Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners

2 April 2015

Wishing everyone a Happy Easter and a safe holiday

School resumes
Monday - 20 April for all teaching and admin staff
Tuesday - 21 April for all students

Students Making A Difference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>For participation in the Seniors’ Week Q&amp;A forum at the Council Theatrette</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Fitzgerald</td>
<td>Luke Webb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Sienna Harvey</td>
<td>For participation in the GRIP Leadership Conference</td>
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<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Hannah Whatman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Jackson Chesterfield</td>
<td>For outstanding school service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lachlan Harris</td>
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Principal’s Report

The power of the positive spirit!

This term has been an exceptionally busy term but a term in which our students, our staff and have achieved so much. One of the reasons that I firmly believe is behind the continued growth and development of our great school is the positive spirit that everyone brings to school each and every day and throughout our community. I have been amazed by what our students, our staff and our school has achieved in the last couple of weeks!

CAPA Concert: Special congratulations to everyone involved in the CAPA concert on the 17th March. I have spoken to many people who attended this concert and the overwhelming belief is that this was one of the best concerts of not the best CAPA concert there has been. The standard of performances is just outstanding! There are some incredibly talented students and staff at Moss Vale High School.

Closing the Gap: Last week we held our school Closing The Gap BBQ which focused on raising funds through a BBQ and some other activities to donate to Oxfam so that we can all work together in improving the health of our Aboriginal community. The school raised over $700 and the event was supported by all our students, staff and we were lucky enough to have a number of parents attend including our P & C President Deirdre Mackay and Wendy Lotter, representing the AECG as well as a number of other parents! Congratulations to all involved!

MUNA: I also want to acknowledge all the students and Mr Phil Brown who last week participated in the Model United Nations Assembly Initiative run through Rotary International and supported by the Rotary Club of NSW. These students and Mr Brown gave up part of their weekend to participate in this event which model the general assembly of the United Nations. All involved did an amazing job and the team from Moss Vale High School won the runner up prize for the Peace Prize section of this event. Congratulations to all involved!

Quality Teaching: Led by the wonderful work of Janeen Pepping who is one of our Learning and Support Teachers, all our teachers of all our classes in Years 7 & 8 in the last week have engaged in some intense professional learning looking at effective teaching and learning strategies that will help students in these classes really grow and develop. It was fantastic to see the teachers work so closely together and collective develop ideas to implement in the classrooms to help these students. As a school community we have exceptional teachers of the highest quality and this will really help our students.

In addition to the things I have mentioned, there have been many other instances of students excelling in volunteering, community support, agriculture, sporting competitions and a range of other activities. Moss Vale High School offers our students a world of opportunities to reach their best!

It has been an amazing term full of achievement!

Some special parents!

Last week the Moss Vale High School P & C held its AGM for the year. Firstly I want to thank the following people who held executive positions last year for the amazing job that they did:

- Deirdre Mackay – President
- Tracie Webb – Vice President
- Annmarie Makepeace – Secretary
- Deb Reed – Treasurer

After the AGM I would like to congratulate the following people who have been elected to the important executive positions:

- Annmarie Makepeace – President
- Sandra McCue – Vice President
- Tracie Webb – Secretary
- Deb Reed – Treasurer

I am looking forward to working with our new P & C executive in what will no doubt be another successful year.

I want to encourage all our parents to get along to our next P & C meeting on the 21st April. The P & C are a very important part of our school community. Last year the P & C put over $20,000 into our school to support the education of our students – we acknowledge and thank them.
A very special parent – Deirdre Mackay
At our recent P & C AGM we had the opportunity to acknowledge the amazing contribution made by Mrs Deidre Mackay to our school. Deidre has been involved in P & C’s for over twenty year and over the course of the last few years we have been blessed to have her serve as our P & C President. The contribution she had made to our students and our schools is incredible. We are truly indebted to her.

At a very special school assembly Deidre was presented with a range of gifts from our School Captains and myself and was acknowledge with a standing ovation by the entire school community. We wish Deidre all the best for her future and we do know that the connection she has with Moss Vale High School will always continue!

Holidays
I would like to wish all our students and our school community a safe and relaxing school holiday period. Please keep safe and look after yourself and each other. School returns for our students on Tuesday 21 April.

Peter Macbeth
Principal

INVITATION TO ATTEND THE LAUNCH OF THE ABORIGINAL RESPECT CIRCLE

ABOUT: This project has brought together young Aboriginal people from Bowral High School, Chevalier College, Moss Vale High School and Oxley College who have worked with Moyengully to create a safe area for young people to gather and share stories and experiences. The young people involved have worked on stone carving, mosaics, and the foundation of medicine and food gardens.

