



Moss Vale High

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"Innovation, Opportunity, Connection
Inspiring Success"
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Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners

12 December 2013

*Have a very happy "Wollemi"
Christmas !*



WOLLEMI PINE (*Wollemia nobilis*)

Dinosaur tree & living fossil
200 million year old relic

Planted 2013 - MVHS 50th Anniversary
Maryanne Williams - Teacher Librarian

To honour two great teachers
Elizabeth Williams - Local Horticulturist
Stella Mary Casey - Aunt & Historian

Certificate of Authenticity: 19983

*The inscription on the plaque under the
Wollemi Pine*

*Mrs Williams with Mr Hutchinson and the
Wollemi Pine.*

See story on page 2

School Resumes for 2014 ...

Term 1 Commences Tuesday, 28 January 2014 (staff)

Commences Wednesday, 29 January 2014 for

Year 7 & 11students

Thursday, 30 January for all other Years

Term Concludes Friday, 11 April 2014

Tree planting for the 50th Anniversary

Our 50th Anniversary in 2013 has led to some wonderful beautification in our school grounds. Our hard working General Assistant, **Mr Greg Hutchinson**, has been very busy ensuring our school continues to have grounds that our students, and those of the future, will enjoy and use as a learning space.

A **Golden Maple** was planted in the front of the school to replace the large tortured willow that came down in a storm. It is the perfect colour for our Golden Anniversary, and will be a lovely shade tree and autumn feature.

A **Waratah** is also in the front garden, being the plant used as the logo of Moss Vale High School and the Shire. It was planted by our long serving staff member **Mrs Margaret Beaumont**, and one of our top young Merit students, **Josh Huggett**. It has already proven to be great flowering red in spring.

A **Wollemi Pine** has been donated by Mrs Williams, Teacher Librarian. It had been given to her in a pot by her Aunt for her 50th birthday. It seemed appropriate to "release it to freedom" from the pot to the garden of our school now celebrating its own 50th. Mr Hutchinson, Mr O'Brien and many students kindly dug a very large hole to prepare for its arrival. As an 11ft tree it needed a child sized hole, and some thought they were digging to China! It went in the ground next to C block in Spring and looks very happy there shooting much new growth. It is hoped students will learn more about these "Dinosaur Plants" that were once thought to be extinct. It has been planted in memory of local horticulturist, Ms Elizabeth Williams who kindly donated her Herbarium to our school just before she died.

There are plaques at the base of these new plantings to explain their history. They were popular stops on the tours run by students on our Anniversary Open Days. We hope you get the time to enjoy visiting them and watch them grow.

"As we live we grow"... Our garden and our school.

Award Winner

During term 2, Year 7 student **Harrison Hillman-Byrne** entered a state wide Braille competition organised by the Sydney Braille Forum. The competition consisted of writing a Braille story on a given topic and proof reading a Braille passage to locate Braille errors. Harrison's submitted entry won him the "Creativity of Story Award" and he also achieved a special award from the company Quantum RLV for his Braille accuracy. The special award was software that will assist Harrison to independently use a program on his laptop called JAWS. This program has synthesised voice and magnification.

Congratulations **Harrison**.



Congratulations
Kooper Smith

of Year 9,
who has now raised over
\$1000 for his cycling efforts

Well done, **Kooper!!**



Principal's Report

A year of achievement for Moss Vale High School!

This newsletter will be the last newsletter for 2013 and so it is a wonderful opportunity for all of us as a school community to stop and reflect back on what has been a truly amazing year at Moss Vale High School.

I came to Moss Vale High School at the start of 2013 as the new Principal with hopes and dreams for a great year and what we have collectively achieved has far exceeded anything I could have imagined. It has been an outstanding year for our school in so many ways. This year has also shown us that the future for our school is an exciting one that will be built on the continuation of hard work and dedication by everyone.

The standout feature of our school is the people that make up our school community. I thoroughly enjoy coming to school each day because of the wonderful students and the dedicated staff that I get to work with. What I have noticed throughout the year is the very positive spirit that exists amongst us all.

Students at Moss Vale High School this year have achieved amazing success in all areas of education. We have seen students excel in all areas of their learning, in all areas of the creative and performing arts and the sporting arena. We have seen students demonstrate wonderful leadership skills both in our school and within our community. We have seen students represent our school at a local, regional, state and national level in many different ways. I want to acknowledge all our students and congratulate them on their achievements and their successes in 2013 and hope that they are excited about the possibilities that 2014 will bring.

The dedication and commitment of the staff at Moss Vale High School continues to be an inspiration for me. The work that the staff has put in has in so many positive ways changed the lives of our students for the better. As time moves on, this year we will bid a fond farewell to a number of staff who have made it to the end of their careers or have accepted a transfer to other schools. I would like to acknowledge, Anthony Parro, Mary McKay, Janet Taranto, Kerrie Wilson, Bill Zsigmond, Judith Jones and David Barros. We all wish you well for your future.

I would also like to take the opportunity to say a special thank you to the Moss Vale High School P & C led by our President Deirdre Mackay, as their support has been wonderful and their input extremely valuable. In addition, the support we had this year from the Southern Highlands AECG, led by Aunty Eleanor McIlwain has also helped shape our school in many positive ways. The support of our parents and the wider community has helped strengthen the school community in order to help our students.

So we come to the end of an amazing year, for me the best year of my career in education and one that has made me very excited about what the future holds. So I now ask what does the future hold for our school?

In 2014 our school will continue to focus on the work we are doing to help improve student literacy and numeracy skills, especially our focus on reading and comprehension through our involvement in the National Partnership Scheme.

We will continue to focus on the three expectations of being Safe, Respectful and Responsible learners and continued to promote a positive culture and values primarily through the work we do in the Positive Behaviour for Success initiative.

