Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners

11 February 2015

Australia Day Honour

Congratulations to Luke Webb, Year 10, on receiving the Wingecarribee Shire Young Citizen of the Year Award.

Luke was presented with his award by Countess Natalie von Faber-Castell, Australia Day ambassador and Shire Mayor, Duncan Gair.
Principal’s Report

An Exciting Year ahead!

Congratulations Luke Webb
A special congratulations goes out to one of our Year 10 students, Luke Webb, who at a very special Australia Day ceremony at Berrima, was named as the Wingecarribee Shire Young Citizen of the Year. Congratulations Luke!

Luke is an outstanding young man who plays an important part in our school’s Student Representative Council, our school’s Positive Behaviour for Success team, he is the stage manager for our many musical performances, a talented musician and a young man who consistently displays our core expectations of being safe, respectful and responsible. This is such a well deserved award for Luke and we congratulate him on this wonderful recognition!

Welcome to all our new students and parents!
This year our school has welcomed over 120 new students including all our Year 7 students and new enrolments. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Moss Vale High School to our new students and families.

For all our new students and their parents there will be a special welcome BBQ and PBS presentation on Tuesday, 24 February 2015 starting at 5:30pm in the BBQ area behind the main administration block. More information will be forwarded to parents in the next week. I hope to see all our parents there to meet many of our staff and learn more about our Positive Behaviour for Success initiative.

Welcome new staff!
The year I would like to welcome a number of new staff to Moss Vale High School. Let’s warmly welcome Mr Phillip Warwick (Careers), Mr Adam Dubois (PD/H/PE), Ms Alex Bateman (English), Ms Katie Cripps (Librarian), Mr Andrew Drummond (Drama) and Ms Sandi Ridewood (Special Education).

Our new staff will add much enthusiasm and professionalism to our school and will no doubt help in making sure that the education our students receive continues to be first class.

Get involved in your child’s education!
As the year begins I want to encourage all our parents to get involved in their child’s education. There are and will be numerous opportunities where you can get involved, volunteering some time to assist, being part of our P & C or attending events such as parent interviews and subject selection nights.

Our P & C association is an incredibly helpful organisation who plays a critical role in shaping the direction that our school takes. The P & C is wonderfully supportive of our students and our school and I know they would really enjoy the opportunity to see more and more people join this group. The P & C association meet on the third Tuesday of every month in our staff common room with meeting beginning at 5:00pm. Our first meeting of the year is on the 17 February 2015.

Parent Code of Conduct
In close consultation with our P & C Association and also our Southern Highlands AECG group, last year, our school developed a parent code of conduct. This document was designed to actively encourage great parental participation in our school in a variety of ways.

The Parent Code of Conduct is also a document that allows parents to be part of our award winning Positive Behaviour for Success initiative by encouraging and supporting in the role modelling of the core expectations of Safe, Respectful and Responsible Behaviour.

New School Plan 2015 – 2017
This year is exciting as our school commences the implementation of our new school plan which will cover the next three years. I look forward to continually informing all our parents as its development is finalised. Our school plan will have three very important strategic directions, these being:

  - Our Positive Self – Being our Best
  - Innovative and relevant teaching and learning – Our school community is passionate about learning
  - Strong Partnerships – Unlimited horizons
I look forward to our parents and community being part of the growth and development of our school plan as we move into a very exciting future! Please contact me at school should you have any queries.

**Bring Your Own Device**

A focus for the school this year will be the implementation and development of the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative. I have attached a range of information provided to students last year. This information will enable students to become more aware of the nature of technology and expectations for its productive use in their education.

I look forward to seeing an increase in the role that technology plays as a tool in learning as the year progresses. I encourage you to contact the school should you have any questions in regards to BYOD and what it means for your child.

**Communication with our school**

Effective communication with the school is critical in ensuring an effective partnership between home and school is developed and built on as your child progresses through their education. To that end I encourage you to continually check our school’s website which is found at www.mossvale-h.schools.nsw.edu.au. If you have a smart phone, go to your App store and download the Moss Vale High School App. This is another great way to keep in touch with the school.

