

# **Moss Vale High School**

Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners

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22 September 2022





**MOSS VALE HIGH SCHOOL** 

Good Luck Class of 2022!

WE ARE PROUD OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS
BEST WISHES FOR THE HSC EXAMS

MAY THE YEARS AHEAD BE FILLED WITH ADVENTURE AND SUCCESS!

Moss Vale High School website: mossvale-h.schools.nsw.gov.au



#### Farewell Year 12

Once again, we farewell a wonderful group of Year 12 students as they embark on their HSC exams and to the world beyond school. It has been a pleasure working with this group and seeing the positive steps they have made towards success and adulthood. I would like to thank their Year Adviser, Ms Tenille Leet, for her outstanding care and guidance that she has shown this group of students over the years.

I hope our Year 12 students can find the best in their memories of Moss Vale High School as they move forward into an exciting new future. I want to congratulate every one of them on what they have achieved. I want to acknowledge the contributions they have made to our school, its history and its future. I thank them for their company over the past 6 years, for being a wonderfully diverse, energetic, talented and beautiful group of young people.

The Graduation Ceremony this week was our first one in two years where we were able to welcome families and friends, and it was a truly uplifting celebration or our Year 12 Graduates and our positive school culture.

#### Thank you for a great Term Three

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone in our school community for a busy and productive term. We have seen success across academia, sport, the creative and performing arts, community volunteering and many extra-curricular activities, such as debating and chess. It was particularly nice to be able to hold our CAPA concerts, excursions and major sporting events again after the COVID restrictions of the past two years. I know that these activities and events could not take place without the hard work and dedication of our staff and I thank them for always prioritising our students by making such great opportunities available to them.

#### **Condolences to the Picton High School Community**

On behalf of the Moss Vale High School community, I would like to acknowledge the unbearable tragedy faced by the Picton High School community, their students, staff and families, with the deaths of five students in a single motor vehicle accident at Buxton on 6 September. I know all our students, staff and families would join me in extending our deepest condolences to the Picton High School community and to all who have been impacted by this devastating loss of young lives.

#### **Holidays**

I would like to wish everyone in our school community a happy, restful and safe holiday. I am so grateful to work at such a wonderful school with caring, supportive staff and such great students. Please remember, that students return with staff on Monday 10 October as there is NO Staff Development Day at the start of term. Once again, thank you to our staff and students, and I look forward to seeing everyone in Term Four.

Happy Holidays! Patricia Holmes Principal



How quickly Term 3 has flown past! As we head toward the holiday break, so much has happened in a very busy term.

- The new school jumper arrived and has been well received by students, staff, and parents. The first shipment has sold well, and we are expecting more stock to be available soon. Daylight Sportwear have notified us that they have employed a new uniform shop coordinator who will start next term. Online orders are still able to be processed and are packed ready for Tuesdays/Thursdays. If you have any issues/ queries about orders, please contact Daylight Sportswear directly on 46481066.
- Congratulations to students who have successfully completed PCYC programs. Oliver Petit, Jesse Smith, Brody Gentles, Scott Wellington, Tyson Robb, Henry Morris and Bailey Palmer Quigg all represented MVHS. Feedback from the PCYC was that these students were outstanding and represented their school with flying colours.
- Many sporting teams and individuals have been successful over a busy Term 3 of sport. MVHS had many students represent the school at the State Athletics Championships at Homebush and did an amazing job competing against the best athletes across the state. A special mention must be made to both the girls' hockey and Oztag teams. Coaching genius Mr Nash led the hockey team all the way through to the final 16 teams in the state. This is a great performance from the girls and is the first time in several years that MVHS has gone this far in the competition. The girls Oztag teams have beat everyone that has come before them and have now set themselves up with a chance to compete at the Champions of Champions tournament against the best teams in the state. Good luck at the end of the term.
- Mr Carlyon had the opportunity to watch our wonderful CAPA group "Synergy" perform at Sydney Town Hall at the State Instrumental Festival. All our students did an amazing job and did MVHS proud. Miss K and her team should be extremely proud, and even overcame last minute sickness to shine on the night. Mr Carlyon was very proud to hear Moss Vale HS being acknowledged with the likes of some of the biggest performing arts high schools in the state.
- Finally, Year 12.... Congratulations on finally finishing your time at high school. You have all held yourself well over the last two disrupted years and have finished your final year of school in style. You were not immune to some drama though, the Queen's memorial public holiday on the Thursday of the graduation and formal saw to that! Thankfully Miss Leet was able to seamlessly organise the graduation and formal for the day prior. Miss Campbell and Mr Carlyon wish everyone good luck with their future pursuits and hope that your time at MVHS will be remembered fondly.



