



# Moss Vale High School

Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners

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**May 2022**

**Thursday 12 May 2022**

Visit from our Executive Director, Ms Kathy Powzun and  
Director of Education, Ms Vicki Stokes



*Above : Ms Helen Campbell, Mr Matthew Carlyon, Ms Vicki Stokes,  
Belinda Lawrence, Jeremy Millward, Lauren Jones, Jake Davies, Amy Darch,  
Ms Kathy Powzun and Mrs Patricia Holmes*

**Activity Week Selection Date :**

***Wednesday 1 June 2022***

*Please refer to our school emails and CANVAS for  
information or see page 15 of this newsletter*

Moss Vale High School website : [mossvale-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://mossvale-h.schools.nsw.gov.au)

**NEWSLETTER**



### **Mrs Letitia Summers**

Mrs Letitia Summers has officially relinquished her role as Deputy Principal but will continue teaching in our HSIE faculty for at least the remainder of the year. I would like to thank Mrs Summers on behalf of our school community, for all the outstanding work she did as Deputy Principal in supporting our staff and the learning and well-being of our students. Mrs Summers was instrumental in developing the Higher Order Ways of Learning to Moss Vale High School, and it is now a highly utilised program in all aspects of teaching and learning.

We now begin the merit selection process for the new Deputy Principal. This is a rigorous process which we hope will be finalised by early next term. I would also like to thank Ms Helen Campbell who has been doing an outstanding job relieving in the position since term three last year.

### **Executive Director Visit**

Our Executive Director for School Performance Regional South, Mrs Kathy Powzun, visited our school on Thursday 12 May 2022. Mrs Powzun was accompanied by our Director Educational Leadership, Mrs Vicki Stokes. Mrs Powzun and Mrs Stokes spent a great deal of time talking with our School Captains, Amy Darch, Jake Davies, Lauren Jones, Belinda Lawrence and Jeremy Millward. Our captains spoke eloquently about their school community, their pride in being captains and the social justice issues which they have promoted within the school. Mrs Powzun and Mrs Stokes were also treated to a brilliant performance by our vocal ensemble who sang 'Fly Away' by Tones and I. They also managed to make a visit to several classrooms and were highly impressed by all the students with whom they came in contact. I would personally like to thank Mrs Powzun for taking the time out of her busy schedule to visit our school and for engaging with our students with genuine interest. (*view photograph on front cover*)



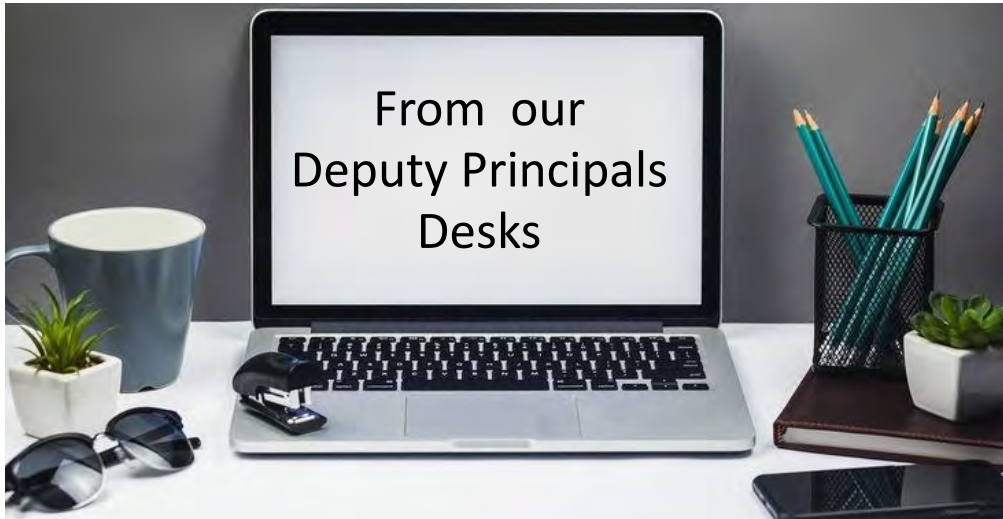
*Thankyou to our SRC students who greeted our guests : Anglique Cooksley, Asher Jansen, Emmerson Rochaix and Charlotte Withers last Thursday.*

### **School Captains 2022-2023**

The year is flying by as usual, and we have come to that time where we begin the process to select our new School Captains starting from Term Four 2022 through to Term Three 2023. The Year 11 students who are interested will complete a written application, including written support from their class teachers, participate in a panel interview and present a speech to a whole school assembly. We have had a record number of Year 11 students collect an application form for this important leadership role within our school community. I wish all the student nominees well and I look forward to seeing them progress through the selection process.