The Aboriginal students have been encouraged to learn more about their Culture and be proud of who they are and where they are from

As the launch event for National Youth Week 2015 the students would like to invite you, their families and the community to attend the opening of this Respect Circle where the young people will host a Respect Circle, there will be a BBQ and Traditional Indigenous Games in the afternoon.

WHEN: Friday 10 April 10am – 2pm
WHERE: Highlands Youth Hub, Park Road Bowral
R.S.V.P: To assist with catering please RSVP to Michelle Williams at michelle.williams@wsc.nsw.gov.au or 4868 0859 by Wednesday 1 April 2015

Funded by:
Deputy Principal’s Report

In Week 7 all students participated in a Positive Behaviour for Success lesson around our class rules and students were asked to create a storyboard that could be made into a film to present at a future assembly. The winning students who will receive 30 Vivo points each and a pizza lunch are: Ben Brittle, Jade Sheather, Suzie Williams, Bae McKibbin and Rebecca Coulter. Congratulations to our winners.

Many students are doing really well and accumulating Vivo points for great work across the school. Congratulations to the following students for being the top 3 Vivo earners in each year since our last assembly:

- **Year 7** - Claire Middleton, Jade Zakara, Justin Webster-Broadhead.
- **Year 8** - Rebecca Harris, Bailey Dunn and Lorna Anderson.
- **Year 9** - Amy Fitzgerald, Ellie Handley and Jordan Penfold.
- **Year 10** - Aiden Ellis, Jessica Tottenham and Emma Handley.
- **Year 11** - Harriet Snaith, Gabby Hillyer and Gabby Middleton.
- **Year 12** - Lauren Fahey, Tyla Astley and Olivia Brunton.

In the support unit: Michelle Haynes, Jake Turnbull and Jasmine Bopping.

Congratulations to all these students for their great work and continuing to be their best.

**Merit Awards**

Congratulations to the following students whose excellent work was recognised at the whole school Assembly in Week 9.

**Red Award**

- In **Year 7**
  - Phoebe Kelly
  - Beth Cochran
  - James Fahey
  - Aiden Moule
  - Jade Zakara
  - Sarah Zhong
  - Caitlin Miller
  - Clare Middleton
  - Brighton Bradley Layt

- In **Year 8**
  - Hayden Mathews

**Green Award**

- In **Year 12**
  - Emma Stuart

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday

Patricia Holmes
Deputy Principal
English Experiences

The Bamir Language Gallery has displayed more than 36 weeks of poetry, narratives, character profiles, TEEL paragraphs and vocabulary exercises. That means we are more than half way through our goal of creating language bunting each and every week for a whole year! Look at what we have achieved:

https://bamirlanguagegallery.wordpress.com/

Every student would, by now, have contributed to the colourful display that has inspired countless reflections on our literacy and writing journey. Quite often, students, staff and visitors can be seen reading and sharing different items found in the gallery. Not only in our school, but elsewhere.

In 2014, the work showcased upstairs in A block was shared at the annual state conference held by the English Teachers Association. Teachers from other schools wanted to know how student works could be displayed outside classrooms and not be ruined. We gladly explained that there is a high expectation that students behave respectfully and responsibly at school.

You may have noticed that the bunting is now made from wide florist ribbon. This was a welcome donation from Robertson Newsagency. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions for future bunting – share your thoughts with your teachers.

Unfortunately, there has been one minor incident of vandalism of student work displayed in the Bamir Language Gallery this year.

Next time you are lining up outside your classroom, reading other student’s work and admiring their efforts, think how you might discourage another person from being destructive. Speak up, respectfully, and make others understand that we all benefit from our vibrant and positive learning environment here at Moss Vale High.

Kerri-Jane Burke
Head Teacher English

Let Literacy Light Your World
Message from School Administrative Manager

Need to ring or visit the school?
The front office is staffed from 8:30am to 3:30pm on school days only.

Need to make a payment?
You can pay in person, by phone, direct deposit or via the school website. The school accepts cash, cheque, direct deposit or EFTPOS payments.

Need to speak to someone about your child?
Contact the friendly front office staff who can help direct you to the most appropriate person.

Need to explain your child’s absence?
Send in a written note with your child or use the school app.

Need to update your details?
Notify the friendly office staff in person, by telephone, via the form in the newsletter or the school app.