We will also focus on all staff leading learning. We are all leaders of learning and having that as a focus will help continue the growth in student performance and student learning.

Our school will continue to provide our students with a world of opportunities, to assist their growth as learners and to give them the chance to make their dreams a reality.

I would like to again thank all the students, staff, parents and community members who help make this school special. I look forward to seeing many of you at our school's presentation night next week.

I would like to wish everyone all the very best for the festive season and hope and pray that everyone has a safe and relaxing school holidays.













It is truly a pleasure and honour to lead Moss Vale High School. Let's get excited about what our future holds! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Peter Macbeth
Principal

Moss Vale High School Merit System



VIVO

60 Vivos			<p>You get an extra 10 Vivos for telling the Deputy that you have reached a Red Award which takes you to 70 Vivos</p>
160 Vivos			<p>You get an extra 10 Vivos for telling the Deputy that you have reached a Green Award which takes you to 170 Vivos</p>
320 Vivos			<p>You get an extra 10 Vivos for telling the Deputy that you have reached your Bronze Award which takes you to 330 Vivos</p>
480 Vivos			<p>You get an extra 10 Vivos for telling the Deputy that you have reached Silver Award which takes you to 490 Vivos</p>
640 Vivos			<p>You get an extra 10 Vivos for telling the Deputy that you have reached Gold Award which takes you to 650 Vivos</p>
950 Vivos			<p>You get an extra 10 Vivos for telling the Deputy that you have reached Platinum Award which takes you to 960 Vivos</p>

Deputy Principal's Report

Vivo Reward System

Our new online reward system, Vivo, has been a huge success at Moss Vale High after starting up at the beginning of Term 4. Already students are accumulating high numbers of Vivos and purchasing items from the Vivo shop. The Vivo Reward System is designed to acknowledge students for achieving in a range of areas from volunteering to academic excellence.

I would like to congratulate the following students for leading the Vivo points in the school league tables: The top Vivo recipients across the whole school are **Laura Mulcahy** of Year 9 on 753 Vivo points, **Josh Huggett** on 750 and **Olivia Yearsley** on 650. Leading the league tables in each Year group are: **Meagan Handley** and **Georgia Finlayson** of Year 11,

Regina Jenkins, Alix Harper and **Allie Sims** of Year 10, **Laura Mulcahy** and **Ashley Thatcher** of Year 9, **Josh Huggett** and **Olivia Yearsley** of Year 8, **Megan Mulcahy** and **Rebecca Heyhorn** of Year 7.



Final Year Assembly

I was very pleased to see some of our parents attending our final assembly for the year to see their children receiving awards. We continue to have a growing number of students reaching the prestigious Bronze, Silver and Gold awards for achievement in one or more areas such as academic excellence, Creative and Performing Arts, community service, sport and volunteering. At Monday's assembly we acknowledged the following students for reaching their Bronze Award: **Melanie Fitzgerald** (Year 11), **Rebecca Coulter** (Year 8), **Jacinta Burns** (Year 7), **Matthew Christensen** (Year 9), **Harriet Snaith** (Year 9), **Stefanie Clifton** (Year 9) and **Angus Fitzgerald** (Year 10). Our Silver Award recipients at this assembly were: **Megan Mulcahy** (Year 9), **Rebecca Heyhorn** (Year 7), **Luke Webb** (Year 8) and **Briana Handley** (Year 9). **Josh Huggett** of Year 8 was our Gold Award recipient at the assembly.

Congratulations to these wonderful students who make us all very proud!

I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding effort of our staff members who work incredibly hard to enable our students to achieve in such a diverse range of skill areas.

Viva Moss Vegas

I would like to thank Ms Michelle Virtue and her SRC team for organising an outstanding "Viva Moss Vegas" talent show last Friday. The acts were exceptional and, therefore, it became difficult for the judges to decide on the three winners and two students for the 'Encouragement' awards.

The first prize of \$150 went to **Olivia Yearsley** of Year 8 for an exceptional and beautiful keyboard performance, second prize of \$75 went to **Kali Styles** of Year 8 for her amazing vocal performance of 'Jar of Hearts' and third prize of 100 Vivos went to **David Sims**, also of Year 8, for his outstanding contemporary dance performance. **Rebecca Heyhorn** and **Harrison Hillman-Byrne**, both of Year 7, received Encouragement Awards for impressing the judges and audience with their talents in dance and keyboard respectively.

All of our students who performed deserved to win and should be very proud of their efforts.

Holiday wishes

I would like to wish all of our staff, students and their families a safe and happy Christmas break. I look forward to working with our wonderful students and staff again in 2014.

Patricia Holmes
Deputy Principal

COUNCIL GOES BACK TO SCHOOL WITH MOSS VALE HIGH

Wingecarribee Shire Council has long supported a diverse workforce but a new objective is set to ensure our region's youth are provided with opportunities in the years ahead.

"For many years now we've heard the frustrations of our Shire's youth looking for meaningful full-time employment within the Southern Highlands," said Bronwyn Sutton, Council's Human Resources Business Partner.

"After leaving school, many want to stay in the area where they've grown up but a lack of employment opportunities forces many of them to look beyond our boundaries.

"As one of the Shire's major employers, we felt it was important we lead by example," Ms Sutton said.

Following discussions with Moss Vale High School, a unique partnership was subsequently formed whereby Wingecarribee Shire Council will support and train selected senior students wishing to undertake a trainee or apprenticeship whilst they complete their Higher School Certificate (HSC).

As a requirement of Vocational Education and Training courses offered in many HSC courses, participants must complete prerequisite training in order to graduate.

"Council understands that not all students want to go to university after school and we're also aware of how competitive the youth employment market is," Ms Sutton said. "This program has been designed to give young students the opportunity to develop their skills and give them the confidence to start a career - right here - at home in the Highlands."