### **Term Two**

Term Two is well underway with so much happening in academia, debating, Creative and Performing Arts, Aboriginal Education, and the sporting arena. We have had a highly successful Athletics Carnival, students achieving great success in the classroom, on stage and on the sporting field. It's wonderful that we will be able to have our CAPA concert this week after having to postpone last term due to severe weather conditions. It will also be great to hold our Parent-Teacher evening on Tuesday 28 June, after having limited face-to-face time with parents over the past two years with Covid restrictions. Ms Youman and Ms Campbell will be sending out information soon about scheduling interviews with your child's teachers.



Term 2 provides the opportunity for teachers and students to focus on assessment, reporting and reflection of the learning that has taken place in Semester One. This is an essential part of the education process as it provides the data necessary for planning quality teaching and learning experiences that will best support the needs of all students.

We encourage all students to approach assessment and learning with the goal of achieving to their best ability and striving to exceed previous goals or achievements. Seeking feedback and assistance from teachers is an integral part of the process and we encourage all students to talk to or message teachers if they need support or advice when completing assessments, to ensure they achieve their best possible outcome.

Academic reports will be issued towards the end of Term 2, providing the opportunity to review how students are progressing with their learning. This will be followed by a teacher and parent/carer interview session in the last week of the term. Parents/carers are encouraged to monitor email notifications for information about this event and how to book interview sessions. This information will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Semester One has provided many opportunities for students to participate in excursions and extra-curricula activities that we have been unable to offer over the past few years. Organising excursions and extra-curricula activities requires significant time and effort from teachers and administrative staff. Parents, carers and students are reminded to regularly check email notifications to ensure they know when events are occurring and closing dates for permission and payments. The school will no longer process payments for excursions or activities beyond the published closing date and time. Processing late payments places a significant and unnecessary burden on administrative staff and event organisers.

Since returning from the last school holidays, there has been a growing number of issues involving social media. This has been most significant with students in year 7 and 8. It has come to a point where we are now reporting student's inappropriate, irresponsible and illegal social media activity to the esafety commission. In a lot of these cases, students are up all night and in to the early hours of the morning on weekdays and weekends. Monitoring your child's technology use, including social media, is important to their health and wellbeing. If you need to report any inappropriate social media concerns please use this website <https://www.esafety.gov.au/report-online-harm/summary-table-what-you-can-report-and-how>

As the cold starts to set in, it is a timely reminder to check that students have warm winter uniform ready. It is important to note that only MVHS items of clothing should be worn under winter jackets for extra warmth. Other style jumpers/hoodies, blue or any other colour, are NOT to be worn as they are not a part of the uniform. The MVHS wool jumper or the cotton zip jacket are the options for students to wear under their winter jackets.

In good news, Activity Week is back in 2022 and students will be selecting their choices very soon. This is very exciting news as our year 7/8/9 students have never the opportunity to this due to the COVID pandemic. Please read through the Activity Week booklet with your child and discuss the varying options available. There are many activities in a variety of price ranges so that everyone can be involved in this long running MVHS tradition.

*Mr Carylton & Ms Campbell  
Deputy Principals*

At the end of last term roll call groups worked on a PBS lesson looking at Eddie Jaku's "The Happiest Man on Earth" purchased for students by our generous P&C for the Kick of With Reading Program. We looked at the importance of kindness and how we can add more acts of kindness to our own lives. Students then made bunting for the A block corridor using quotes from the memoir.

