 yrs: **Marina (Y9)**, 14 yrs: **Bronwyn (Y8)**, 13 yrs: **Charlotte (Y7)**, 12 yrs: **Cassandra (Y7)**
- **Jocie (Y10), Madeline, Andie and Olivia (Y9)** for being selected for the HMAS Penguin Leadership Day
- **Pihuka (Y9) and Olivia (Y7)** for their competing in the Manly Warringah team in the State Cup for Touch Football
- the Debating team members: **Olivia (Y9), Bella, Lara, Amy, Anika and Jacqui (Y7)**

Christine Del Gallo, Principal
W@M Report – March 2015

PREFECT REPORT

The Prefect body this term has been busy organising some fantastic activities for the school community, including the Year 8 Sleepover and Pastoral Care. The Year 8 Sleepover will be held on Friday 6th March, and we have organised outdoor games, trivia, dancing and movies for the girls to enjoy, and to help foster valuable friendships. The Pastoral Care last Friday was a joint initiative between the Prefects and Ms Biswell, with the theme of self-esteem. The girls watched a video, and then created a media advertisement promoting healthy self-esteem. These advertisements will be displayed around the school, with winning DEAR groups given a prize. The Prefects have also organised for representatives from Headspace, a youth mental health organisation, to visit and give a talk to our weekly Wednesday Assembly on 18 March so that our girls can learn more about the importance of good mental health.

YEAR 7 –
Year 7 Bully Busters - Thursday 5th March
Year 7 Camp - Wednesday 11th - Friday 13th March
Parent Teacher Evening - Monday 30th March
Year 7 Study Skills - Thursday 2nd April
Ms Secrett and Ms Guest

YEAR 8 -
Year 8 Sleepover - Friday 6th March
Parent Teacher Evening - Tuesday 28th April
Ms Reeves and Ms Leung

YEAR 9 -
Parent Teacher Evening – Thursday 7th May
PASS Camp – Wednesday 22nd April – Friday 24th April
Year 9 Study Skills Seminars – Wednesday 29th
Ms Griffin and Ms Spencer

YEAR 10 -
Parent Teacher Evening - Monday 30th March
PASS Camp – Wednesday 22nd April – Friday 24th April
Ms McLaren and Ms Barker

YEAR 11 -
Parent Teacher Evening – Thursday 7th May
Year 11 exams – Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May
Ms Robb and Mr Fisher

YEAR 12 -
Half yearly exams – Monday 23rd – Fri 2nd April
Parent Teacher Evening – Tuesday 28th April
Ms Bayliss and Mr Snow
ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend every day of school, including the last day of each term, unless they are sick or taken out of school for other approved reasons, such as school representation.

Please telephone the school office on 9949 2083 before 9am if your daughter is going to be absent or arriving late.

Absences for which we have no parental note or explanation go on the student’s record as unauthorised/unexplained absences. These also appear on the semester report.

Early Leavers - There is a system in place for girls who need to leave school before the end of the day. The student should:
1. Bring a signed note from parent/caregiver stating the reason and time for the early leave request.
2. Take the note to one of the Deputy Principals before 8.44am to have it signed.
3. Take the note to the office to get an early leavers pass.

Attendance at school is compulsory by law. Parents are not entitled to take students away from school or on overseas holidays during term. Dentist, doctor and other appointments should also be made outside school hours. All contact with the school in relation to attendance, be it verbal or written, should be done by the parent/caregiver and must state the reason for the absence.

SMS Messages

The SMS message system is computer generated. You can only reply to an SMS once. Do not save the SMS number. It will not allow you to initiate a message to the school.

MESSAGES TO STUDENTS

- Only in cases of emergency will messages from parents be conveyed to students.
- Students will not be called to the telephone.

Students are not permitted to use mobile phones in class time, meetings or assemblies.

See the front of your daughter’s school diary for more information on school procedures.