From left to right Bronwyn Sutton, Benjamin Coulter, Mayor Juliet Arkwright, Jacob Radovic, Melanie Fitzgerald, Moss Vale High Principal Peter McBeth, Ian Baguley, Tracey Hughes and Jason Gordon

Students undertaking the program will work part-time with Council throughout the duration of their final studies and once graduated from high school, will complete the remainder of their job training as a full-time apprentice or trainee.

Council is hopeful that under the program, younger employees under the age of 21 will make up at least five percent of its total workforce by the end of 2014.

"Through this partnership we're well on target to meet our objectives," Ms Sutton said.

"It may only be a small step, but we're confident that through partnerships like this, more school leavers will decide to stay, work and live right here in the Southern Highlands."

Article courtesy 'Wingecarribee Today' newsletter

Book now for Disney's "The Little Mermaid"

To be performed at the Mittagong Playhouse
from January 17 to January 26.

Book a family pass (2 adults,
2 children) and each child will receive
a special gift of a little mermaid watch!

For an extra special Little Mermaid
experience and a chance to meet your
favourite characters, book a seat for
the *UNDER THE SEA TEA*, limited
spaces, matinee performances only
19 January and 25 January.

For bookings, contact Denise on 0423 985945, or
John on 0416 935731

Great idea for a Christmas gift

Take a walk through Bethlehem....

right here in Mittagong.

An interactive Christmas experience for all.

Friday, 20 December & Saturday, 21 December,

4pm-7pm

(Please leave at least 30 minutes to walk through)

Free Entry and refreshments.

Step back in time into a recreation of 1st Century
Bethlehem, at the time of Jesus' birth. Come spot the
shepherds, wander with the wise men, glance at the
goats, call on the craftspeople, move through the
marketplace and see the stable with
Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus!

At St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Main Street, Mittagong

More information: visit www.mittang.com.au, email

bethlehem@mittang.com.au or call 02 4871 1947

‘History Mysteries’ - Elective History Year 9 and 10

Local History Excursion

“Haunted Berrima”

The last big activity for our keen “History Mysteries” Elective History students was a “Haunted Berrima” evening excursion. Mr Barros took our Year 9 and 10 students on a guided night time tour of the haunted and gruesome local history of one of our heritage villages. Congratulations to Mr Barros on providing students with a very different and engaging History experience!

Some student feedback follows :

Mr Barros took our class on an excursion to visit the haunted areas within Berrima. For the first half of the excursion, our tour guide led our group through the old Berrima gaol. We were taken through the old courtroom and around to the old holding areas.

Afterwards we wandered through the town looking at all the other haunted buildings in the area. The creepiest part of this was when we walked up to one building and looked into the gardens next door. We saw two eyes and something moved around within. It was really fun and it completely changed my view on all things supernatural.

By **Blake Dankworth**



During the term we had a night time ghost tour of Berrima. We went to the court house and we went in and it was really dark. We visited the court house and then we went to the gaol and we had a look through a hole to see inside. We took some pictures of things and we were talking about people that died in there. Then we went for a walk to the Surveyor General Hotel and sat down and talked about the history of the hotel. We went to the bakery and the tour guide told us about a kid who haunted there and she told us she liked her.

Then we visited an old house and the guide told us what happened there and we took more pictures then we thought we saw spirits. When we took a picture, Shania saw something move and she was talking about it.

We went past a hotel where someone died, then we walked past a truck and sir said not to touch it, but as we walked past the driver scared all of us.

By **Bonnie Johnson**

During the term we were dropped off at Berrima for a night time ghost tour. First we went inside the courthouse where the first woman in NSW was hanged. That took nearly an hour. Next we went past the place with the rose bushes and we had a talk then went to the Bakery. We then went down the road to the old school house where Mr Barros took a photo which had lots of orbs in it but in the next photos the orbs were almost all gone. Some people were pretty freaked out about the whole thing.

Then we went home, I travelled back with Mr Barros and got Maccas. Overall it was pretty much fun and I had a very good time.

By **Phillip Daves**



Dedicated to the amazing staff and students of Moss Vale High School, past, present and future.

A poem by retiring English teacher, Mrs Mary Mackay

Tread Softly

It was a chilly gusty morning
 We decided to ascend the trail to Gibbergunyah.

 The wind pushed us and we fled
 Our bodies angled strenuously
 Up the ancient echidna-paths
 Through eucalypt and woody pears
 The track spiky
 Beneath our joggers.

 We are the new people
 Our backs turning from the harsh colours of the past.

 The track played to a rest area
 Near the secret place
 Evoked by words from our guide
 Moyengully
 With possum-cloak leader of his people.
 We heard the voice of Auntie Eleanor echo in the wind.

Following the narrow path tasting sweet leaves
 We came to the lookout.
 A tableau of modern settlement
 Below us.
 Ahead, we see Katoomba.

 We sat on rocks and gazed
 Eucalypt leaves and ferns
 In bunches in our hands.

 We are the new people
 In tune with the sweet taste of the present.

 We gathered at the rock
 Gibbergunyah Home!
 Lost to the outside world
 The wind now a murmur
 Of journeys ended.

 We are the new people
 In tune with the soft notes of the future.



By Mary McKay



2011 NEW SOUTH WALES FINALIST




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**Whoops !!
 What happened to
 the rest of Santa ??**



*** Advertisement ***

Farewell to Moss Vale High School

This is my last year at the high school and I want to take this opportunity to thank the students, parents, colleagues and all members of the Moss Vale High School Community for making the last stage of my teaching career in NSW Public Schools a wonderful experience. I am 'retiring' from full time teaching at the end of this year and I have had a fantastic year. Thanks to the wonderful people of the Moss Vale area and everyone at MVHS, I leave 'on a high' with fond memories of my time here.