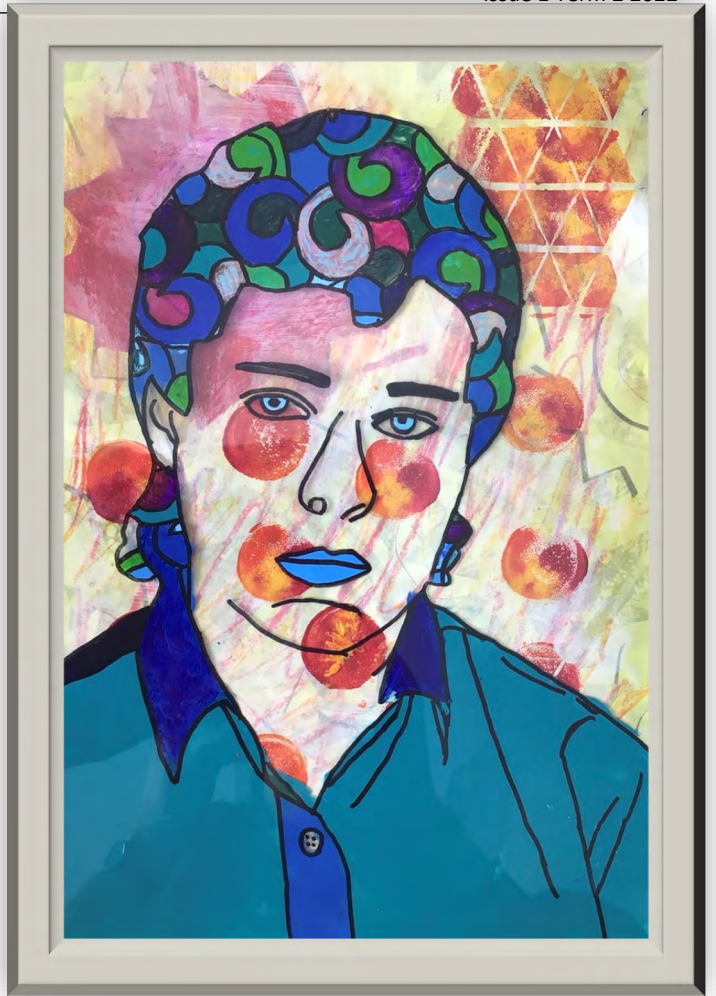
*Elizabeth Morthorpe*  
English Teacher

# Kind Bee



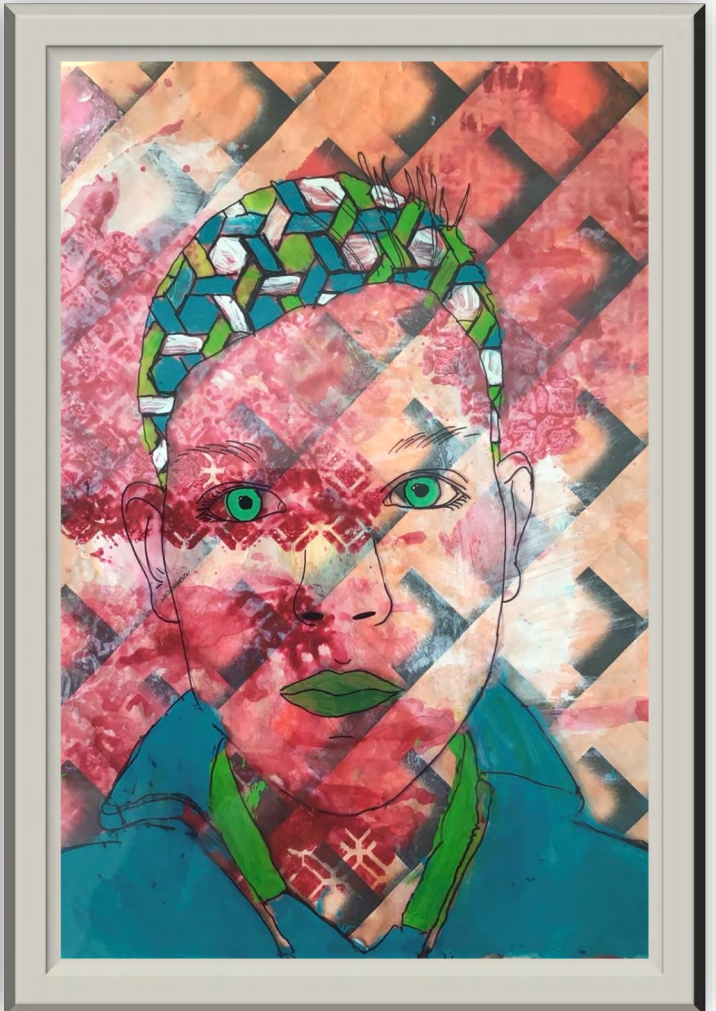
# Year 7s mixed media self-portraits

During term 1, Year 7 students have been working on a mixed media self-portrait inspired by artist Sam Mitchell. This has been a two-part process. Students painted their portrait onto a sheet of acetate, next they created a mixed media background separately.



