Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners

1 May 2015

ANZAC DAY
25 April 2015
**Principal’s Report**

**Welcome to Term 2**
A warm welcome back to all our students, parents and community to Term 2. It promises to be busy, with lots of activity going on in the school from each of our different faculties! It also promises to be a term of achievement for all our students, staff and parents. I look forward to celebrating the undoubted success we will have!

**ANZAC Assembly**
On Thursday 23 April, our school held its annual ANZAC Day commemorative assembly. This year obviously marked the 100th anniversary of the landing of the ANZAC’s at Gallipoli and so it was an extra special assembly.

We were lucky enough to have very special guests in attendance; Mr Bob McLaren, President, Mr Eric Campbell, Secretary, and Mr Col Beszant, Treasurer, of the Moss Vale RSL Sub Branch. We were also fortunate to have Aboriginal community member, Aunties Wendy Lotter, join us for our ceremony.

It was the most incredible school assembly I have ever been to with our students, staff and everyone else who was in attendance taking the time to remember the enormity of the sacrifices made by our service men and women in the most respectful and honourable way. I was so proud of our school as the meaning of ANZAC Day was so evident in the school assembly and it showed the deep respect our students and our school community have for the spirit of the ANZACS.

The assembly showcased a wonderful drama, music performance based on young nurses going off to war. There was so much emotion - it was incredible! We were lucky enough to hear from Aunty Wendy Lotter on her family connections with World War 1 and we heard a wonderful speech from our school captain Ashley Garske on the meaning of ANZAC. We also honoured the very special ANZAC commemorations that are an important part of this special time!

I want to acknowledge our entire school community for the way they paid their respects to the service men and women at this most important commemorative day on our National calendar.

I would also like to acknowledge all the students and staff who had the opportunity to participate in the community march and commemorative services last Saturday. It was very special to see so many take part, in full school uniform, and acknowledge just how special and important ANZAC Day is for our nation. I would also like to acknowledge our school captain Ashley Garske who delivered the youth address – some very special words from a very talented student.

**P & C Meeting**
Last week the Moss Vale High School P & C held its first meeting for the term. We were able to discuss a range of things happening in our school and what the term ahead looks like for us all.

I want to encourage as many parents as possible to come along and participate in our P & C and be part of such an important decision making group in our school.

Our next P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 May 2015 and will commence at 6:30pm in the staff common room. I hope and trust that I get the opportunity to see you there as we work together for our students!

**School Plan 2015 - 2017**
All the hard work and effort in putting our school plan together for 2015 – 2017 is now complete and this week our complete new school plan will go on our school website for everyone to read. A one page summary of our school plan will be on the site and I encourage you to read this important document and be aware of the direction our great school is taking.

- Our school plan is built around three strategic directions: Our Positive self – Being our best!
- Innovative and relevant teaching and learning – Our community is passionate about learning
- Strong partnerships – Unlimited horizons

Please contact me at school should you have any questions or would like to share any thoughts about our school plan.

I look forward to an exciting journey over the course of the next three years for our great school – Moss Vale High School.

Have a great week!

*Peter Macbeth*
*Principal*
Deputy Principal’s Report

NAPLAN

All students in Years 7 and 9 will be sitting for the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) over the three days of May 12, 13 and 14. Students will sit for the Language Conventions on Tuesday 12th, the Reading test on Wednesday 13 and for Numeracy on Thursday 14. There will be a ‘catch-up’ test day on Friday May 15 for students who may have been absent on a previous test day.

The results will provide important information to the school about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. All students in Years 7 and 9 received a letter for parents detailing the NAPLAN process and requirements. Please contact the school if you have not received this letter.

Year 9 students will sit for the tests in the morning each day and Year 7 students will complete the tests in the afternoon. Students should come to school equipped for the timetabled lessons outside of the test period for that day.

Positive Behaviour for Success (PBS)

Merit System

I would like to congratulate the following Year 7 students who have already attained the first level in our Merit System, the Red Award of 150 Vivos: Maggie Scott, Joel Douglas, Mitchell Wilson, Bryce Coppins, Zoe Bosevski, Kyle McGuire, Scott Lawrence, Angelique Hart, Amirah Harvey, Ben Brodie, Jacob Dumughn, Taylah Denford, Luke Olesen, Declan Leslie, Courtney Harkness, Carlie Ragg, Allie Kracht and Zoe Drayton, and Angelique Hart has achieved her Green Award of 300 Vivos.

I am extremely proud of these students for achieving success in a number of academic areas and across the school community. All students who have achieved the Red Award in Year 7 are automatically able to attend the PBS Reward excursion that will take place later in the term.