Always remember though to contact the school should you have any questions with which we can help. It is so very important that we work together!

Have a great start to the year!

*Peter Macbeth*

*Principal*

---

**Deputy Principal’s Report**

**Positive Start**

I have been thoroughly impressed by the positive manner in which all students have started the new school year. On Thursday, January 29, we started the first school day for all years with a full school assembly in the hall and, even though the hall was packed to capacity, students conducted themselves in a respectful and responsible manner. **Brooke Sheather** was the highlight of the assembly by singing one of her own compositions, accompanied by **Laura Mulcahy, Charlotte Fitzgerald** and **Mr Tegan Bibija** on guitar. I would like to thank all of our parents and caregivers for ensuring that your children have started the school year in correct school uniform.

**Year 7**

On Wednesday, January 28, Year 7 students began their first day of high school with an introduction to Moss Vale High School which started with an assembly where each student was presented with a diary, welcome card, bookmark and a wrist band identifying our three core values of ‘Safe, Respectful and Responsible Behaviour’. After the assembly, students were taken through a series of lessons that looked at our Positive Behaviour for Success program, the Merit System and Vivo Rewards, building resilience, literacy strategies and how to use their school diary effectively to meet deadlines and organise their school career. Students and staff members have all commented on how the day assisted in a smooth and efficient transition for Year 7 into high school life.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our Year 7 Advisers, **Mrs Louise Mumford** and **Ms Lauren Cordingley**, for their efficient and caring support of our Year 7 students; they are in good hands with these wonderful teachers!
Luke Webb- Young Citizen of the Year
As already mentioned in the Principal's Report, Luke Webb of Year 10 was awarded Young Citizen of the Year at the Australia Day ceremony in Berrima. I nominated Luke as I believe he exemplifies our core values of being respectful, responsible and honourable. On a daily basis I see how Luke goes out of his way to assist staff and his peers, and I would not be able to run our school assemblies as effectively without Luke's expert knowledge with backstage sound and lighting. Luke is a caring, compassionate and mature young man of whom our entire school community is justifiably proud.

Congratulations Luke on your well-deserved award!

Positive Behaviour for Success (PBS)
We finally have our second mural completed for PBS and it has been a mammoth task. The mural depicts the importance of education through visual images and quotes from our students. The three quotes that were chosen for the mural are: ‘Let Education take you to the different branches in the tree of life’, ‘Education is like a stairway, all you have to do is step it up’ and ‘Education is like a map, without it we are lost’. Thank you to the students who submitted the three best quotes: Cameron Marmont, Matt Lynch, Cheyenne Martin and Hannah Whatman. I would also like to thank Mrs Louise Mumford and Ms Tracy Johnston for their tireless efforts and creative talents in completing this huge mural that takes up the entire wall of the passive area facing Young Road. Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank Dave Johnston of Johno’s signs at Oak Flats for his wonderful sign writing of the quotes.

Parents and Caregivers
Finally, as Deputy Principal, I oversee student wellbeing and discipline and work close with our outstanding team of Year Advisers. If you have any concerns regarding your child’s wellbeing, please contact me and I will work with you, the Year Advisers and your child to resolve any concerning issues.

Have a wonderful year!

Patricia Holmes
Deputy Principal
February is Library Lovers’ Month

So why love your school library or your local library? Libraries are a great place to find out information, get that next great book to read or be with likeminded people.

So if you haven’t already visited the school library in 2015, come up and meet Ms Cripps the new teacher librarian. You can find out what she is currently reading and about the resources that the wonderful library has to offer.

If you are not already a member of your local public library, it is good month to join and to love your local library for what it offers – a community meeting place, a treasure trove of ideas and a place to learn.