I started teaching at Bowral High School in 1975, leaving the Highlands a few years later and teaching in schools around the Sydney and Illawarra area over the next three decades or so, until I was finally able to return to the area in 2003, with my appointment as Head Teacher English at Moss Vale High School. I always wanted to return to the Highlands because I had so much enjoyed living here at the beginning of my teaching career with NSW Public Schools. I succeeded Vaughan Evans, who was a mentoring colleague in my first years teaching at Bowral, and I felt honoured to do so, and personally pleased with a sense of continuity.

The area has changed in those thirty odd years, but, fortunately, it still retains the rural aspect which I so much enjoy. I reckon that if I can't see a cow on a paddock within a ten minute drive from home that it's not a place I want to be living. MVHS has always had the reputation as a great school at which to be teaching, and this is because of the community from which we draw students. We, as teachers, are fortunate to have the students from this area. I think, too, that the students and parents are fortunate to have Moss Vale High School and its teachers.

So thank you, Moss Vale and Mossy High School for enriching my life. I hope that I've been able to give to you a modicum of what I have gained from living and working here. I do believe that teaching is the best profession because of the privilege of teaching and learning with young people at the most exciting, dynamic and optimistic time of their lives. I may not always remember your names but I do not forget the gift and the pleasure of sharing some of the miracle of life's experiences with you. Keep the faith! And remain true to yourself.

As Always,

Anthony Parro BA MA MEd



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Students Making A Difference

Jackson Chesterfield,
Nicholas Dennett,
Rhyanna Summers,
Luke Webb,
Hannah Whatman,
Rhiannon Young

**Viva
Moss
Vegas
helpers**

The Highlands Pipes and Drums

We are currently seeking new members to join our steadily growing ranks of Pipers and Drummers so if you have ever wanted to learn Piping or Drumming come along and join us - everything you need to get started can be supplied.

We practice at
The Highlands School hall, Renwick, Bong Bong Rd, Mittagong, every Thursday 7-9pm,

or if you prefer you can also contact us directly to arrange private tuition (free to band members).

Call Chris Tabram – Piping Tutor & Pipe Major -
 0402 343 046 re Piping or
 Call Karen Webb Drum & Pipe Sergeant -
 0403 562 327 re Drumming.

Age is no barrier - we take students from 8yrs to 80yrs!

If you have ever wanted to give it a go or you know someone who does, then give us a call and we will be only too happy to talk piping and drumming!



Winners of the Faculty Christmas Decorating competition



First : Special Education (left and below)

Second : CAPA (top right)

Third : TAS (right)

SRE 2013

We are finishing the year in Scripture by creating traditional Christmas Nativity Scenes and have also been contrasting the historical evidence of what life was like in the 1st Century Middle East compared to the traditional Christmas stories.

Students discuss the family traditions they have and what the season means to us personally, culturally and in our community. Students are encouraged to go beyond what they are told and to seek truth.

~ Donna Jensen
SRE Teacher



Activity Week 2013 Information for parents relating to water activities.

As you know, Activity Week takes place this year between 16 and 18 December. There are many activities that involve swimming or water related participation.

DEC guidelines, however, require students to pass a Water Challenge test before participating in water activities. This test will be held at the new Moss Vale pool on 10 December. It requires students to complete the following.

- **Entry** – Slide in entry into shallow water and walk five metres.
(Please note: This is the minimum benchmark for yellow wrist banded students).
- **Survival Swimming** – 25m swim with recognisable strokes.
- **Survival Sequence** – Scull, float or tread water for 1 minute, call out for help once.
- **Exit** – Exit the water unassisted.
- **Rescue Sequence** – Demonstrate a simple voice rescue.

Following completion of 'The Challenge' all students will be classified as either proficient swimmers or non-proficient swimmers. Proficient swimmers will be issued with a blue wrist band and will be deemed safe to participate in the aquatic activity. Non-proficient students will be issued with a yellow wrist band and can participate in shallow water activities.

Students must wear these bands for the duration of the water activity.
Please note, this applies to all school excursions

Work Opportunities for Women

Are you looking to re-enter the workforce?

Are you looking for new employment and training opportunities?



The Certificate II in Skills for Work and Training for Women is a fee exempt course that is proposed to be delivered at TAFE NSW – Illawarra Institute, Moss Vale Campus in Semester 1, 2014.

Some of the subjects included in the course are:

- The Changing role of Women
- Computing
- Conflict Resolution
- Negotiation
- Personal Effectiveness
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills, and
- Job Seeking Skills.

The course will run on Thursdays and Fridays during school hours for one semester and will commence on Thursday 6 February 2014.

TAFE Illawarra, Moss Vale Campus will be holding a Choices Day, Thursday 7 November 2013 3:00pm – 6:00pm. The session will provide information relating to courses and services, as well as the online enrolment process.

For further information please contact Fran Beck, Outreach Coordinator on 4823 1913 or Ann Chandler on 4868 0133.



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BERRIMA VILLAGE CARPATHON 2014

14th – 16th February 2014

The 6th annual Berrima Village Carpathon this year will be focusing on schools, with team competitions trophies and prizes especially for school children.

This year Berrima Public School will host campers, have food stalls, as well as hosting presentations and daily weigh-ins throughout the long weekend.

Entry for children will be \$10.00 for the weekend

(This maybe free as "Mcdonalds" is looking at sponsoring the first 200 children)

Entry forms will be available from Andrew Hearn Real Estate, 13 Old Hume Highway Berrima, in the new year.

More information will be available in the next couple of weeks.

Why not make this a great inter school sports activity for the New Year

For more information please phone Andrew Hearn on

48772771 or 0412 648847

Student Creative Writing ...