Vivo online reward system

Please remind your child to check their Vivo account and keep track of the Vivo points that they are accumulating towards reaching levels in the Merit System. Students are automatically rewarded with 10 bonus Vivos for reporting to the Deputy Principal that they have reached a particular award. We have also added some great new items for purchase on the school’s Vivo shop such as ‘selfie sticks’, Play Station gift cards and EB Games credit. Many thanks to Mrs Wells for her great work in running the revamped Vivo shop!

I would finally like to thank Moss Vale Subway staff for their ongoing and generous support of our Merit System and Vivo shop.

How many Vivos do you have?

Patricia Holmes
Deputy Principal
Merit Excursion Announced!

Our hotly anticipated Merit Excursion is back! At the end of this term, students who have met the Vivo achievement requirement for the semester will be invited to join us on an excursion to Macarthur Square for a movie and shopping.

The excursion will happen on Thursday 25 June, and will be the event of the century! So Be Your Best, build up those Vivo’s and look out for announcements about the excursion later in term!

* Editor: Century may be a slight overstatement, but it will be amazing. We promise.

Calling Legendary Artists

PBS’s driving idea, Be Your Best, will be coming to life in Moss Vale High School in the form of a mural in our basketball court area. Our PBS Lesson in Week 3 will encourage students to respond to different media examples of sportspeople being their best. They will then have the opportunity to develop a design themed around sport which encourages people to be their best.

Stay tuned for updates on the design process!
What PBS Means to Me

“PBS to me - I love PBS because it reflects my attitudes to teaching. I really love how it focuses on the good stuff instead of just looking at the deficit. It allows me to be myself: I can be positive, enthusiastic and fun without feeling like I have to be punitive.”

To Mr. V, PBS offers freedom to keep his classroom positive and focused.

Year 7 Achieving Great Things

Our Year 7 cohort is off to a wonderful start, with more than 50 already achieving their Red Award in recognition of earning over 150 Vivos! These students are already eligible for the end-of-semester merit excursion.

The next goalpost after that is 300 Vivos, which will be awarded with a Green Award. Amazingly, three hardworking Year 7s have already achieved this.

Congratulations, Year 7, for all of your hard work. Good luck with the next leg of your PBS journey!

A huge thanks to the PBS team for making all this possible!
English Experiences

By now, all Advanced and Standard HSC students should have received their permission notes for the Modules Study Day in Sydney on Friday, June 12. Students will attend sessions for the texts they are studying for Paper 2, or explore a deeper understanding of English essay skills and tips for HSC study. Organised by the English Teachers Association, previous attendees found these lectures to be invaluable in providing insights from experienced HSC markers. Students are also able to familiarise themselves with the University of Technology campus and experience a taste of uni life for the day.

It is expected that all students in these classes will attend. Meet promptly at Moss Vale Station at 6 am in full school uniform. Remember to bring notepaper and pens, as handouts are not provided and recording sessions, or taking screen shots during presentations, is not permitted. Students will return to the station at 6.05pm.

All senior students should be well on the way to developing regular study habits that will ensure they consolidate their knowledge and understanding of key concepts in English, as well as the textual details of prescribed and individually chosen related material. Should a student feel they are falling behind, or would like assistance, please speak with your teacher sooner rather than later. Term 2 can sometimes be a time when people feel under pressure – sharing your concerns with a trusted and experienced adult will help lighten the load.

Kerri-Jane Burke
Head Teacher English

Let Literacy Light Your World

Southern Highlands Model United Nations

Toward the end of Term 1, Moss Vale High School had two students participate in the first Southern Highlands Model United Nations. Olivia Yearsley and Joshua Huggett, Year 10 were given the nation of Fiji to represent on the day. The students, with the help of Charlotte Fitzgerald, Year 11, researched and planned how they would best present the values and ideas of their given nation on the day, giving up their own time in school to prepare for the debate.

The event, the students were joined by teams from other schools across the region, with almost every single school present. Over the course of the day a range of resolutions were tabled and debated by different delegates from different countries, with votes then taken. Joshua and Olivia spoke and debated well, enjoying the experience and testing their skills against the other students. Due to their efforts in debating they were awarded runners up for the Peace Prize on the day, and unfortunately missing out on the other major prizes on the day. Both students enjoyed the experience and had a fantastic time.

Mr. Brown, English
Debating Coordinator
ANZAC Biscuits

This year as part of our ‘Kick Off With Reading’ Initiative TAS students from Years 7-11 decided to get baking and produced a wonderful gift to be handed to every person in the school at the conclusion of our ANZAC ceremony. The packs contained sample letters and postcards written from the perspective of Australian Armed Forces and nursing personnel and were composed by Years 7 and 8 Technology classes.