LIFELINE CANBERRA BOOKFAIRS

Lifeline Canberra’s Bookfairs raise a major portion of the funding needed to keep the suicide prevention 13 11 14 Telephone Crisis Support service available to the community.

Our main EPIC Bookfairs offer around 250,000 donated items for sale. We have a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books, including rare books and collectables, children’s books, textbooks and foreign language books. You'll also find magazines and pamphlets, comics, maps and atlases, talking books, records and CDs, DVDs, games and jigsaws.

Entry to the Lifeline Canberra Bookfairs is by gold coin donation.
You can pay for your purchases with cash, cheque, credit card (MasterCard or Visa) or EFTPOS.


INTERNATIONAL BOOK GIVING DAY – FEBRUARY 14 2015

Why not give the one you love a book this Valentine’s Day – which is also International Book Giving Day. It is the gift that keeps on giving and a wonderful keepsake for your loved one. See the My Library catalogue through your student portal for book giving suggestions.

FREE* LECTURES FOR HSC STUDENTS

The School for Excellent (tsfx) are offering two lectures especially designed for students studying the HSC (year 11 or 12) to the value of $300 for a donation of $10 to the Fred Hollows’ Foundation*. The lectures will be held at the University of Sydney on the Saturday 21st February from 10am to 5pm. For more information phone 1300 364 173 or register online at www.tsfx.com.au

Happy reading

Ms Cripps
Teacher Librarian
Save the Date
Year 7 Parent Information Session – Cyber Safety

On Thursday, 26 February, Senior Constable Gary Mutton, our school liaison police officer, will be coming to the school to present an information session on the appropriate use of social media. He will discuss the legal ramifications of students misusing these types of technology and suggest ways that the technology can be used safely.

We urge all year 7 parents to attend this very important information session.

Parents of students in other years are also welcome to attend.

The information session will be held in the school library and will start at 6.30pm.

I hope to see you there.

Regards

Sharlene Killian
Welfare Coordinator
English Experiences

Bamir Language Gallery
By now, most students are familiar with the language bunting on display in the gallery on the first floor of A block. We hope that all new students will soon have the opportunity to contribute creatively to the gallery space. Remember that the Bamir Language Gallery has a permanent blog site that documents the weekly displays. Why not see if your bunting has travelled across Gundungurra lands over the holiday period? https://bamirlanguagegallery.wordpress.com/

Junior Learning Maps and Assessment Schedules
By now, every student in years 7 through 10 should have received their English Faculty Welcome Sheet and Learning Map. These documents give students and their families an overview of the different units of work and tasks for both Semester 1 and 2 in English this year. These documents encourage students to be responsible for their own learning in line with our school’s PBS values.

All junior English students are reminded to discuss the exciting year ahead with their parents and caregivers. Both the student and at least one parent or guardian should sign the welcome sheet. Teachers will be looking to award vivos if these signatures are completed during the first full school week.

Senior English
All senior English students should be regularly checking resources and details on the Board of Studies NSW Students Online website. Students will first need to activate their account and create a pin.

Students Online is designed to be a one-stop shop for senior study and HSC information for students. For example, the ‘study tips and materials’ section has links to
  - past papers
  - marking guidelines
  - quizzes
  - HSC workbooks including ebooks and
  - HSC apps.

Year 12 students will receive a bulletin reminding them to activate their accounts at the beginning of term 1, however, students may access this site from Year 10.

http://news.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/index.cfm/2015/1/30/Students-Online
HSC Student Lecture Day
The English Teachers Association is holding their popular HSC Student Lecture Day for the Area of Study at Sydney University on Friday, February 27. Experienced teachers and HSC markers will be sharing study tips and information on prescribed texts in hour long lectures that are designed to give students a taste of campus life, as well as hone their understanding. These lectures have been very well received by past students and are an excellent revision opportunity before the half yearly exams later this term.

All students in both Advanced and Standard Year 12 are expected to attend and should promptly return permission notes and monies to the front office.