You and Me, We're Between Black

Ivy could feel the uncomfortable squirm again, the one that had somehow nestled deep within her gut; somewhere where she couldn't get rid of it, no matter how much she tried. She never used to have that twitch, that instinct to hide away rather than face him, it always was the opposite. The old times consisted of the flutters in her stomach and the warmth in her cheeks and the brilliant aching pain from having a smile grace her face for hours on end. The old time flutters would grow when he picked her up and spun her around, when he would tickle her with reckless abandon and when she caught him staring at her like she was the most precious thing in his entire world. Those flips made her flush and made her smile.

She hadn't smiled properly in eight months.

All that was between them now was an air of fragility, like they had become something that would crumble to pieces at the slightest crack even if they had once been something that was strong enough to break through anything. It was all fading away, only to leave Ivy with a whisper of a kiss on her lips and ghost touches across her skin. She wanted more than anything to not become a ghost to him.

She could see that he felt it too, that he felt the bone deep *ache* that followed when they sat silently at opposite ends of the room, both wanting to reach out but too scared to act. She knew because she could see it in his eyes, in the eyes that had become her home and her life and everything that she had to offer. His eyes would snap out of their dull lifelessness at a time when she would lose all hope, and he would look at her with such desperate longing that it made her sick and unstable all over. He looked at her like she was something that he was losing and he was powerless to stop it.

She didn't want to lose him, and she knew he didn't want to lose her but she didn't know how to fight any longer. She didn't even know if she *wanted* to fight any more.

She'd sometimes wonder, you know, late at night when all those fears and doubts come scraping along the edges of thought trying to find a crack to get in, when this all started unravelling right before her eyes. She'd wonder how it came to be that the boy she loved with everything and a little bit more was starting to fade from her, like a ship being swallowed by an eerie white fog, muffling all her senses so she couldn't react.

She could still picture his face in the time before, when his cheeks would flush and his eyes would sparkle and she couldn't stop the happy sigh that escaped her chest. He was so utterly beautiful, inside and out and she was swept up by his irresistible magnetism and, like a supernova, he burned her out and had left her flickering.

It wasn't his fault though. No, this was on both their heads.

She sighed softly and let her eyes drag around the room, taking in the ugly colour of the walls and the termite ridden closet standing opposite the bed. She felt the corners of her lips quirk up softly before rising from her cross-legged position on the wooden floor and gently opening the creaking doors.

What she spotted at the bottom of the closet forced a surprised gasp from her lips. It was old, probably nearing five years now, and had accumulated a heavy coating of dust from the unused space. The silvery plastic casing was splotched and no longer imitating a shiny metal while the screen was black and unreflective. She shakily reached into the dark and closed her fingers around the small stereo before pulling it out and plugging it in.

She couldn't help the wobbly mutters of 'please, please, please' that echoed loudly around the room as she flicked the switch and prayed for the screen to light up blue. She crammed her eyes shut and ignored the heavy feeling that grew at the continued silence that was dragging the sudden feeling of hope back into the mess of her heart.

Please.

Please.

Please.

She couldn't swallow around the lump in her throat as she tried and tried and tried to force the sting behind her eyes to go away because it *was not helping* and not even the stereo they bought together was working and they couldn't last much longer and they were ending and she *couldn't do a thing*.

One, two, three, four.

The soft whisper crackled from the speakers and she felt her heart stop, jump and fall all at the same time as the intricate guitar riff followed the singer's voice. She blinked open her eyes to stare unbelievably at the stereo, innocently playing the song that started it all, the song that was all of their firsts combined.

Settle down with me.

Cover me up,

Cuddle me in.

"Oh," she exhaled, leaning against the closet and closing her eyes against the memories on the wall and letting the music flow through her ears.

Lie down with me,

And hold me,

In your arms.

The song used to remind her of them, of whom they were before and now all it did was make her hurt. All it told her was how much they were missing each other, how much they needed to get better and how much they couldn't if they tried. They were falling, they were being pulled apart and they were kicking and screaming to get back but you can only scream so long before your voice is hoarse and broken. Ivy didn't want to be broken, but what other choice is there?

And this feeling I forget,

I'm in love now.

The tears were spilling from her eyes as she hummed along to the song, ignoring the twinge in her chest.

Kiss me like you wanna be loved.

You wanna be loved,

You wanna be loved.

She could feel the hurt in her chest like a knife slicing through her ribs.

This feels like falling in love.

Falling in love,

Falling in love.

Falling in love hurt in all the best ways, but falling out of love would tear her apart.

Kiara Martin, Year 10



Arthur St, Mittagong Ph 4872 1198
Driving Instructor's Licence No 005758



Southern Highlands 1999



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Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership: Reading and Comprehension **"Kick off with Reading"**



A special delivery was received earlier this term for an exciting and significant element of our Improving Literacy National Partnership. This will take place during the first weeks of Term 1 2014. We would like to thank Marie and Tony Fitzpatrick from The Bookshop Bowral for their support of our program. They were extremely positive about our initiative and helped us source a book that will be used by all students in the new year.

All parents will be invited to attend an information evening about "Kick off with Reading" and our Sensational Seven Comprehension Strategies on Monday, 3 February. Please mark this date in your diaries and look for further details in week one next year.

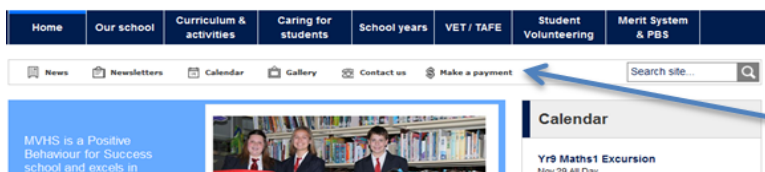
The ILNPP team, Mrs J Janeen Pepping and Mrs Adelle Morris, wish all students and their families a wonderful Christmas and look forward to continuing our adventures into reading in 2014.