Also in the packs was a sprig of rosemary to be worn as a symbol of remembrance (sourced from several staff members’ gardens) and an ANZAC biscuit, of which over 700 were baked by TAS students from years 7 -11. Below is a sample of the finished product and two sample letters written by Jordan Johansen of Year 7 and Amelia Yearsley of Year 8.

Dear Family,

Thank you for the biscuits. They taste so much better than the rations we receive here on the front in Gallipoli. There have been many deaths occurring, so many that I think that we have landed in the wrong place.

It’s horrific over here. The men are being picked off one by one. We have no chance. I’m thinking that we may have to retreat soon, as our only cover from the snipers and machine guns are small sandbanks. We are constantly under fire from the Turks and our trenches are getting deeper as the men trample and dig us further underground.
It stinks over here, with all the men using their water rations for drinking and shaving, but not for washing.
Goodbye Mother and Father, this may be my last letter. Say goodbye to the little ones for me, and wish me luck.

Sincerely,
Richard.

Dear Mother and Family,

We will be leaving Cairo tomorrow and taking a boat to Gallipoli where we will be fighting. There was a terrible loss on the front line so we will be going in place of them. Little Jimmy would love all the training we do. It is like school but better. I am in the 15th Regiment and was at the head when we were marching to the boat to travel to Cairo. I felt mighty proud and I am sure you would have felt the same. My nerves are getting to me with the thought of war and bloodshed, but with my friends and training, my mind is distracted.
I wish you all well and hope to see you at Christmas.

Love to you all,
Fred.
The author of our Kick Off with Reading book, “Light Horse Boy”, visited for three days in the last week of Term 1. Year 7 have been writing feature articles as part of their study of newspaper in English.

Four students from 7S have written about Dianne Wolfer’s visit, these have been included in this Newsletter. Over the coming months other examples of our student journalism will be printed in our Newsletter.

**Kick Off With Reading**

This year, 2015, in the Kick off with Reading Program everyone in the whole school is reading the book Light Horse Boy by Dianne Wolfer. Last year, 2014 the book Happiest Refugee by Anh Do was selected to be the kick off with Reading book of the year. Light Horse Boy has given Moss Vale High School a better understanding of what it would be like in WW1 and gave more knowledge to the students.

**Light Horse Boy**

The kick off with Reading is a program that focuses on developing and encouraging the whole school to read the same book as well as comprehension and writing skills. In Roll Call students would read the Light Horse Boy and do some Sensational Seven activities.

**Year 7 Workshop with Dianne Wolfer**

On Tuesday 31 March, Week 10, Year 7 had their workshop with Dianne Wolfer. Nominated students got a chance to ask Dianne about how she got her information and what really inspired her to write a great and amazing book.

Dianne Wolfer told the students that she was inspired by the newspaper article that she was reading one day, a girl named Fay who was a daughter of the Lighthouse Keeper, she would talk to the soldiers on the boats and ships by using Semaphore.

**What do you like about the Light Horse Boy?**

“aricle would write back to Jim and talk about what she was doing and that’s how they kept in touch,” Zoe said.

“The reader forms an empathy for the horses, as 130,000 went to war and only one returned to Australia.”
Tuesday 21 April, 2015

As part of Moss Vale High School’s ‘Kick-Off with Reading’ program, students received their own hard-copy version of the book “Light Horse Boy” by Dianne Wolfer. The book was given to commemorate the 100 years since Australia became involved in World War One in 1915.

To give students a better understanding of what it takes to put a book together – especially one in the Historical Fiction category – the author of the book, Dianne Wolfer, visited the High School from Monday 30 March to Wednesday 1 April.

On the Tuesday a group of year sevens went to one of a series of writing workshops.

“I thought it was a wonderful experience to learn more about books and WW1,” said a 7S student. “A once in a lifetime opportunity,” said another.

“It was great to meet a real life author and learn about all the research put into the book,” said Ms Cripps. “Like how in her book ‘Lighthouse Girl’ she researched the life of Fay - the lighthouse Keeper’s daughter.”

After interviewing a range of different people I think it’s fair to say that the workshops were an enjoyable experience for teachers and students alike.

The ‘Kick-Off with Reading’ program has been a great success.

Keep up the good work MVHS!

“I left feeling honoured that Moss Vale High School chose my book as their focus title for 2015.”

~ Dianne Wolfer 2.4.15
Moss Vale High School has a literacy program - Kick off with Reading. This year’s book is The Light Horse Boy by Dianne Wolfer. They were lucky enough to have her visit their school.