Above artwork by : *Blake Acton*

Below artwork by: *Ethan Casburn*



Below artwork by: *Wil Fenwick*



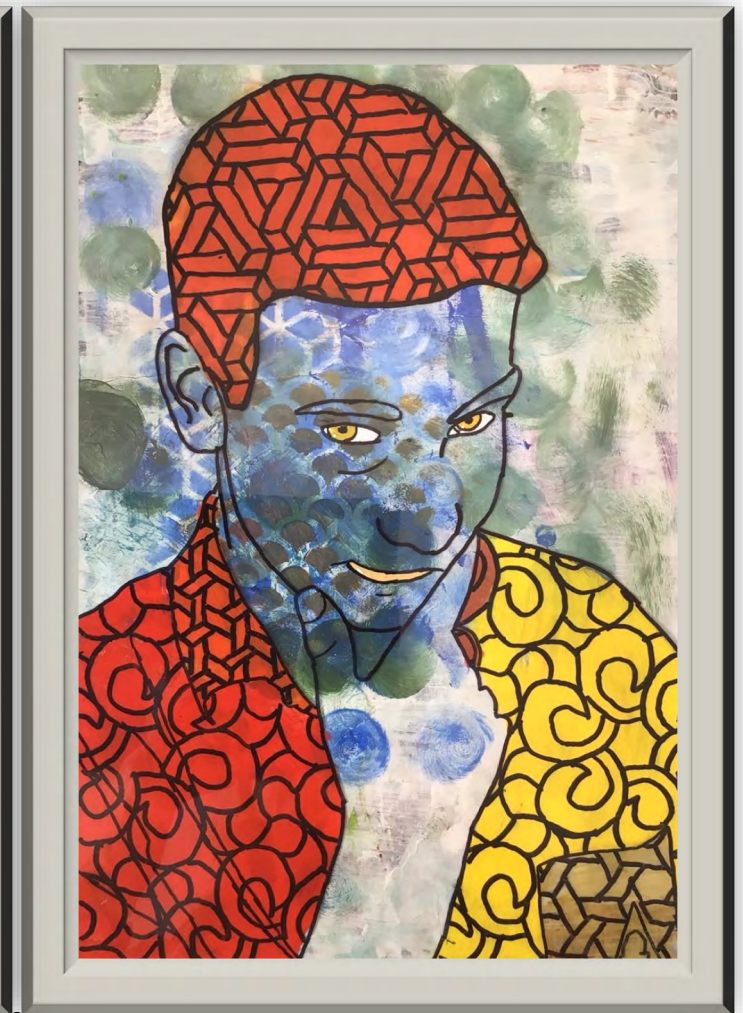
Above artwork by : *Kingston Thompson*

Below artwork by: *Ella Davies*