Pay all your student fees, excursions and other costs the safe and secure way through Parent Online Payments

Moss Vale High School
Celebrating 50 years - 1963 to 2013

21 Narellan Rd Moss Vale
Phone: 02 4868 1717

From our school website
www.mossvale-h.schools.nsw.edu.au



Click on **\$ Make a Payment**

Follow the prompts and pay with your credit or debit Visa or Mastercard

Don't forget to return any signed permission notes to the front office

CAREERS

The school year is nearly over and it has certainly been a busy and fruitful second semester.

Year 10

The Year 10 students completed a very successful work experience program at the end of term 2 and the reports from employers were all excellent. I must say that I am very impressed by the application, attitude and dedication that our students show when they are on work experience. By now all students should have completed the Student Pathway Survey, which helps them clarify their future career path. They should also have developed their Resume and have it stored either on their laptop or on a USB, please ask to see it and add any details that your young person may have omitted.

Year 12

Our Year 12's have completed their HSC and now await the outcome. These results will be released on Wednesday, 18 December with those seeking an ATAR being notified of their scores on Thursday, 19 and Friday, 20 December. For those who made application for University places through UAC, the main round offers will be released on Thursday, 16 January. Quite a number of our students have already received early entry offers to UOW and University of Canberra, congratulations to these students. TAFE applications have opened and anyone who is interested in a course at TAFE should log onto the TAFE NSW or TAFE Illawarra web site. Two of our current yr 12 students, Sophie Abrahams and Amelia Rothwell have also been successful in gaining entry and scholarships to commence a first year university course during the 2013/14 summer holidays. This course will be studied at UOW Moss Vale campus and on completion will be credited towards the first year of their Bachelor of Arts degree at that university in 2015. Congratulations to both these students.

SBAT's

We have had some exciting developments in regards to the School Based Apprenticeship and Trainee Scheme (SBATs) in this semester, with the Wingecarribee Shire Council placing two apprentices, **Ben Coulter** (Automotive) and **Jacob Radovic** (Plumbing) and one trainee, **Melanie Fitzgerald** (Business Services). They have also conducted initial interviews and are planning to appoint another apprentice (Horticulture) and trainee (Water Services) in the new year. Further, in the last week we have placed two Community Pharmacy trainees with Moss Vale Community Pharmacy. The students who were signed to these traineeships were **Nadia Shaw** and **Nicholas Stanmore**. Congratulations to all of these students. We are also in the process of recruiting another student as a Financial Services trainee with the Commonwealth Bank. We would like to thank all of these employers for giving our students the opportunity to gain the valuable experience, expertise and qualifications that will come with these positions.

Next Year

In 2014 the school will be endeavouring to increase the number of SBATs that are available to our students. We have begun the process of identifying interested students and their areas of interest. This process will continue early in first term next year. With this scheme, students are signed up with an employer to do either an apprenticeship or traineeship, whilst completing their HSC.

Apprentices are contracted for four years and complete the first year of their apprenticeship (Certificate III or IV) by the end of Year 12. They then complete the rest of the apprenticeship after leaving school. For traineeships the students complete a Certificate II or III by the end of Year 12.

With both apprenticeships and traineeships, the student completes one day per week paid employment with the employer for a minimum of 100 days over Year 11 and 12 and also completes a theory component either at TAFE or school, depending on the course of study. These studies also count towards the HSC and may count towards an ATAR. To establish an SBAT the students need to find an employer who is prepared to employ them as a trainee or apprentice. Some of the employment areas covered by School Based Apprenticeships include: Automotive, Baking, Beauty Therapy, Cabinet Making, Construction, Cookery, Electrotechnology, Engineering (Electrical and Mechanical), Greenkeeping, Hairdressing, Horticulture, Jewellery Making Plumbing and Shopfitting. For Traineeships they include: Aged Care, Automotive, Baking, Beauty, Construction, Electrotechnology, Financial Services, Health Services, Hospitality, Horticulture, Metals and Engineering, Property Services (Real Estate) Sport and Recreation and Transport and Logistics. There are a number of financial incentives available for employers to assist in taking on SBATS.

Transition to Work Program

Another initiative which Moss Vale High School will once again implement for some students in Year 11 in 2014 is the Transition to Work Program. This follows an alternative curriculum and is aimed at developing skills which will assist these students in getting into the work force. Students in this program will, as part of their course, complete one day per week work experience in a chosen field based upon one or both of the Vocational Employment (VET) courses they are studying. These include: Hospitality, Construction, Automotive and Metals and Engineering. This program will also lead to the award of a HSC.

To enable these programs to run next year we will need to secure employers who are prepared to participate. If there are any parents or relatives who are also employers, have connections to employers or know of employers who may be interested in participating in either of these initiatives, we would love to hear from you. Please ring the school on 4868 1717 and ask for Ian Baguley in the Careers office. Have a Merry Christmas and a safe holiday.

Ian Baguley
Careers Adviser

Student work ...

Chasing Freedom Part 3



... .. The very next weekend my father and I came down to see and ride Chase. As I got out of the car I shut the door behind me and walked over to the boot. I took all of Chase's tack out and put it onto the ground near the fence. Then I picked up his halter, opened the paddock gate and walked off to try and find Chase.

By the time I reached the back of the paddock, I saw a glimpse of Chase's tail. As I walked round to catch him, I called his name: "Chase!" He looked and started to walk towards me. When he was close enough I patted his head softly and put his halter on. I then led him down to where his tack was and tied him up to the fence. Once I had groomed him and saddled him up, I walked him over to the mounting block. I stepped up onto it and got onto his back. Then I nudged his stomach and told him to walk on.