# **NEWS FROM THE CAPA VAULT**

# A Creative and Performing Arts Update

Our Synergy Vocal Ensemble had the honour of performing at the Sydney Town Hall for the Arts Unit's Festival of Instrumental Music Jacaranda Concert.

They sang their stunning acapella arrangement of Afterglow which was conducted by Miss Kennedy. Hot on the heels of our Vocal Rollers performance, it was another exciting opportunity to perform in such an esteemed venue.

#### **CAPA Soiree**

In Week 5 we held our CAPA Soiree. Instead of featuring our many extra-curricular ensembles, the night focused on individual Music and Dance performances from our dedicated CAPA students.

It was wonderful see the students from Years 7-12 taking the stage, some for the very first time.

## **PBS Assembly Performances**

Our Week 5 and Week 7 PBS assembly items opened with "The Avengers", performed by our Paridon String Ensemble and special guests on clarinet, tenor saxophone and trumpet. The piece was arranged by our string and piano tutor, Maria Dunn and it was great to see our violinists and cellists on stage.

Our second item came from our Term 2 Musical Mixtape production. We always love presenting dance items to the school and chose the entertaining "Stick it to the Man" from School of Rock, performed by our Mixtape Dancers, David Gillis as soloist and our School of Rock vocalists from Years 7 and 8.

The Anthem was led by Sophie Williamson and Alyssa Waring.

## **Southern Stars Extravaganza**

After a 2 year break due to covid, the 2022 Southern Stars Extravaganza was held in Week 6 at the WIN Entertainment Centre.

We had a number of students in the Orchestra: James Denman (guitar), Oscar Dunn-Luck (percussion) Sam Kennedy (tenor Sax) and Hannah Torpy (flute). Ex-student Matthew Kennedy (trumpet) was invited back due to the fact that the last 2 shows had to be cancelled. We also had our Year 11 Entertainment students working behind the scenes on Front of House, Sound and Lighting.

Mr Donaldson took a group of CAPA students to watch the Friday matinee, and they all agreed the high energy show was simply amazing.

### Lunchtime Karaoke

Our Year 12 Entertainment students held a lunchtime Karaoke Concert for anyone in Year 11 and 12 wanting to get up and have a go at singing. The event's finale featured Mr Warwick singing "Sweet Caroline" which the audience was happy to sing along to.

#### **HSC Practical Exams**

Our Music, Drama and Visual Arts students have now completed the practical components

for their HSC exams!

Drama students were marked in Week 7, Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension students were marked in Week 9, and our Visual Arts students have submitted their Body of Works to be sent away to Sydney for marking.

We wish them all the best for their written exams next term!

## **Upcoming Events**

Oscar Dunn-Luck will be performing a Brahms' "Rhapsody 2 in G minor" at the Sydney Town Hall on October 17.

Our One Note Longer Vocal Ensemble will be performing "Run" by Taylor Swift at the Sydney Opera House on October 31.

Inspire 2022 will be held at Bundanoon, Robertson and Moss Vale Public schools in October and November.

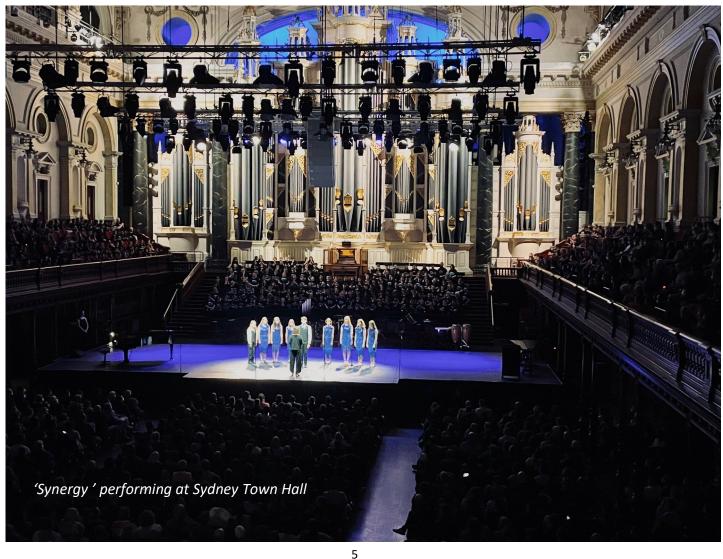
## In Summary

Term 3 has definitely been busy and we are so proud of our students' achievements. They continue to raise the bar, and as a result, have been rewarded with amazing opportunities and experiences.