**Let literacy light your world**

---

**NETBALL GALA DAY**

SHNA Netball Gala Day on Saturday, 21 February 9.30 - 12.30 at Eridge Park.
Register with a club for the 2015 season or come and learn about netball in the Highlands.
Join in the fun with face painting, sausage sizzle, games and activities
For your Diary please note:

**2015 School Photograph Days**

**Years 7-11** Wednesday February 25

**Year 12** Friday March 13

Payment envelopes will be sent home end of Week 3.

**N.B:** Envelopes and payment are required **ON THE DAY.**

Students need to be in full school uniform
Uniform Requirements

FOR ALL STUDENTS: Approved Moss Vale High School - all students are required to wear this uniform as of 2015

- Mid blue shirt
- Navy blue woollen jumper
- Navy blue jacket
- Navy scarf
- Tie (optional)

GIRLS
- 2-pleated tartan skirt
- Tartan shorts (no plain blue shorts)
- Plain navy blue slacks (no track pants)
- White socks

N.B: Straight tartan and plain navy blue skirt is NO longer part of Moss Vale High School uniform for any year group.

Year 10, 11 and 12 Year Jerseys are to be worn for the students’ Year Group only.

BOYS
- Plain grey pants or shorts (no track pants)
- Grey or white socks

SPORTS UNIFORM
Note: Not to be worn during student photo sessions

- Moss Vale High School red / navy blue sports polo shirt
- Moss Vale High School navy blue with red piping shorts
- Moss Vale High School navy blue with red piping track pants
- Moss Vale High School navy blue red piping tracksuit jacket
- Suitable sports shoes or joggers (no Rabens or canvas lace-ups)
- Girls white socks - Boys white or grey socks

SHOES
The Work, Health and Safety requirement of the Department of Education and Communities, for all areas of the school, is that enclosed leather shoes are to be worn. This includes solid leather top and tongue (this is requirement even on mufti days). The school colour for shoes is black, no coloured trims or logos. Leather shoes have to be brought to school on sports days.

REQUIREMENTS
1. NO LOGOS ON ANY ITEM OF CLOTHING OTHER THAN Moss Vale High School.
2. Plain means no logos or stripes.
3. No hooded tops.
MOSS VALE HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTWEAR REQUIREMENTS

When purchasing school shoes parents are asked to be mindful of NSW Department of Education and Training, Occupational Health and Safety requirements regarding footwear. This requirement states that all students involved in practical activities in subject areas including Creative Arts, Industrial Technology Metal and Timber, Construction, Food Technology, Hospitality, Textiles Technology, Junior Technology, Science, Agriculture and Primary Industries must wear “shoes with fully enclosed leather uppers, including the tongue, and a stout non-slip sole”

This requirement is satisfied through the purchase of black leather, lace up school shoes as per the school’s uniform policy. Joggers and ballet flats do not provide adequate protection and are therefore not acceptable.

Student’s who present themselves to classes without the correct footwear will not be permitted to participate in practical activities.

EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE FOOTWEAR
Black leather lace up footwear with fully enclosed uppers, including the tongue and a stout non-slip sole.

EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE FOOTWEAR
Ballet flats, Raben’s and Gym boots are examples of unacceptable footwear.
2015 Every Day, On Time. The start of a new school year is a great time to get on the right foot when it comes to school attendance. Our mantra for Moss Vale High School attendance this year is: “Every Day. On Time.”

There are three key goals which we are highlighting when it comes to student attendance at school:
1. Be on time
2. Limit days away
3. If you are away, bring in a note!

To help achieve these goals, we have implemented a number of new strategies as a school, including:
- Rewards for excellent attendance within the PBS Vivo scheme
- Clear communication of expectations and consequences surrounding school attendance, including the note which was posted out at the beginning of the term.
- A “Late Gate” roll call room, to monitor and address chronic lateness.
- An increased focus on early intervention for drops in student attendance.
- Be less likely to complete high school or other formal schooling.
- Be more likely to become involved in anti-social or criminal behaviours.