Wolfer has published 15 books, 3 of these are historical fiction. During her visit, Dianne ran a number of workshops, one for each year group. At the year 7 workshop she spoke to about her book, The Lighthouse Girl.

The Lighthouse girl is about a young girl, Fay who was the lighthouse keeper’s daughter. Soldiers who were desperate to send final messages to their families in Eastern States signalled to Fay and she relayed their messages home in Morse code. When the soldiers got to Egypt they sent her thank you postcards addressed to the Little Girl on Break Sea Island, Albany, Western Australia.

Chat with students

What did you learn from Dianne Wolfer coming to your school?
“(The book) took a few years to write and that she had to do a lot of research and had a lot of patience to write the book”, said Caitlin and Clare.

What was something inspiring she said?
“That things take time but you keep on persisting” said Zoe D.

What did you learn while reading Light Horse Boy?
“Only one of the horses came back to Australia”, Amy said.

What was something you enjoyed about the book?
“The charcoal drawings added to the reality of the book”, said Zoe B.

Chat with author

Dianne Wolfer said “What I enjoyed most was the enthusiasm of the students and staff; everyone made me feel very welcome. I also liked how they were using the Light Horse Boy in different ways.

When asked which of her books was a favourite, Ms Wolfer said, “With different titles that’s hard to decide, I like each one in different ways. I’m happy that Lighthouse Girl links to the town I live in Albany. For Light Horse Boy, I like the way it links to the animals’ mascots and Sandy, the one horse of so many thousand that returned after WW1.”
**THE MOSSY DAILY**  
Saturday 5 June 2015  
AUTUMN EDITION  
Article by Zoe Bosvaksi

**Light Horse Boy- New Book About World War 1**

**History of Kick off With Reading**

There is not a lot of history with Kick off with Reading as it only started last year, when Anh Doh’s “The Happiest Refugee” was given to all students. Zachary Bosvaksi of Year 11 thought: “The Happiest Refugee was an inspirational book and is my favourite!”

**Summary of Kick off With Reading**

Kick off with reading is an inspirational activity in which Claire of 7S said: “Kick off with reading is an amazing way to help students read to the best of their abilities.” Every student in Moss Vale High School got given a book called Light Horse Boy by Dianne Woller, as this year you may know is 100th year anniversary of the Gallipoli Landing.

Some students of the class 7S thought: Claydon: “Good book liked the story also good timing for 100 years of Anzac Day.” Courtney: “Fascinating reality of war compacted into pages of an extremely interesting book.” Students also do work and activities with this book, and are expected to bring it with them every day to school. Marisa: “I loved the book at the first word I read. This Kick off with Reading program is a great start to year 7 and finish in year 12!”

**Personal Opinion**

I thought that Light Horse Boy was interesting and detailed. I think that Kick off with Reading is a wonderful idea and I hope that it will continue for many years to come. I was even lucky enough to meet Dianne Woller, the author of Light Horse Boy. I was even able to ask her a question: Do you have any ancestors that fought in World War One? Her answer: No.

---

**1st CAPA Concert for 2015!**  
**BIG SUCCESS!**  
(See next page for details)
SAVE THE DATES

BOOK EXPO AUSTRALIA

Book Expo Australia is a great event for book lovers and will be held later this year at the Sydney Showground, Homebush. The organiser is happy to send free tickets out to any librarian (plus teachers) in their school who would be interested in attending. They will need about a month’s lead time in order to organise these free tickets. Anyone interested please contact the library and we will make the arrangements. If you want to find out more about this exciting event visit their website http://www.bookexpoaustralia.com/. It is a non-profit organisation which runs a dedicated vent for authors and publishers to meet the reading public.

When – 17/18 October 2015
Times
Saturday – 10:00am to 4:00pm
Sunday – 10:00am to 3:30pm

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WRITERS’ FESTIVAL

Back for the fourth time in 2015, Southern Highlands Writers’ Festival is growing in strength having been embraced by the local community. Check out the festival program on https://www.shwf.com.au/festival-program. Sign up for some of the free events coming in 10-12 July this year.

On Thursday 23 April, at our wonderful ANZAC Commemoration Assembly, the Moss Vale Sub-Branch of the RSL presented the school with three books to mark the occasion.

These three titles will be in the library for staff and students to learn more about Australian History and those who have displayed the attributes of service, courage and mateship.
SRC SNAPSHOT

Currently, the SRC are working on developing their leadership skills at both a school and local level. On 25 April 2015, many representatives of the SRC attended ANZAC Day Services in Moss Vale or Bundanoon and participated in the wreath laying and March down the main street.