TERM DATES 2015

2015

Term 1  Staff Development Day – Tuesday 27 January (no students)
        Wednesday 28 January – Yrs 7, 11, & 12 return
        Thursday 29 January – Yrs 8, 9, & 10 return
        Last day for students & staff – Thursday 2 April

Term 2  Staff Development Day – Monday 20 April (no students)
        Students return – Tuesday 21 April
        Last day for students & staff – Friday 26 June

Term 3  Staff Development Day – Monday 13 July (no students)
        Students return – Tuesday 14 July
        Last day for students & staff – Friday 18 September

Term 4  Staff & Students return – Tuesday 6 October
        Last day for students – Wednesday 16th December
        Last day staff – Friday 18th December

Cut out & keep

Good Friday
3rd April
Parent Teacher Night Bookings

Each year Mackellar Girls Campus hosts Parent/Teacher evenings in Terms 1 and 2. These evenings are very important as they provide an early opportunity for teachers to communicate information about the students’ progress directly to families.

We use a web-based booking system that allows parents to make bookings with teachers through an online system. This alleviates the necessity for students to act as intermediaries for parents.

Specific directions for the booking process will be provided to parents two weeks before each Parent Teacher night. These directions will be emailed to parents. Students may request a paper copy of directions from their Year Adviser.

- Bookings will open on Monday 16/3/15 for Year 7 and 10 Parent Teacher Night ONLY.
- Please do not make a booking for students in other Years at this time. This is for parents of students in Years 7 and 10.
- Bookings for this Parent Teacher night will close on Friday 27/3/15, so please ensure that you have made your bookings by that time.

To make a booking for Parent/Teacher evening, parents / caregivers need to log on to the website, www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the Event Number which is, S6CSB enter their details, choose the teachers that they wish to see and the times that they wish to see them. You will be able to book from 9am on Monday 16/3/15 until 3pm on Friday 27/3/15.

If a teacher or a time is not available, that information will be available for parents to see. In order to make a booking, it is imperative that parents know the correct details of their child’s teachers and subjects. This information is available on each student’s timetable.

Dates for the Parent- Teacher Nights are as follows:

- Years 7 and 10: Monday March 30th, 2015
- Years 8 and 12 Tuesday April 28th, 2015
- Years 9 and 11 Thursday May 7th, 2015

All relevant parents will be emailed with booking details for the other two Parent Teacher nights before bookings open.
SPORTS REPORT -

We are now back in hockey mode – The season kicks off (or should I say hits off) on 12th April. Games are at Frank Gray fields near Freshwater Campus at 12 or 1pm.

Mackellar Hockey welcomes students from other schools and boys who are turning 15 or under this year. We have had students from Mosman, Manly, Balgowlah Boys, St Luke’s, The Forest, and some in Year 6.

**REGISTRATION – YOU NEED TO REGISTER ASAP (as I need to know how many players we have and therefore how many teams). Our first training will be on Friday afternoon 6 March.**

The registration process has changed considerably this season AGAIN!!

The registration is now up and running. Please find the link below https://memberdesq.onesporttechnology.com/823/org

1. Go to the link above. If it doesn’t work Copy and Paste the URL into the address box
2. Set up a login using your email address
3. It should go straight to Mackellar, if not (go through steps 4 and 5 - if Mackellar is already selected then go straight to 6)
4. Select the Association - Warringah Hockey Association
5. Select the club – MACKELLAR
6. Select - JUNIOR HIGH FULL FIELD - It is approx. $193 to register, plus a charge to the people running the site (IMG).

Uniforms will be given out at training and sticks can be borrowed from the school if you don’t have one. Socks cost $10. and can be paid at training. **TRAINING** will be on Friday afternoons starting on the 6th March (if some teams want to train on a different day, then let me know) I need help with training and managing teams, so please let me know if you are available.

**NSW CHS Girls Softball Carnival** - Three Mackellar students, Lara, Briana and Jenna represented the Sydney North Girls Softball team in the NSW CHS Championships, Lismore last week. The team was victorious, winning by one point. Congratulations to Briana who was selected as captain of the NSW CHS team to compete at the All Schools Carnival next week.

**Zone Swimming Carnival** - Good luck to students who are competing at the Zone Swimming on Wednesday March 11th at the Warringah Aquatic Centre.

Rhonda Williams, Head Teacher PDHPE

FROM THE LIBRARY

This week we are launching our library website which will bring together in one place useful links for students and teachers. You will find the link on the Mackellar Girls Campus website on the student staff links page.

Music News

It has been an amazingly busy start to the term for all large ensembles.