We wish our Year 12s all the best as they enter their final preparations for the HSC written exams, and we look forward to Term 4 and all it entails.

May everyone have a well-earned restful break.

Miss Kennedy Head Teacher CAPA























# Year 9 Visual Arts Surreal Landscapes









# Year 9/10 Portrait Photography



Aliya Hennessey

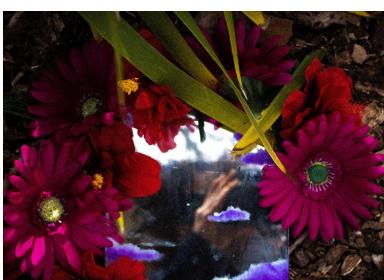




Maia Vasilakis



April Jordan



Above: Loreta Pelster



Right: Lacey Hayes

# Year 9/10 Portrait Photography cont.



Callum Bracht



Tegan Hore



Sequoia Haberle

# Art Works-Double Exposure



Banjo Kaegi-Norris

Daisy Winley





Dixie Kumal



Callum Bracht

Lacey Hayes



Ryan Brown



Fletcher Knight

Jack Burston





# **Next P & C Meeting**

Our next meeting is **Tuesday 1 November 2022**All welcome to attend.

Please contact pandcmeetings@mvhs-pandc.com





# <u>ACTIVITY WEEK —</u> FULL PAYMENT DUE

Please ensure full payment for Activity Week is made before the start of Term 4 (Monday 10 October 2022). Students with outstanding Activity Week amounts will be withdrawn from the Activity, forfeiting the non-refundable deposit as well as any other payments where bookings have been paid for.

# **SCHOOL FEES**

School fees remain payable for the entire period a student attends Moss Vale High School (except for the General Contribution). To ensure students can participate in all activities over their school life, fees should be paid regularly. Any family experiencing difficulty in



Parent Online Payment Portal
Moss Vale High School

making payments should request assistance, as required. Please do not wait until fees have accumulated over several years.



Does the school have the correct contact details for your child?

## Mobile numbers; email addresses; emergency contact information

Particularly in an emergency it is vital for the school to be able to contact you immediately. If you are not available during work times, please ensure the school has at least one alternate contact who will be available.

# Did you know?

Staffing on an average day at Moss Vale High School consists of:

# 61 teachers

(including Principal and two Deputies)

# and

# 24 non-teaching staff

including

## **Administrative Officers**

(working in Office, Library, Science, Food, Media, Attendance, Community Liaison, Finance)

# **Learning Support Officers**

(working with students in classrooms of the Support Unit and in mainstream classes)

School Counsellor
Student Support Officer
General Assistant
Farm Assistant
Technology Support Officer

# Office Administration Reminder to ALL Parents/Caregivers

A reminder to all parents and caregivers that if you require your child to leave school during the day please write a note and have your child present the note at the Administration Office **before 9am**. Your child will be given a note to leave class at the requested time. Doing this assists the school with class rolls and decreasing the disruption to other students during class time.

Also a reminder that any student who is unwell should remain at home. The school does not have the facilities or staff available to care for ill students.

Your cooperation with these matters would be greatly appreciated.

# Science / Agriculture

Moss Vale High School celebrated National Science Week in Week 5 of this term. This year's theme was GLASS – MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE.



Our cool, nerdy, mad science teachers carried out some fun lunchtime activities so that our kids could experience something a little different.

The activities ran as follows:

1. **Monday - PERSONALISED GLASS WANDS** Students made glass rods that are useful for "mixing potions and spells" in class. Suitable especially for those students planning on doing Chemistry in the Senior Years.

## 2. Tuesday - WRIGGLY THINGS - MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

Ever wondered if super indestructible bears live all around us, or what wriggly parasites can be found squirming all over the place? Come and discover the secrets of microscopic life.