Above artwork by : *Will Pope*

Below artwork by: *Max Harkness*





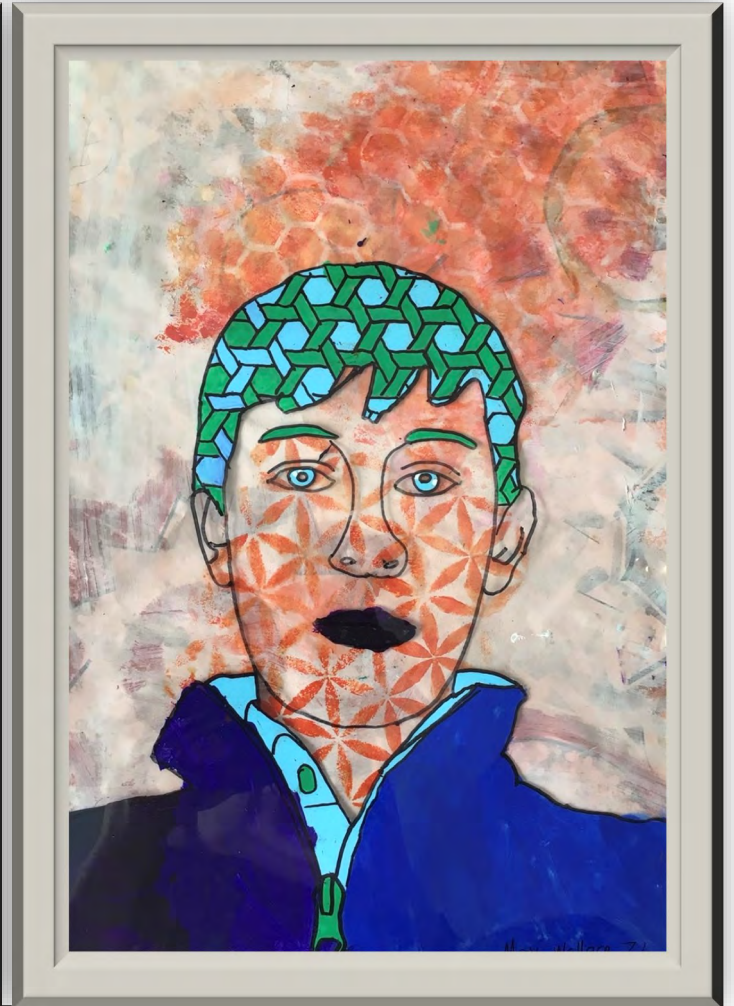
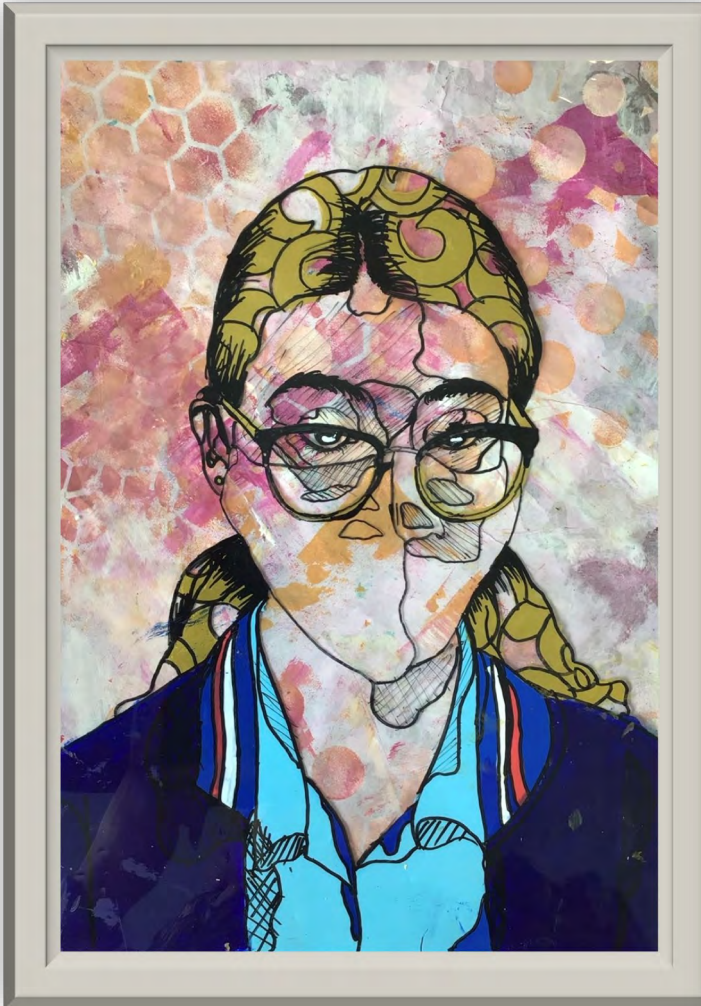
Above artwork by : *Stephanie Campion*