Music Camp - A fantastic amount of work was achieved on our Annual Music Camp at Camp Kedron in Ingleside. There were over two days of intensive music learning of new repertoire as well as fun and team building through organised games and outdoor activities. The Year 7s made some new friends and all students had a fabulous time while extending themselves musically. The concert to parents at the end of camp demonstrated the amount of work that was achieved in such a short time. Next year’s music camp has been booked at Narrabeen Sport and Rec in the last week of Term 1, 2016.

Open Day - The Performance Band and Big Band are to be congratulated on their wonderful performance playing for over 1 1/2 hours entertaining potential Mackellar students at Open Day.

Concert Band - The girls are to be congratulated for their effort on their first Wednesday morning rehearsal for the fastest set and pack up ever; I hope we continue to be as efficient. By the end of this term girls will be sized up for Black Performance Shirts so they can be ordered.

Music Night – 9th March- School Hall, 7pm, 6:30pm arrival. - All large ensembles are scheduled to perform for Music Night on Monday 9th March starting at 7pm. It looks to be a shorter concert than usual so we will not be having an interval. Students are to arrive at 6:30pm and set up in the Performance Space. The concert will start at 7pm in the Hall. Concert Band members are to wear full school uniform. Performance Band are to wear performance Blacks. If there are any students needing a shirt see Ms Patterson asap.

Groups performing are: Performance and Concert Bands, Big Band and Stage Band, String Group and selected solo performers.

On Show – Cross Campus Music Night. Big Band - Mackellar Girls will present 4 items for “On Show”, the Combined Campuses Music Nights. The performance dates are Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th March in the evening and there is a Matinee for local Primary schools with a reduced program. Mackellar Girls will present a drama item, the Big Band, the String Ensemble and a solo performer.

Performance Band at the Powerhouse Museum – Friday 20th March - We have been asked to perform at the launch of Interrelate’s Anti-Bullying Campaign at the Powerhouse Museum on Friday 20th March. Many dignitaries will be present and it is an honour to be asked to perform. As this event commences at 9:30am we will need to leave school at 7:15am in the morning. Girls are to arrive at school at 7am.

Northern Beaches Eisteddfod in 2015 - Due to the unavailability of a suitable venue there is no eisteddfod for school music ensembles or dance ensembles this year. It is sad to not see this local event take place as it has always been on Mackellar Bands calendar.

Band Rehearsal Day – Pupil Free Day Monday 20th April, Term 2 - Performance Band and Big Band will have extra-long rehearsal on this day. Please arrange to be returned from Holidays so everyone is at this rehearsal.

Girls will need to be at school for a 10am start having already had morning tea. Mufti clothes may be worn but no shortie shorts, singlet tops or thongs are to be worn.

Schedule for the day.
10:00am- 12:30pm - Performance Band rehearsal
12:30pm – 1:15pm - Lunch
1:15 – 2:45pm - Big Band

Vanessa Patterson, Band Director
Language News

GERMAN NEWS

Karneval has come and gone. The girls found out all about the fünfte Jahreszeit. Karneval is seen as a time when Germans let their hair down and dress up. Year 8 enjoyed jam filled donuts called Berliner which are enjoyed by Germans in the period before Easter, Lent.

A big thank you to our German Assistant Alev who spent most of the day slaving away over the deep fryer. As you may guess, this is a sometimes food.

30 minute Berliner Pfannkuchen Recipe
(Jam filled donuts)

Ingredients
625g   Flour
275g   Milk
75g    Sugar
75g    Butter
10g    Salt
50g    Yeast
3      Whole Eggs
4      Egg Yolks
300g   Strawberry Jam
Dusting Icing Sugar

Mix everything except the Icing Sugar and Jam in a Bowl. Make a dough. Cut the dough into rounds using a scone cutter. Cook in hot oil in either a deep fryer or frying pan. Flip after 1 minute and after another minute dry with paper towel. The dough will puff up a bit during the process.

Allow to rest until cool. Then place upside down in a bowl with icing sugar. Take out and pierce the side of the donut with a spoon then pump full of jam. A sauce bottle makes a really good jam dispenser.

JAPANESE NEWS

Manly Odawara Exchange Program

Are you 14 years of age or over? Are you studying Japanese? Would you like to improve your Japanese skills? Would you like to experience authentic Japanese culture in the land of the rising sun?

If you answered yes to all…why not participate in a Manly/Odawara exchange student program?