Why do we care so much? Poor attendance can have far-reaching effects! Research shows that students with low school attendance will:
- Have significantly worse academic outcomes.
- Record higher levels of social isolation.

Please read the Sydney Morning Herald article in this newsletter for more information about the relationship between attendance and academic achievement.

Where to get help School can be a stressful environment at times, and some students may resist attending for a variety of reasons. If your child is resisting coming to school, please contact us so that we can talk to him/her and ensure that school-based concerns are being addressed.
Skipping school for just one day affects NAPLAN results, study finds

Amy McNelage
Published: August 3, 2014 - 8:34AM

- Like SMH Student on Facebook
- Education: full coverage

Missing just one day of school has negative consequences for a student’s academic achievement, the first major study linking poor attendance to lower NAPLAN results has found.

And school attendance patterns established as early as year 1 can predict how often a student will show up to class right through high school, according to the research.

The average public school student in NSW misses almost three weeks of school each year. Australia is alarmingly slack when it comes to school attendance, with high school students skipping more days of school than almost any other developed country.

On Monday, the harmful effects of that absenteeism will be exposed by the results of a study to be presented at the Australian Council for Educational Research’s annual conference.

An analysis of the attendance records and NAPLAN results of more than 400,000 students from Western Australia found any absence from school leads to a decline in academic performance.

The study dispels the belief there is a safe level of absence students can get away with before their grades will suffer.

“We were able to show that actually every day counts and days that you’re missing in year 3 and year 5, we can detect that all the way through to year 9,” the report’s co-author, Stephen Zubrick, from the University of Western Australia, said.

“A 10-day period of unauthorised absence in a year is sufficient to drop a child about a band in the NAPLAN testing.”

Year 3 numeracy achievement in 2012 declined by 1.6 NAPLAN points for every unauthorised day of absence in the first two terms of that year.

The most startling finding, Professor Zubrick said, was that students arrive in year 1 “with their school attendance careers already in their pockets”.

“For most children, year 1 sets the pattern for what school attendance will look like in the future,” Professor Zubrick said. “You’re learning more than reading and writing. You’re learning to show up.”

Absence was found to have a greater impact on writing than it did on numeracy and reading.

While poor attendance is a problem across the socio-economic spectrum, families in affluent areas often interrupt schooling for overseas holidays.

Professor Zubrick insists his message is not about finger wagging or guilt trips, but says “we do need to recognise that when a child is standing on the Eiffel Tower, so to speak, they may be learning a lot about the world but they’re not necessarily learning everything they’d be learning at school.”
The average attendance rate for NSW public school students in 2013 was 92.6 per cent - about 14 days off per year - and has been relatively consistent over the past decade. Attendance is much poorer among high school students with the average student missing 20 days per year.

Julie Townsend, the headmistress of St Catherine’s School in Waverley, said the girls’ school had a “very strict” attendance policy and did not consider a family holiday to be an appropriate reason for missing school.

“We [tell parents] that we only teach for about 185 days a year and we expect that they take their holidays during the very generous holiday period,” she said. “If the parents go - and that’s just happened this week - we call them in and we talk about the breakdown of our relationship and that our values aren’t aligned. We take a very hard line on it.”

She said acceptable grounds for leave could include compassionate reasons, health complications or the commitments of elite athletes.

In a major international survey of 15 year olds, conducted by the OECD in 2012, almost one-third of Australian students said they had skipped at least one day of school in the previous two weeks.

That means Australian students skip school more frequently than any other developed country except Turkey and Italy. In high-performing countries such as Japan and Korea that figure was less than two per cent.

The NSW Education Department’s school attendance policy states principals have the authority to grant students exemptions from school for up to 100 days per year. Reasons can include family holidays if they are “in the best educational interests of the child”, employment in the entertainment industry or participation in elite sporting events.