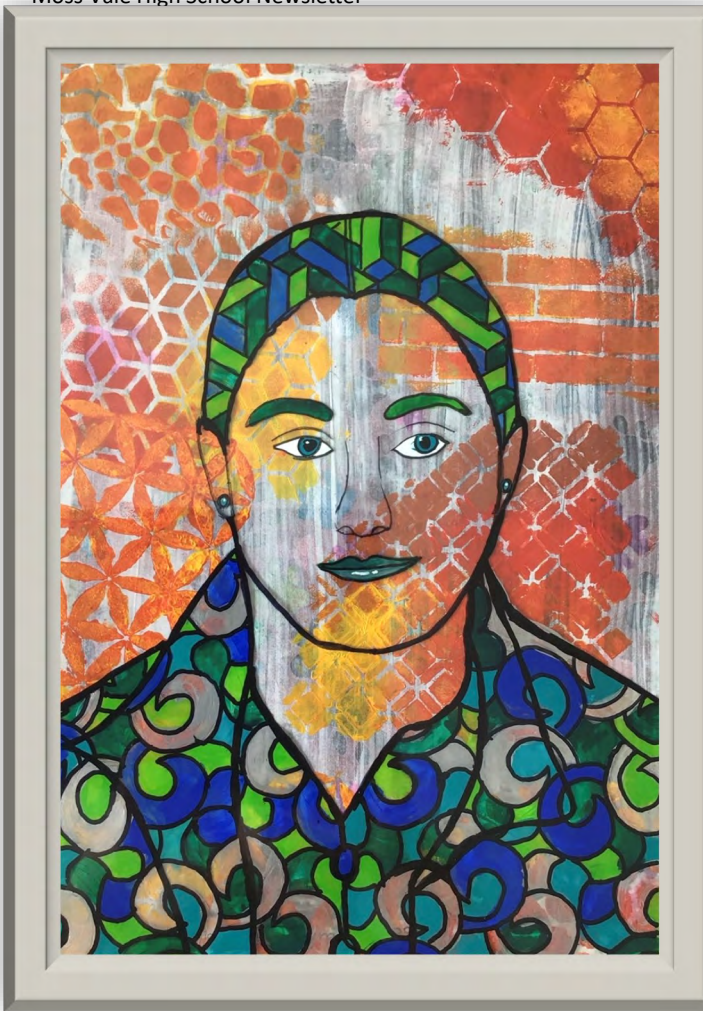
Below artwork by: *Joy Devenish*



Above artwork by : *Henry Robinson*

Below artwork by: *Max Wallace*





Above : artwork by *Olivia Brumfield*



Above: artwork by *Lacey Kirkland*

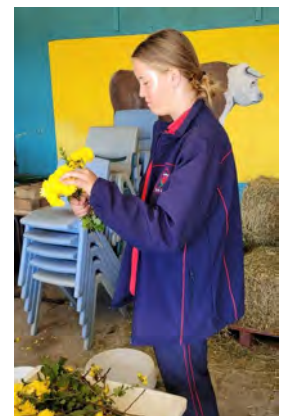


## *Mother's Day Flowers from our Agricultural Farm*

Thankyou to all students who purchased bunches/posies of fresh flowers from our Mother's Day flower sales on Friday 6 May.

Special thanks to the 8 students who prepared flowers for sale, Ryan Jones, Scarlett Whatman, Indy Martin, Grace Wilson, Caspian Adams, Charlotte Casburn, Caitlin Stone and Angelina Cooksley.

*Ms Finlayson –HT Agriculture /Science*







## NEWS FROM THE CAPA VAULT

### A Creative and Performing Arts Update

#### ***Performances***

##### **Executive Director Visit**

Our *Synergy* Vocal Ensemble gave a beautiful performance of “Fly Away” for the Director and Executive Director when they visited our school on Thursday May 12. Accompanied by Miss Kennedy on the keyboard, the performance showcased our talented vocalists from Years 7, 10 and 11. Due to covid and subsequent student absences, it’s the first time the ensemble has performed together.

##### **ISE Performing Ensemble**

The *ISE Performing Ensemble* (otherwise known as the purple shirt group) gave an outstanding performance for our CAPA students on Wednesday May 18. Year 12 student Amy Darch (dance) and Year 11 students James Denman (guitar), Oscar Dunn-Luck (keyboards), David Gillis (vocals) and Samuel Johnston (tenor saxophone) are in the 2022 cohort and we were very impressed by their performance.

#### ***Upcoming Events***

##### **Postponed Term 1 CAPA Concert**

Due to covid, we were forced to postpone our *Term 1 CAPA Concert*. Our new date is Thursday May 26 and we look forward to the many performance items and Art displays from our wonderful CAPA students. As always, the concert is from 6.30-8.30pm in the Hall and doors open 5.45pm. Tickets (Adults \$6 Students \$4) can be purchased through the office or trybooking (there’s a link on the school website). All tickets purchased for the last concert will be honoured.

We hope to see you there!

##### ***Musical Mixtape***

We have named our upcoming musical project for 2022 “Musical Mixtape”. Due to covid, and the cancellation of our last 2 productions, this year we made the decision to produce a concert of items from musicals, accompanied by a live orchestra. There will be 2 performances: Wednesday June 29 and Thursday June 30. Stay tuned for more details!

##### ***In Summary***

We are very grateful to be back on track and performing and look forward to everything this term has to offer our dedicated CAPA students. Anyone is welcome to join our Extra-Curricular Program – it is never too late to become part of our CAPA family.