Every year several lucky Mackellar students go to Japan through this fantastic program and they all have had a life changing experience! Applications are now open, so please speak to your Japanese teachers for more information!

Ms M Bianchin, Head Teacher Languages
Art vs Maths
In combining artistic license and mathematical algorithms, Jonathan McCabe, MA EA’00 developed a career-long passion that has taken his work around the world.

He specialises in the use of diffusion equations invented by legendary British mathematician and computer scientist Alan Turing, to create rich textural morphologies and dense landscape works.

“I remember seeing this article about the Mandelbrot set in Scientific American in 1985 and becoming really excited about computer graphics,” McCabe says.

“I had started with simple plotter-based line graphics in the early ’80s and ended up creating some more complex graphics and got addicted to it.”

McCabe’s passion led him to study at the Australian Centre for the Arts and Technology at ANU. He then worked at the ANU Supercomputer Facility for about a decade.

In his spare time he creates beautiful, complex works of art which can be seen all over the world, including the Le Meridien hotels in Munich, Kuala Lumpur and Mauritius.

Fittingly, McCabe was commissioned to create a piece relating to Alan Turing’s Chemical Basis of Morphogenesis theory for the ANU Centre for Advanced Microscopy.

“I’ve also done a few images based on models of neural networks and fluid flow simulations. I’m not sure if it’s art or science,” he says. “I guess it’s sciency art.”

McCabe says there is something addictive about creating art with computer programming.

“It’s a bit like gambling – I just keep adjusting and tweaking the program to see what happens. It’s pretty cool to develop theories about how my own program works and hypotheses that I can test out.”

Download the ANU Reporter tablet app from the Apple App Store or Google Play to see more of McCabe’s work.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS -

Please see below volunteer roster for March 2014:

Mon 9 March: Maxine Bronier, Leigh Quilter, Mel Pearse
Wed 11 March: Nerida Harrison, Keely Jones
Mon 16 March: Maxine Bronier, HELP REQUIRED 9am - 11am and 1.15pm - 2.15pm
Mon 23 March: Khouka Maouch, HELP REQUIRED 9am - 11am and 12pm - 2pm
Wed 25 March: Jacinta Desmond, Rowena Casper, Glady’s Withers, Natalya Harrison
Wed 25 March: HELP REQUIRED 8.30am - 11am
Mon 30 March: Ruth Laird, HELP REQUIRED 9am - 11am and 12pm - 2pm

Please le me know if you can help on any of the above ‘HELP REQUIRED’ days.

Year 7 Parents
Term 2 is fast approaching and the girls are required to wear winter uniform. We are in stock of all items and we can fit your daughter during her recess or lunch break.

Please be advised queues will be very long closer to April so it is highly recommended not to leave it too late.

Leigh McPherson, Uniform Shop Manager, uniformshop@mackellar-pandc.com
What the Z club will be doing at Mackellar in 2015?

Does this sound like you?
√ Working with enthusiasm and possessing skills to contribute.
√ Interested in the big issues for women and girls.
√ Able to make time to get involved.
√ Willing to work as a team to help women and girls.
√ Want to be part of a world wide effort.
√ Meet monthly, in the library reading room to support events throughout the year.

What is the Z club?
The Z club is part of Zonta which is a global, non–partisan and non-sectarian organisation whose members are culturally diverse and from a wide array of working lives in professional, business, government and academic roles. Zonta International is closely linked with the United Nations and, as an international volunteer NGO, brings women’s concerns to the UN, suggests solutions and draws public attention to issues.

For more information about Zonta International, go to: www.zonta.org

- The Z club at Mackellar was established last year and with the fantastic hard work of the Z members we have had a high degree of success. This year we will be undertaking a number of major projects.
- Firstly organising a mufti day in second term to fund raise $2500+ which will go directly to purchasing, assembling and sending 1 000 birthing kits to a developing country. Last year the money we raised enabled 1 000 birthing kits to be shipped to a nomadic group of people living in the remote area of Jayankondam, Ariyalur district Tamilnadu, India. These families live in tents and huts on the edge of a road side. In villages such as these birthing kits save lives. The WHO records show that every day, approximately 800 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth with 99% of all maternal deaths occur in developing countries. Almost all of these deaths occur in low-resource settings, and most can be prevented. The maternal mortality ratio in developing countries in 2013 was 230 per 100 000 live births versus 16 per 100 000 live births in developed countries. This indicates a large disparity between countries. Furthermore the risk of maternal mortality is highest for adolescent girls under 15 years old and complications in pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death among adolescent girls in developing countries. The birthing kit is a cost effective tool used in developing countries to prevent death for both mother and baby in childbirth and from associated infections, particularly tetanus.
- Making breast cushions for women who have undergone breast surgery
- Supporting the Cancer Foundation by selling pink ribbons
- Giving material assistance to local Women’s Refuge Centres
- Running a very successful campaign in term 4 publicising the “say no to violence campaign against women.