We walked up the big hill in the paddock to the water trough so he could have a drink. I then took him down to the flat part of the paddock so we could trot. As we were trotting down the paddock Chase seemed to be in a happy mood, so I told him to canter, and he did. It was a wonderful feeling cantering down the path with the wind in my face and a comfortable saddle underneath me. Whilst riding along, Chase's mane was flapping in the wind and his nostrils were flaring with excitement. He wanted to go faster but I told him to slow down, as he was speeding up a little too much. Once he slowed down into a trot, I slowed him down even more until he came to a walk.

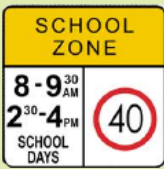
Chase and I slowly walked back to where I saddled him up, and then I stepped off slowly and started to undo his girth. As I did so, I could see where he had been sweating from being worked so much. I took off his saddle gently and placed it on the gate. Whilst I was at it, I took his bridle off and put his halter back on. I then pulled out the brushes from his bag and started to brush him over, before putting his rugs on. Once I had finished everything, I gave him his tucker and started to put the tack back into the car.

Half an hour later Chase had finished eating, and Dad and I were ready to go home. I said my goodbyes to Chase and gave him a pat and a kiss on the nose. I walked back over to the car and hopped into my seat. Dad then started the car and we drove home.

On the way home all I could think about was Chase and what a wonderful day we'd had. But I realised something, and that was... When I rode Chase it made me feel free and all of a sudden everything that was horrible in this world disappeared. It seemed as if we were in our own little world, and that no one could break the bubble that we were inside of. It was a weird but wonderful feeling... but as we were cantering down that trail it was as if we were chasing something; it was as if we were chasing our freedom.

By Tyla Astley Year 10

School Zone Safety, it's about time



Speeding contributes to more deaths and injuries on Wingecarribee roads than any other driver behaviour.

Speeding was a factor in 34% of all road crashes in Wingecarribee during 2011.
The NSW average was 18%.

54 people were injured or killed in these speed related crashes.

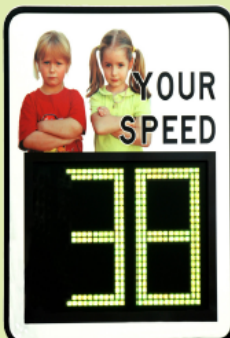
SLOW DOWN
Help reduce the road toll.

Exceed the speed limit in a school zone, \$521 minimum fine. Plus 4 demerit points.

Use a mobile phone in a school zone, \$397 fine. Plus 4 demerit points.

✗
✗

Help keep children safe in local school zones.
Drive 40km/h on gazetted school days between 8.00 - 9.30 am and 2.30 - 4.00pm.



Four ticks towards safer school zones YOU CHOOSE.....


1. Am I driving in a school zone?
2. Is it school zone time?
3. Have I checked my speed?
4. Am I driving 40km/h or under?

A big thank you for keeping school zones safe


SPEED BUSTERS - In a school zone near you.

Variable speed signs will be temporarily installed in local school zones. The signs advise motorists of the speed they are travelling, helping to highlight school speed zone times and improve driver behaviour.

An initiative of Wingecarribee Shire Council's Road Safety Officer supported by Roads and Maritime Services



Wingecarribee Shire Council working with you, for safer school zones
For more information. Call Council's Road Safety Officer on 02 48680809



You choose. You learn.

Are you interested in a career in floristry?

Then enrol in a Certificate II in Skills for Work and Training in Semester 1 2014



If you love working with fresh flowers to create designs to take home for all to admire then enrol in an introductory course in floristry. You will learn to construct arrangements, using a variety of styling techniques, and gain skills to enable you to work in the industry.

You may also have the option to articulate into a Certificate III in Floristry.

When: Semester 1, 2014
Where: Moss Vale Campus
Attendance: Mondays 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Cost: A weekly cost for fresh flowers will apply

TAFE Illawarra, Moss Vale Campus will be holding a Choices Day, Thursday 7 November 2013 3:00pm – 6:00pm. The session will provide information relating to courses and services, as well as the online enrolment process.

Contact: Fran Beck, Outreach Coordinator, Goulburn Campus on 4823 1913 or Di Heffernan on 4261 3744.



C:\Users\echandler\BAppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\F5XEVTA\Flower Arranging MV 2014 Sem 1.docx 24-06-13



BOWRAL SWIM CLUB

Bowral Swimming Centre
Bong Bong Street Bowral
bowralswimclub@gmail.com
PH: 0418 326 442

Bowral Swimming Centre opens for the 2013/2014 season
on
Saturday 2nd November

Swim Club Squads begin on Monday 4th November
 Group stroke correction & endurance training
 Race and school carnival training
 Accredited coaches

Junior Squad - must be able to swim 25m and have an understanding of all 4 strokes
 Mon - Wed - Thurs - 5pm to 6pm

Intermediate Squad - must be able to swim 50m and be able to do all 4 strokes
 Mon - Thurs - Fri 6am to 7.15am
 Mon - Wed - Thurs 5pm to 6.15pm

Senior Squad - must be good swimmers as they will be swimming laps in 50m pool
 Mon - Thurs - Fri - 6am to 7.15am
 Mon - Wed - Thurs 5pm to 6.15pm

Learn to Swim also available on Monday afternoons

Please email the Club for application forms

Student Access to Computer Devices 2014

As many of you may be aware the DEC funding for the Digital Education Revolution (DER) laptop rollout finished in 2013. Students will no longer receive a laptop when they start Year 9 from 2014.

In response to the completion of this program many state schools have begun the implementation of a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. Students supply and maintain their own computer devices to assist with learning. Moss Vale High School is currently planning for the implementation of this program in the near future but have not yet finalised the documentation and recommendations for software that are essential for the program.

Students and parents who wish to purchase a device before the implementation of this program are given the following guidelines to get them started. Please note that the school has not formalised a policy for this program at this time and will require students to sign a policy document regarding the use of personal devices, to ensure responsible use of these devices in the school environment.