Ross Tarlinton, the headmaster of St Joseph’s College, said it was always his priority to maximise a student’s attendance but he would make exceptions for ill-health, family or sporting commitments and occasionally travel

“I had a boy who went with his father who was doing some pro bono medical work in a Third World country for a short period of time to have that experience and I let him go,” he said. “That boy came back so rich for the experience.”

The head of SCEGGS Darlinghurst, Jenny Altmann, said understanding that you have to show up even when something else might be more desirable is an important life lesson.

“School isn’t something you normally or mostly do. It’s something you always do,” she said.

“If you’re making a commitment to something else over school, boy that better be important.”

This story was found at: http://www.smh.com.au/education/schools/skipping-school-for-just-one-day-affects-naplan-results-study-finds-20140812-2zjnr.html
Message from the School Administrative Manager

During the school holidays an extension to the foyer was completed to make a new area for students and parents to make payments and to sign students in and out.

Together with a reorganisation of the front office, there are now two windows to process students’ needs - one for payments, and one for late arrivals, early leavers and enquiries. There will be no reason for students to access the front office from the DP area.

While this new foyer area is still a bit bare at the moment, there are plans to spruce it up.

Maureen Sinclair
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Immunisations

Dear Parent/Guardian,

NSW Health offer Year 7 students immunisations for Varicella Zoster (chicken pox), dTpa (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) and HPV (human papillomavirus).

Your child has a single consent form from NSW Health which will provide you with all the necessary information for these immunisations. Please ensure that you tick the coloured boxes for the vaccines you wish your child to have. If you have any queries about the immunisations please contact your family Doctor.

The immunisation schedule for Year 7 is as follows:

Visit 1 – 30 March - HPV, dTpa,
Visit 2 – 9 June - HPV
Visit 3 – 14 October – HPV, Varicella

Forms are a ‘once only’ form and therefore the forms signed by parents now will cover all immunisations for the immunisation schedule.

If you would like your child to be immunised please fill in the relevant information, tick the required boxes and sign, where required on the forms provided by NSW Health.

Can parents please discuss immunisations with your child and the fact that you want them to be immunised. At previous immunisations students have refused to be immunised which results in phone calls needed to be made to parents by NSW Health nurses. Some students still refuse, this results in nurses and staff spending an inordinate amount of time with these students.

Please note if your child continues to refuse immunisation a letter will be sent to you by NSW Health and you will need to meet the cost of immunisations at your local doctors.

Your child will need to return the forms to their roll call teacher.

Regards

Sharlene Killian
WELFARE CO-ORDINATOR
Moss Vale High introduces the
BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE PROGRAM

2015 will see the beginning of a new era of education at Moss Vale High School. Students will be encouraged to bring their own technology to school to assist with their classroom learning experiences. This program is running in many schools across NSW, Australia and worldwide and is a component of 21st Century Learning.

It is essential that parents and students understand the following two key points to this program:
- A computer device will not be mandatory for all students at Moss Vale High in 2015, it is a tool for students and teachers to utilise to assist with learning.
- A computer device will not replace pens or books in any subject in 2015, writing is a vital skill in brain development during the teenager years and computers will not be replacing this skill any time soon.

Documentation regarding this program was sent home with students from Friday the 31st October. These documents consisted of:
- A user charter that must be read by both parents/caregivers and students.
- A student agreement (a pink form) that must be read, ticked and signed by both parents/caregivers and students and returned to the school office before a student brings their own device to school in 2015.
- A device recommendations checklist to ensure the device purchased is suitable as a learning tool at Moss Vale High. It is essential that all parents/caregivers read this document before making decisions regarding the type of device they may choose to purchase for their son/daughter.

Students who have been using their own device at school during 2014 will need to sign and return the Student Agreement Form along with all other students. When a student returns this form they will be issued with instructions regarding how to set up their device to access the Internet through the DEC network.

Families who have difficulties meeting financial obligations can contact the school to find out how the school can support the technological needs of their son/daughter, as written in the Equity Policy for the BYOD program.