Did you know that just one cup of coffee buys you two birthing kits?
If this sounds like you, contact Ms Biswell in TAS to learn more about the Z club here at Mackellar.
MGC Book Club
Monday lunchtime Years 7 & 8
Tuesday lunchtime 9-12
in the library seminar rooms.

We love to read!!!

New members welcome!
Come along or see Mrs Reed or Mrs Beyer for more information.

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Snapchat is a mobile photo/video messaging app that allows iphone and android mobile users to send a video or a photo with a caption to other Snapchat users. Once a user sends a ‘snap’ it appears on the phone it was sent to for between 1-10 seconds and then disappears. Users can edit photos and draw on photos prior to sending them. The app is free to download and use—so it is popular with kids, if users add snaps to the ‘Your Story’ function their Snapchat ‘friends’ can view their snaps for 24 hours. Users can decide whether only people they have accepted as Snapchat ‘Friends’ can send them Snaps, or ‘Everyone’.

Is there an age limit for Snapchat?

Snapchat states that it is ‘intended for use by people who are 13 years of age or older, and persons under the age of 13 are prohibited from creating Snapchat accounts’. There is a version for children under age 13 called SnapchatKidz which allows children to take photos and draw on them etc, but does not allow sending of images. If your child is over 13 you should still talk through the risks of using Snapchat with them.

What are the risks?

Many Snapchat users use the service believing that ‘snaps’ can only be seen for a matter of seconds, and that the snaps are temporary. Whilst ‘snaps’ can only be seen for a matter of seconds, users can sometimes use the screenshot function on their device to permanently save and store images. Other separate ‘add-on’ apps have also been created that hook into Snapchat to permanently save ‘snaps’ without the sender knowing.

If your child enables ‘Everyone’ to send Snaps to them there is a risk of them being contacted by individuals with ill intent and of them being exposed to inappropriate content.

As with all social networking, there is a risk of children receiving inappropriate messages, including bullying or sexual messages. Talk about the risks of posting sexy pictures, meeting online friends in person and what is and isn’t acceptable.

How can I report unwanted contact on Snapchat?

Snapchat offers a function for the reporting of inappropriate content, harassment or ‘another safety issue’. Snapchat has easy to read Community Guidelines which state what not to snap.

How can my child protect themselves?

Children should restrict people who can send them ‘snaps’ to people they know offline. They can do this in their settings. Go to Settings > Send Me Snaps > Select ‘My Friends’ then go to Settings > View My Stories > Select ‘My Friends’ or ‘Custom’ to choose selected ‘Friends’.

• Caution your child that the ‘snaps’ they can be captured by phones simply by using a screenshot and that they are not always temporary.
• Help your child learn to use screenshots (Search online if you don’t know how to do this with their phone) so they can capture any inappropriate ‘snaps’.
• Caution your child about sharing their Facebook, Twitter, Kl, Instagram details on Snapchat.
• Help your child understand how to report bullying and inappropriate content. Look at the Settings with them and read the Support area and Community Guidelines.
• Help them understand appropriate messages and what to do if a friend or stranger is mean online (save evidence, report them and delete them from their ‘Snapchat Friends’)

When should I be worried about my child?

If your child’s behaviour changes at home and/or school you should talk to them. Examples of changed behaviour could include disinterest in things they used to like, seeming very unhappy and/or their sleep and eating is being impacted. Seek professional advice if necessary from a school counsellor, your GP or a psychologist. If your child has particular vulnerabilities, be vigilant about their contacts offline and online. Help them join groups out of school where they can find friends and support. Talk to the school and make sure they are supported.


If you email us at nbscmgirls-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au we can email the school newsletter directly to you. It can also be accessed online at www.mackellargirls.nsw.edu.au