*Miss Kennedy*  
*Head Teacher CAPA*

# ISE Purple Shirt Performances





Purple Shirt

# DEBATING



## Against Epping Boys High

On Monday 9 May 2022, we had our third Premier's Debating Challenge win by the year 12 team against Epping Boys High. Well done to Nikolai, Issy, Belinda and Jeremy.

We will now debate against Caringbah High next week.



Above Left to Right: Nikolai, Issy and Belinda

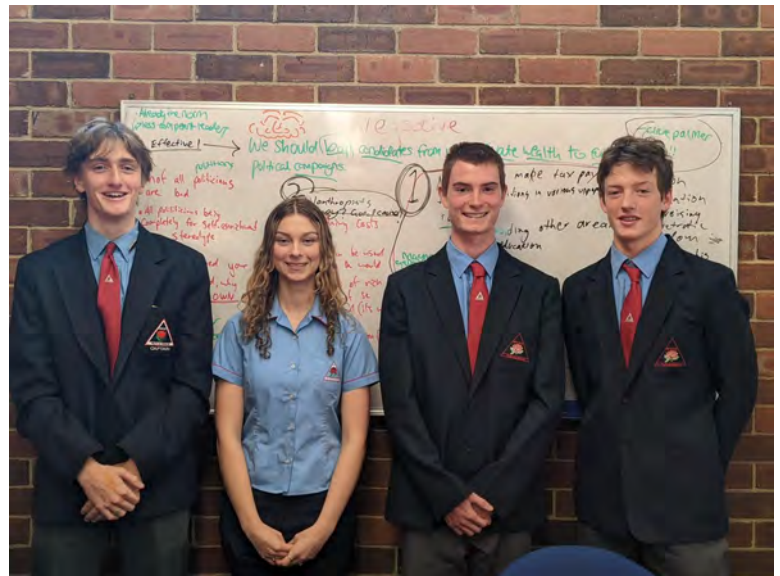
Left—Left to Right: Nikolai Meynin, Jeremy Millward, Belinda Lawrence and Issy Fitch



## Against Carringbah High School

Our year 12 debating team continued their winning streak last week on Wednesday 18 May 2022 with a well timed debate about politics, defeating Carringbah High School.

They have now won all three of their debates and continue to progress through the Premier's Debating Challenge. A great effort from Jake Davies, Issy Fitch, Tyson Robb and Eric Guymer.



Our next P & C meeting will be held :

**Tuesday 21 June 2022**

commencing at 5.30pm in the staff common room

Any questions please contact via email -  
[pandcmeetings@mvhs-pandc.com](mailto:pandcmeetings@mvhs-pandc.com)

**ALL WELCOME to attend**

# TAS in FOCUS

This semester in TAS, students have been trialing a new mixed materials project.

Exploring basic electronics and circuits, recycling, metal and timber and even with a little bit of 3D printing and laser technology - these little lamps have come up a treat!



Week 4 saw our students using our industrial kitchen in B Block.



# TAS in FOCUS





## **ACTIVITY WEEK 2022 DATES TO REMEMBER**

Activity Week will be held from

**Wednesday 14 to Friday 16 December 2022**

Final date to have outstanding fees paid  
(excluding General Contribution) if selecting Activity  
costing more than \$200 on Selection Day

**5pm Friday 27 May 2022**

Selection Day for all students

**Wednesday 1 June 2022**

Non-refundable deposit payment due  
to secure place in selected Activity

**5pm Monday 6 June 2022**

Selections reopen for students who did not choose on Selection Day  
(all outstanding fees need to be paid, excluding General Contribution,  
before selecting Activity costing more than \$200)

**Wednesday 8 June 2022**

Final payment due

**Monday 10 October 2022**

# SUPPORT UNIT EXCELLENCE

## Project Bucephalus (Robotics)

During Term 2, selected students from the Support Unit and a few invited from Tangara School are participating in a free 8-week robotics program at Moss Vale High School. The program is funded by a grant from the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, and presented by the Rotary Club of Corrimal and the Project Bucephalus robotics team.

The program consists of weekly 2-hour classes, where students will use LEGO® robotics to explore programming, design, and mechanical engineering – and have a lot of fun in the process! No previous experience is required. Classes will be taught by a combination of adult mentors and student team members.



Project Bucephalus is an award-winning robotics team made up of children from schools around the Illawarra. The team has won major awards on the National and International level and has been running robotics education programs since 2010.