Copies of all documents can be located on the school website or at the administration office in the school grounds.

Further information or questions can be answered by contacting the school.
# BYOD Device Recommendations Checklist

Students may consider tablets or laptops however the following recommendations have been made to ensure the device purchased suits the requirements for 21st Century Learning.

## Hardware

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wireless Connectivity</strong></td>
<td>Devices purchased for school use <strong>must support 5Ghz dual band wireless or 802.11 a/b/g/n. Make sure it supports both ‘a’ and ‘n’</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Battery Life</strong></td>
<td>Battery life will need to last <strong>a minimum of 6 hours</strong>. The school will not support the charging of devices within classrooms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAM (primary memory)</strong></td>
<td><strong>2GB or more</strong> of RAM will be required to ensure the device is fast enough to keep pace with the work requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hard Drive (application and file storage)</strong></td>
<td><strong>16GB or more</strong> is recommended to ensure students have the capacity to store application software as well as files required for each subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Screen Size</strong></td>
<td><strong>At least an 8 inch</strong> (approximately 20cm or above) screen is recommended to ensure ease of use throughout the day for the student and teacher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Keyboard</strong></td>
<td>It is highly recommended and preferred that students have access to an external keyboard for ease of use during class activities. However this is not an essential feature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camera and microphone</strong></td>
<td>A good quality camera and microphone will enable students to participate effectively in 21st learning activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weight</strong></td>
<td>Consider how heavy the device will be in the students bag and how much space it will take up inside the bag. Maximum weight should not exceed 2kg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Case</strong></td>
<td>A tough and sturdy case is recommended to ensure any rough treatment of school bags will not cause damage to the device.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Durability</strong></td>
<td>Consider the overall durability of the device, look for a tough outer shell or case, screen protectors and keyboards that will not easily lose their keys.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Software

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating System</strong></td>
<td>To ensure the latest software applications will run effectively we recommend the latest operating system be installed on the device.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Web Browser</strong></td>
<td>Any current web browser will suit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Office Package</strong></td>
<td>Students will need a word processor, spread sheet, presentation and other related applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adobe Reader</strong></td>
<td>Students will need a current Adobe Reader installed on the device.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Security Software</strong></td>
<td>It is highly recommended that devices have up-to-date anti-virus software installed and other security measures such as user logons and firewalls to prevent malicious use of the device.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Further Considerations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Insurance</strong></td>
<td>It is recommended that you cover your child’s device under your home insurance as the school will take no responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged devices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Warranty</strong></td>
<td>Make sure you consider purchasing an extended warranty to reduce further repair costs as the devices will be used extensively.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity Week 2014

2014 Trout Fishing – Geehi Flats

With nearly as many girls as boys this year the tone of the trout fishing was somewhat different from previous years. Added to our usual list of activities which includes fishing, walking and swimming, was photography, film making, driving lessons, card games and a rather strange game called slender man which involved a bizarre scavenger hunt and scary predators at night. There was also the added complexity of a few ‘couples’ who were always accompanied by an appointed chaperone to ensure they didn’t get too close (much to their chagrin).

On the fishing front, the trip started well with Bear Grylls (aka Elliott) landing the first trout and displaying it rather macabrely on a stick from the main tarpaulin area. The day was lovely but as night approached a storm developed and the tempest which followed was complete with a spectacular lightning display, thunder echoing off the mountains and to top it off the howl of wild dogs. Unfortunately, some of the less robust tents collapsed or left occupants rather wet. The following day the weather cleared but the wind continued to pick up and those students who hadn’t bothered to secure their tents with fly ropes were observed chasing their temporary homes across the open area. In fact Fletcher had a lot of difficulty with his tent moving, even when he was in it.

As usual we were accompanied by a number of terrific dads who were always ready with plenty of advice on fishing, 4 wheel driving and general camp craft. They were excellent arm chair companions who also proved to be great citizens helping a European couple with understanding the risk of snakes in Australian bush and a bike rider who misjudged the depth of the river.