Need to know what is happening at the school?
Check out the school calendar on the school website; read the school newsletter or receive alerts on your smartphone via the school app.

When do students attend school in term 2?
Students start term 2 on Tuesday 21 April 2015 with Week A. There is NO public holiday on Monday 27 April. There is a public holiday on Monday 8 June 2015. Last day of term 2 is Friday 26 June 2015.

Where can I see the term dates and holidays for the next five years?
The NSW Public Schools website has all this information and a lot more….

www.schools.nsw.edu.au

Have a Happy Easter and a safe holiday

Maureen Sinclair
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
Senior HSIE Student Excursion to the State Library, Sydney

On Monday 23 March, Year 12 students in the Society & Culture and Extension History courses travelled with Mr McGill to visit the State Library in Macquarie Street, Sydney. Both HSC subjects have a Major Project component which requires students to research at the highest level and produce original and innovative investigations. This day at the State Library was an opportunity for students to access resources simply not available in any school or regional library, and to familiarise themselves with the procedures and services available as a preparation for future individual visits.

After a ‘bright and early start’ from Moss Vale Station, students began their day in the library with a guided tour, marvelling at the beauty and architectural heritage of the Mitchell Research Library wing, and then descending into the Stacks, many levels below ground level, to see the kilometres of print and multimedia resources not normally accessible to the casual visitor. An intensive research tutorial by library staff followed, and students were able to see ways of refining their search across potentially millions of resources to find the items most relevant to their specific topic. Once they were free to be “let loose” on the Library resources, our students quickly loaded up with armfuls of texts ready to be assessed, interpreted and incorporated into their research!

A sidelight to the visit, after a lunch in Café Trim, was a visit to the “Pulp Confidential” exhibition in the upstairs Gallery Space. This exhibition showcased magazines and artwork from the golden era of Australian Pulp Fiction publishing in the 1940s and 1950s, when a pre-television era readership consumed vast numbers of adventure, sport, crime and romance magazines selling from newsstands all over the country. This exhibition was a useful accompaniment to the “Popular Culture” Depth Study currently being done in class.

Some student feedback about the day:
The excursion to the State Library today was an educational and eye-opening journey. I discovered the beauty and magnitude of the library and the resources it holds…..

Now that I know how everything works at the Library I will for sure be coming back and using it to my full advantage. This was a great experience………………

I found today amazingly useful for my Personal Interest Project research. The State Library had so many resources on my topic and helped immensely…………

Today I found the trip to the State Library incredibly useful and informative. Not only did we learn how to use the extensive range of resources the Library provides, we were also able to view the exhibitions and be in awe of the spectacular architecture of the buildings….. as well as indulge in a delicious lunch!…….
Next P & C meeting will be held in the Staff Common Room A Block, Week 1 Term 2 Tuesday April 21 @ 6.30pm

Parent Teacher Interviews

Interviews have been divided in this alphabetical manner so that parents can meet with the maximum number of teachers.
Booking details and information will be sent out last week of Term 1

Term 2 -
Week 2 Wednesday April 29 A - L in A Block 4 - 6pm
Week 3 Wednesday May 6 M - Z in A Block 4 - 6pm

Drum Kit Lessons Available Mondays -
at school
All styles.
Contact Michael Griffiths 0429391957
Activity Week message for 2015

Every year, Moss Vale High School conducts Activity Week in the last week of the school year. In the past, students have travelled to far off places such as the Gold Coast, trout fishing in the Snowy Mountains, snorkelling on the South Coast, Uluru, Tasmania and mountain biking in Thredbo. Over this term, students and parents have had the pleasure of reading about the 2014 activities as they have been well documented in each of the school's newsletters. Thanks to all students and staff for providing us with entertaining accounts of your particular activity. This year, Activity Week will be held from Monday 14 December till Wednesday 16 December. Staff development days will occur on Thursday 17 December and Friday 18 December. The school will be closed to students on these days. The activities offered for 2015 will provide a wide range of choice for students, from overnight camps to day to day activities, from expensive to no cost. All are fun and are an exhilarating way to finish the school year.

To assist parents in covering the cost of these activities we begin the organisation at the start of Term 2. Students will attend an assembly (Thursday 7 May) and be given a brief overview of each activity. Students will be shown photos and video footage of activities available for 2015. In addition, students will receive a booklet outlining all the options with costs and processes of reservations. It is most important that students and parents consider the options carefully, as there is a one third non-refundable deposit to be paid in late Term 2. This deposit is like any paid to a travel agent, it is used to pay deposits to companies supplying accommodation, transport or services. Once teachers start paying for their activities in full, other money which is paid by a student also becomes non-refundable. If a student selects an activity over $200 in value, all school fees must be paid for that student to successfully reserve a position.