***Tim Vandervoort ( Head Teacher Support Unit) and the Support Unit Team***



# Athletics Carnival











# Thank you

*Ms Middleton for your planning and organisation of this day*

# *From our :* **\* School Canteen**

Welcome! We have met many of the new Year 7 students to the school. If you are new to the canteen, please note that you can order online at [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) or your child can make a breakfast, recess or lunch order by coming to the canteen before 9.00am each day.

We cook and bake healthy food everyday for our recess and lunch specials as well as making sandwiches, rolls and wraps every morning. Please note if there is something not on the menu or you wish to vary a sandwich, roll or wrap please get your child to come and see us and it will be tailor made for them.

We also now have a **Gluten Free range** on [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au).

We change our menu every term so if you have any thoughts on what you'd like to suggest items for winter please send us a quick email on: [mvhscanteen@gmail.com](mailto:mvhscanteen@gmail.com). Our canteen menu can be viewed via : [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) or via our school website.



## **ASSISTANCE REQUIRED PLEASE:**

Lastly, if you have 2 hours to spare on a Thursday or Friday to assist us in the canteen we would love to hear from you ... Mums, Dads, Carergivers, Grandparents or Friends .. help us, help our school community. Contact us via : [mvhscanteen@gmail.com](mailto:mvhscanteen@gmail.com).

- N.B: Any volunteers will be required to have a -
- Working with Children Check Number OR
  - Will be asked to complete a Declaration

## **\* P & C Committee**

Our P & C Committee would like to extend a

*Thank You*

to Ms Yvette Pietsch—  
Chartered Accountant  
for reviewing the P & C  
financials this year.

**PIETSCH PARTNERS**  
TAX & BUSINESS ADVISORY

**Yvette Pietsch**  
Chartered Accountant  
BBus MTax FCA MAICD CTA Tax Agent

E: [yvette@pietschpartners.com.au](mailto:yvette@pietschpartners.com.au)  
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466B Argyle Street  
Moss Vale NSW 2577



# Compulsory school attendance

## | Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why. Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness.

Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

## Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

## My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

## What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- **Compulsory Schooling Conferences**

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- **Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order**

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- **Prosecution in the Local Court**

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

## What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

## Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.



# Days missed = years lost

**A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...**

When your child misses just

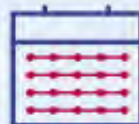
they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight



= **4** weeks



= Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week



= **8** weeks



= Over **2.5** years missed



## More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

### Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

### The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

### Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.

# MOSS VALE HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION for Parents and Caregivers

## School Administration Office Contact & Hours:

Our Administration office phone number is **4868 1717**. Office hours are **8.30am-3.30pm Monday to Friday during school terms.**

School email: [mossvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mossvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

School Website: [mossvale-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://mossvale-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## Facebook Page:

The Moss Vale High School Facebook page is for the school to disseminate information, to inform and positively promote the school, the learning that occurs within and all our staff and students' many amazing achievements within the community.

It is not a forum for community discussion and therefore **we do not encourage comments of posts relating to questions**, concerns or public debate on items. It is not the place to publicly object to the policies or practices of Moss Vale High School, its committees or related organisations. Nor is it a forum for users to advocate their businesses, opinions or philosophical positions. The appropriate avenue is via communication with the Principal of Moss Vale High School; communication via email at ***mossvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au*** or by contacting our administration office on 48681717 between the hours of 8.30am-3.30pm Monday to Friday during the terms.

## Uniform Shop:

The Moss Vale High School Uniform Shop is ***open Tuesday 8.30am-11.30am and Thursday 1.00pm-4.00pm during the school terms.*** The ***Uniform Shop is run through Daylight School wear, any enquiries regarding stock etc need to be directed via phone on 46481066 or email: [info@daylightcorp.com](mailto:info@daylightcorp.com)***

## Moss Vale High School P&C:

All welcome to attend our P&C meetings. Our P&C Committee can be ***contacted via email at [pandcmeetings@mvhs-pandc.com](mailto:pandcmeetings@mvhs-pandc.com).*** Meetings are held every Tuesday, 4th and 9th week of the term, commencing at 5.30pm in the Staff Common room.

## Moss Vale High School Canteen:

The Moss Vale High School Canteen ***contact is via phone on 4868 1883 or email: [mvhscanteen@gmail.com](mailto:mvhscanteen@gmail.com)*** Parents and Caregivers may place orders with payment via *flexischools*, please ensure orders are placed before 8.30am on the day.