It was a wonderful adventure for many of the students who had little experience of the beautiful Snow Mountains back country or three days without mobile reception (OMG! No face book!). The quote of the trip came from Matilda on our second day of camping when asked to get a bucket of water from the river she said ‘Where’s the river?’ (We were camped about 10 metres from the rather wide, fast flowing swampy plains river). It is a worry!
CAPA NEWS

The CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) Department offers motivated and gifted and talented CAPA students a range of opportunities, in order for them be enriched, excel in their field and ultimately reach their potential.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We run extra curricular activities in each of the Music, Dance, Drama and Art Faculties and all students are invited to become involved.

Activities running in 2015 are:

◊ Stage Band
◊ Brass Ensemble
◊ Guitar Ensemble
◊ String Ensemble
◊ Flute Ensemble
◊ Choir
◊ Vocal Rollers Roll Call Group
◊ Junior Vocal Ensemble
◊ Senior Vocal Ensemble
◊ Diamond Dance Ensemble
◊ Hip Hop Dance Crew
◊ Junior Drama Ensemble
◊ Senior Drama Ensemble
◊ Art Studio Project

All activities meet weekly and times depend on the individual group (these can be found on the Enrolment Form).

Students in the Music, Dance and Drama Ensembles are expected to perform at all Moss Vale High School CAPA Concerts, regular school assemblies and numerous community events throughout the year.

Each Music Ensemble records on the annual school CD, for which there is a participation cost.
PRIVATE MUSIC TUITION

We also offer students the opportunity to undertake private music tuition at school. All lessons are undertaken by qualified music tutors and cost $25 per 25 minutes (half a period). Apart from guitar lessons (which occur before and after school), all lessons occur during school time. We currently offer lessons for the following instruments:

- Singing Tuesday
- Piano/Keyboard Tuesday
- Guitar Every day
- Drums Monday
- Flute Friday
- Clarinet TBA
- Saxophone TBA
- Violin Wednesday

ENROLMENT FORMS

If you would like your child to participate in any of our activities, or undertake private music tuition at school, please see any of our CAPA teachers for the appropriate enrolment form. If your child is involved in an activity that meets outside school hours, they will not be able to attend until this form is returned.

STAFF

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of our CAPA teachers at school on 4868 1717. Our teachers in 2015 are:

- **Music**: Mr Tegan Bilbija/Mrs Linda Johnston
- **Dance**: Miss Lauren Cordingley
- **Drama**: Mr Andrew Drummond
- **Art**: Ms Tracy Johnston/Mrs Louise Mumford

We look forward to working with all our talented CAPA students in 2015!

*Mrs Johnston*
*Head Teacher CAPA*
428 gifts were sent from Moss Vale High School.
TO : MOSS VALE HIGH

NOTE OF ABSENCE

Date : ___________________  Address : ____________________________

Roll Class : _____________ Year : _____________

Please excuse the absence of my son/daughter : ____________________________

on (dates) ________________________________

Total number of days absent : ________________

The reason for the absence/s (this reason must be specific, not just "he/she was sick") : ____________________________

Parent Name : ______________________________

Parent Signature : ___________________________  Date sent : _______________

---

CHANGE OF ADDRESS / CONTACT DETAILS

NAME : ............................................................  Roll Class : ........  Year : ........

NEW ADDRESS : ............................................................  PO BOX ..............

New Phone No’s : Home : ........................................... Work (M) : ..................

Mobile (M) : ........................................... Work (F) : .................. Mobile (F) : ..................

Email : ............................................................

DATE YOU CHANGED ADDRESS : ________________________________

PARENTS / GUARDIANS NAMES YOU ARE LIVING WITH : 

............................................................................................................................

............................................................................................................................

Do you currently have a bus pass? ............................................................

NOTE : A new bus pass application must be completed when a student has: a change of address, a change of name, change of school, change of details or comes under joint custody.