At this time we can provide the following advice regarding the type of device that could be purchased:

1. The DEC wireless standards installed at **Moss Vale High operates on the 802.11n 5GHz standard.** Devices with 802.11a/b/g or 802.11n 2.4GHz only, will **NOT be able to connect**
2. Battery life is recommended to be capable of lasting five (5) hours minimum of constant use.
3. **Device Hardware specifications** should, at the very least, meet the minimum specifications of the software and operating system that is intended to be used.
4. Smartphones, I-Pods or other handheld/palmtop size devices will not be acceptable in a classroom. Devices which connect to the Internet using a 3G or 4G connection will not be acceptable, students must connect to the Internet through the DEC wireless ports if using an electronic device in a learning environment.

Main requirement is a 5Ghz 802.11n wireless card. This is recommended as 3G / 4G connection would prove expensive and is not acceptable

IMPORTANT

According to the draft BYOD guidelines, the **DET will NOT be providing any hardware or software support.** It is therefore important to choose a device that the individual is familiar with and / or there is some support / warranty if needed.

L

HIGHLANDS

Drive Safe

P

- *Automatic and manual cars
- *Qualified, patient and caring instructors
- *ADTA members, RTA accredited
- *Air conditioned dual control vehicles
- *Pick up and return, Gift vouchers available
- *Test preparation and assessment
- *Child protection trained & Police checked
- *Refresher course for aged drivers



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*** Advertisement ***

Indoor Hockey State Champions



Division 3 winners at Penrith stadium, which involved several teams from all around NSW. Our Highlands team included three Year 8 girls from Moss Vale High School, as well as Year 11 referee, Maddison Airey.

Our Highlands team also went through the entire tournament undefeated and won the final 3-0 against Nepean Hockey team.

Well done, girls!!

Adelaide Mills, Tahlia Hill and Tamara Wilson
with their Gold Medals

This year we are saying farewell to ...

David Barros has been at Moss Vale High School from 2001 to 2013.

In his time at the school he :

- has coached both the Senior and Junior boys' basketball teams every year
- was a Year Adviser in 2004 and 2005
- coached the boys' Volleyball teams
- was the SRC staff representative from 2001 to 2003
- was Acting Head Teacher Administration and HSIE
- is the reigning champion in the annual cereal eating competition

Dave moves to Eden Marine High School in 2014. We will miss him at Moss Vale High School but wish him all the best, and hope the surf is up!



Bill Zsigmond

After ten enjoyable years at Moss Vale High School, I feel that a change is needed. I am departing with a vast number of memories and experiences that the school has given me, and from which I have learnt so much. I have always tried to give my best to each and every student in my classes, and hope that their passion for Science, Physics and African Drumming continues on forever. Moss Vale High School is my favourite and preferred school because of its students, culture, spirit and supportive staff. I leave with a great deal of sadness in my heart and will miss Moss Vale High School. BZ



Kerri Wilson

Thank you to all staff at Moss Vale High School for the wonderful support and friendship shown to me over the last eight years. As the cleaner of A Block, Library and Administration. I have formed several bonds with the teachers and SAS staff. I have enjoyed the job tremendously and will miss you all. For the teaching staff who are leaving, I wish you all the very best. KW



Year 11 Construction

Over the past few days, Year 11 Construction students **Jacob Linger, Jarrod Spajic, Patrick Wilson, Brock Howarth, Roddy Acton** and **Nicholas Gardiner** have been undertaking an intensive brick laying program run by Australian Brick and Block Laying Training Foundation under the instruction of local bricklayer, Sheree Canham from Dolly Bird Bricks. The students have constructed a low retaining wall at the rear of the construction shed to create an outdoor learning area, while at the same time gaining new skills and knowledge in site setup, mixing of mud, laying a bed and the laying of bricks straight and level.



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 : _____

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?

OFFICE USE ONLY	
CHANGED ON	
ERN	
EMERGENCY CARD REPRINTED	
BUS Co NOTIFIED	
RECEIVED NEW BUS FORM	

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.*

Moss Vale High School

Uniform Shop Special Opening Hours

December 2013 – January 2014



DECEMBER 2013

TUESDAY	3 rd . December	8.30am – 11.30am
WEDNESDAY	4 th . December (Orientation Day)	8.30am – 2.30pm
THURSDAY	5 th . December	1.00pm – 4.00pm
TUESDAY	10 th . December	8.30am – 11.30am
THURSDAY	12 th . December	1.00pm – 4.00pm
TUESDAY	17 th . December	8.30am – 11.30am

JANUARY 2014

TUESDAY	21 st . January	8.30am – 2.30pm
THURSDAY	23 rd . January	8.30am – 2.30pm
FRIDAY	24 th . January	8.30am – 2.30pm
TUESDAY	28 th . January	8.30am – 2.30pm
WEDNESDAY	29 th . January	8.30am – 2.30pm
THURSDAY	30 st . January	1.00pm – 4.00pm

THEN EVERY TUESDAY: 8.30am – 11.30am
THURSDAY: 1.00pm – 4.00pm
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Moss Vale High School UNIFORM SHOP
Tax Invoice

NAME: _____ YEAR: _____ DATE: _____ REC# _____

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>TOTAL INCL GST</u>
Girls				
Tartan Skirt	49.50			
Mid Blue Blouse	29.00			
Stretch Navy Slacks	39.00			
Boys				
Elastic waist shorts	32.00			
Elastic waist trousers	35.00			
Mid Blue Shirt	28.00			
Tie	20.00			
Unisex				
Wool Jumper	72.00			
Fleecy Jacket	41.00			
Sports				
Sports Jacket	59.00			
Sport Shorts	25.00			
Trackpants	38.00			
Sport Polo	33.00			

- CASH
- CREDIT CARD

TO PAY: \$ _____
 PER.....