Additionally, we are working towards creating a riveting and enjoyable VIVA MOSS VEGAS for all students and teachers to attend. Held on 29 May during periods 3 & 4 in the hall, interested students will have the opportunity to share their talent with their peers and class mates and win prizes for their efforts. A pizza lunch will also be held after the show for hungry students to enjoy. Sign-ups will begin Monday 4 May, outside of the canteen area and posters will be put up around the school later this week for further information on tickets. Furthermore, the SRC are also in the process of making lolly bags to be handed out at the Athletics Carnival on the 8 May for all students who attend.

India Wallbridge
Year 12

Drum Kit Lessons Available Mondays -

at school

All styles.

Contact Michael Griffiths 0429 391 957

Next P & C meeting will be held in the Staff Common Room A Block, Week 5 Term 2

Tuesday May 19 @ 6.30pm
G’day athletes, welcome back to school and a GIGANTIC term of sport. There will be students plying their sports skills all over the state in a wide variety of activities and this will be the place to keep up to date with all our successes.

It’s running season which means the school athletics carnival is set down for Friday 8 May, so get your spikes ready, start stretching and get ready to run, throw and leap your way into the zone athletics team.

Rugby league is in full swing and a huge congratulations to Darren Grech and Mason Hurst who have been selected in the Under 15’s South Coast Rugby League side to take on the Riverina side to gain selection in the Southern New South Wales Rugby League side. The Wests Cup for the Under 13’s and 15’s is coming up so stay tuned to all announcements about Rugby League.

In term 2 Tuesday school sport will continue for Years 9, 10 and 11. Again we will have a range of different sports activities that will take place and students will be making their selections at the end of this term. All students in Years 9, 10 and 11 need to have a conversation their banks (mums, dads and carers) about the cost involved in sport before they commit to a particular sport group. On average, a group leaving school grounds by bus will be spending $7-$10 a week as well as a one off fee of $15-$20 per term for the use of the bus. There are of course cheaper options and a host of free options so please have a conversation about what you would like to do for sport before the end of term.

Moss Vale High School needs your help! We are part of the A-Mart Allsports community kick back program. For every dollar spent at Amart, in Mittagong, the school will receive 5% of money spent, kicked back to the school. That might not sound like much but if everybody nominates our school as their kick back recipient then we will build a big fund for us to spend on improving the school. See the next page for more info!

Mr. DB’s fun, fit, fact: You would need to drink a litre of milk, every day for 4 months, to drink as much blood your heart pumps in one hour!

That’s all the highlights from the sports reel this term and remember good things come to those who sweat.

Mr Adam Dubois
PDHPE Teacher and Sports Organiser
Message from School Administrative Manager

LOST PROPERTY
The Front Office is currently running out of room to store the numerous school jackets and other homeless items.

If your child has lost any item, please ask them to make enquiries at the Front Office.

All items with names on are automatically reunited with their owners so please consider clearly marking all student property, including uniforms, pencil cases, USBs and bags, with the student’s name.

Thank you for your cooperation

Maureen Sinclair
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

Activity Week
Moss Vale High School

To celebrate the coming Activity Week assembly (Friday 15th May, Week 4), we are going to take $150 off one students Activity Week fee. All you have to do to win this prize is answer the following question in 50 words or less by Monday 11th May. Your response can be in the form of a poster, persuasive writing, a filmed advert or a poem and must be submitted to Mr Nash.

WHY DOES ACTIVITY WEEK ROCK?
Great News From Term 1!

Term 1 was busy for all things attendance-related, and has produced some great results.

- 98 students attended EVERY DAY of Term 1 and received 10 vivos.
- 67% improvement in bringing in absentee notes.
- Overall, the school is up 1% on attendance last year.
- Year 10 is very impressive, with a 3% improvement on last year.

All of this means safer school experiences and better results for our students – a wonderful outcome.

Coming up in Term 2:

To build on these strong results, there are a number of areas to be targeted this term, including:

- Working closely with parents and the community to carry expectations and support for high attendance beyond the school gate
- Developing awareness amongst our student body about the importance of being On Time, Every Day
- Increasing positive rewards for our students with strong and/or improving attendance.
# Moss Vale High Newsletter

**Issue 1 Term 2 2015**

## TO: MOSS VALE HIGH

**NOTE OF ABSENCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roll Class</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please excuse the absence of my son/daughter on

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(dates)</th>
<th>Total number of days absent</th>
<th>The reason for the absence/s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Name: ____________________________

Parent Signature: ____________________________ Date sent: ____________

---

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS / CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Phone No's</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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.*