While the full cost of the activity may be paid immediately, we also have an instalment program so families with a number of students may pay off the activities of their choice. This year, there are four (4) instalments throughout the year, with the final payment due at the end of Term 3. The instalment dates are listed on the front cover of the information booklet which will be given on May 7.

As we are trying to place all students from Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 it is important to realise there are some very popular activities that fill quickly and, without prompt payment of the deposit, students may not secure their first choice. In every year, some activities are filled within fifteen (15) minutes of the opening time. It is, therefore, really important for students to list three (3) choices in order of preference. If a student misses out on their first preference they are placed in their second preference and so on.

It is also important for parents/carers and students to understand that while every effort is made to accommodate student's wishes, it is not possible for students to change their preferences after the deposit has been paid.

Moss Vale High School is quite unique in offering such an extensive Activity Week program. This program that is over 40 years old, only operates with the good will of the staff of Moss Vale High School. It is the staff who are prepared to organise and, in the case of overnight activities, give up their own time to enable this program to be offered to students. Students who can't fulfil their responsibilities at school may be excluded from Activity Week as a large amount of trust is given to students attending overnight activities.

All students in the school are expected to select an activity and attend for the duration of the period. There will be no normal lessons conducted during this time. Students who have not selected an activity are still expected to be at school. These students will be given a comprehensive learning program for the week. It isn't a time to take an early family holiday. All students who are away during this time without a reasonable explanation will be marked as an unexplained absence. Activity Week offers so many advantages and has now become part of the culture of Moss Vale High School. We hope you see the value of this program by supporting it in 2015 and making it one of the best ever.

For further information about the program please contact Matt Nash, Activity Week Coordinator, during school hours on 4868 1717.

Mr Nash
Activity Week Coordinator
This term has been a massive one for all the superstar athletes at Moss Vale High School, we are seeing some wonderful achievements across an array of sporting arenas.

Let’s start off with big congratulations to those students who have made the South Coast Hockey teams: Max Hanrahan, Connor Tuddenham, Jack Donovan, Jesse Mauger and Hannah Whatman. This is a big stepping stone to state selection and Moss Vale high school will be cheering for them the whole way.

Our super fish: Liam Hinchcliff, Mitchell Wilson, Brad Watsford and Bailey Brownlee represented our school and region at the state swimming championships on Friday 27 March. Liam Hinchcliffe individually made the 100 metre breaststroke final which is a fantastic effort from the aquaman of Year 7! A special mention to all our swimmers who competed in the pool this season, in particular Dominique Palmer who was the age champion at the zone carnival and Megan Schweers who is our super fish of the future.

Congratulations also to Josh Conquest who has made the South Coast basketball team. I am sure he is going to light up the court and show some of the skills we have seen down on the courts this term, including that big slam dunk of his! Josh is part of the boys’ basketball team who cruised through to the South Coast final 8 and are vying to be the South Coast champions.

Rugby league is in full swing with a number of boys in the opens and under 15’s who have made the zone rugby league sides. In the opens: James Hagger, Dylan Palmer-Quigg and Blake Jeffery. In the under 15’s: Nicholas Reader, Mason Hurst, Nicolas Kamchevski and Kody Tozer. Good luck to the lads who will represent our zone at the regional trials next term.

In recent weeks we have seen girls and boys from across the school compete in and win a range of soccer fixtures against some very worthy opponents. All soccer teams have advanced to their second round fixtures in their knockout competitions and will continue to do us proud.

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 Year 9, 10 and 11 need to have a conversation with 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.
Mr. DB's Fun, Fit, Fact: Exercise Boosts Brainpower

Not only does exercise improve your body, it helps your mental function, says certified trainer David Atkinson.

"Exercise increases energy levels and increases serotonin in the brain, which leads to improved mental clarity," says Atkinson, director of program development for Cooper Ventures, a division of the Cooper Aerobics Center in Dallas.

All that makes for a more productive day.

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

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Winter Basketball is on again!
Registrations Open now

Competitions run during Terms 2 & 3, 2015
Games will be played on — Primary school comp: Wednesday afternoons
High school comp: Friday afternoons, Senior competition Monday Night
Where: Moss Vale Basketball Stadium, Parries Rd, Moss Vale, 2577
From your own netball we will put you in teams.

Registration via the following methods:
At the stadium: after 5pm (Cash, Cheques or credit card accepted)
Email completed form to credit card details: mvdubois@outlook.com
Postal completed form to PO BOX 76, Moss Vale, NSW, 2577
Registration ends 5pm 2 April 2015
Phone 4860 1400 or Sandra on 0437 660 974

This form to be completed by ALL participants in the Winter competition.
(New players to basketball must complete registration form as well)

Name of Player: ____________________________
Address: __________________________________
Phonenumber: _______________ Parent Name: __________________________________
Email address: __________________________________
Date of Birth: ___________________ Year at school in 2015: __________________
School: ________________________________

Any special requests: ____________________________________________________________

(We will try but cannot guarantee)

COSTS are as follows: (2 parts in 6)

1. Registration fee (2 months) (based upon age turning in 2015)
(Only for new players or returning players fee is renewed before competitions start)
8 years old: $2.50; 10 & 11 years old in 2014- $4.50; 12 & 17 years old in 2014- $7.50

2. Playing fee for the summer comp (based upon Year at school in 2015)
(Only up to Year 6 in 2015; $200; Year 7 & 8 in 2015 - $30; High School in 2015 - $500

Credit card details: ________________________________ Exp: ______
Name on card: __________________________________ Verification code: ____________________
Helping to Close the Gap

The sunshine beamed down, the sausages sizzled and the drinks were icy cold. Students, staff, parent and the wider community came to support Oxfam Australia’s campaign to end health inequality for indigenous Australians by 2030.

A big thank you for the student helpers: K@M students Richelle Louth, Jemma White, Zoe Griffiths, Kelsey Attwood, Bella Matthews-Coorie, Matilda Langford, Tyler Duroux. And the SRC Joel Hinchcliffe, Daisy Schaefer, Josh Huggett and Jacinta Burns, Miss Curtis who organised the food donated from Coles, Moss Vale and Bowral Woolworths.
The Instagram frame created by Ms Lidgard was a huge success and provided a wonderful focus for the fundraising. We even got a special shout out from Oxfam for all our great work with the Instagram sign.

The school community raised over $700.00 to be donated to Oxfam’s Close the Gap campaign. It is a testament to the wonderful spirit at our school and the way in which we see a problem it is as an opportunity to address the issue and help make the situation better. And that is exactly what we did.

If you would like to do more you can sign the petition https://www.oxfam.org.au/my/act/sign-the-close-the-gap-pledge or take the 30 for 2030 challenge by challenging yourself to collect 30 signatures by 31 March to help close the gap within our generation. See Ms Cripps or Miss Curtis or the Oxfam website for more information. https://www.oxfam.org.au/explore/indigenous-australia/close-the-gap/
WHY THE FOCUS?
We have focused on clarifying and following through on our expectations around attendance so far this year, and this is set to continue. You might be asking why. The answer is simply that this is too important to be taken lightly – important to the success of every single Moss Vale High School student. Endless studies support the link between strong attendance and academic, social and emotional success. Equally strong are links between poor attendance and problematic outcomes (see below for an excerpt from a study in QLD in 2013).

Attendance and student outcomes
Research confirms a strong link between attendance and student outcomes. While some student absences are unavoidable and understandable due to illness and the like, or enforced through school disciplinary absences, many are not. These could be unexplained or unauthorised absences.

Poor school attendance can be linked to a number of related short and long-term adverse outcomes for students including lower academic outcomes, early school leaving, substance use, poverty, unemployment and negative health outcomes. However these factors may be interrelated in complex ways and factors that lead to low levels of attendance may also independently lead to some of these adverse outcomes. A student’s regular absence from school may be a critical indicator in disengagement, leading directly to some of these adverse outcomes. Regardless of the nature of the relationship, poor school attendance, particularly with a high number of unexplained or unauthorised absences, is a readily observable warning sign for potential longer-term adverse outcomes.

Poor school attendance can be an early warning sign for future adverse outcomes

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
The single most important factor which supports strong attendance is encouraging young people to value their education. A strong appreciation of how important education is to current and future success will help your child to weather the undeniably difficult parts of school: the pressure of assessment tasks, the difficulty of spending hours every day with people with whom you might have little in common. It can be tough. Focusing on what school can offer: friends, knowledge and skills, and a wider future, is invaluable in bearing up to the daily grind.
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: _______________

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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.