- 3. Wednesday SUPERCOOL HOT STUFF Investigate how to make liquids that are so cool that they'll make hot crystals.
- 4. Thursday PRIDEFUL PRISMS Rainbows...trick of the light? Or the road to a fountain of knowledge or even gold! Come learn about the wonders that are rainbows and how to make them!

#### **Down at the Farm**

Another hectic term here with the establishment of Foot and Mouth Disease Protocols after the recent outbreak in Indonesia.

Lambing has almost finished and it has been a cracker of a season with 21 lambs born from 12 ewes. We have also purchased a new stud ram from a stud down in Bungonia so will be looking forward to seeing his progeny in the future.

Year 9 Ag Elective A, B and C students have been busy with the Cows Create Careers Project which has also proven difficult as we didn't have access to the calves this year (again due to the threat of Foot and Mouth Disease). However, we were fortunate to have Grant and Georgia Sherborne come and do a presentation about their dairy to our kids.

We also have had 2 "on-line" calves to monitor and the kids have come up with some really creative ideas – both for their MaxCare Milk Powder Advertisement and for their creative photo.

### **More from our Science Classes**

Year 10 Science asked to investigate static electricity. They certainly enjoyed being "zapped" and having their hair standing on end. Hope everyone else is enjoyed Science Week.









Year 10 Science were being "paleontologist" in the last few weeks, using pictures of bones and trying to decide what the animal would have looked like. There were quite a number of interesting interpretations .













Science is so cool. One of the best dissections Year 9 do is the eye dissection. It is fascinating to find out how tough an eyeball really is and the different structures inside it.





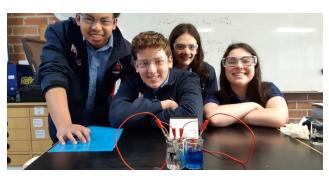






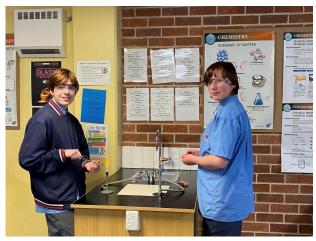














So many activities and learning accomplished. Thanks to all the teachers who helped make a fantastic Science Week.

















































Term 3 Sport

Term 3 kicked off with for the first time in many years, girls open softball.

The Girls Open Softball team travelled to Goulburn to play Goulburn High School in the Zone Final. The girls adapted extremely quickly and played some great softball. They won the first 2 innings but unfortunately went down in the last one. Some great pitching from Neve Wallace and Kiera Hol who were working together on first base making a lot of run outs and catches to put Moss Vale in a good position.

The girls played with great sportsmanship and effort, well done.

We look forward to seeing what the girls can do next year.

Thank you to Mr Grehan for coaching the girls.







Week 2 also saw 39 students travel to Canberra's AIS to compete in the Regional Athletics Carnival.





















Moss Vale High School placed 3rd overall as a school and from here 13 students qualified for the state carnival later in the term.

The students are:

Ruby Blake, Pearl Stravoskoufis, Max Harkness, Lilea Seville, Emily Harlor, Isaac Pemberton, Lachlan McCullagh, Scarlett Sears, Holly Speechley, Sienna Withers, Emmerson Rochaix, Asher Miller, Charlotte Withers and Abbey Wallace.

Abbey (pictured below) outstandingly, was also the Under 16s age champion for the day. This is another amazing achievement for Abbey who was also the Age Champion at the Zone Carnival (along with Charlotte Withers, Isaac Pemberton and Pearl Stravoskoufis for their respective age groups - pictured with their medals below).

Thank you to Mr Warwick for stepping in last minute and transporting the students to Canberra.





#### SOUTH COAST NETBALL Knockout

Week 4 saw the Under 15 Girls Netball team compete in the much anticipated South Coast Knockout in Nowra.

The girls had two convincing wins, a draw and a loss which placed them 2nd in their pool. The Semi Final was a tough round against a slightly more experienced team but our girls played a competitive game.

Great effort and sportsmanship was demonstrated by the girls throughout all matches and a huge thank you goes to Mrs Rossi for organising our team and to Mrs Jane Attwood who assisted with coaching our girls on the day. Thank you also to all our supporting parents.









Week 4 also saw Under 15's Zone Basketball

The Junior Girls and Boys Basketball teams travelled to Goulburn for the Zone Knock Out. While the girls only had one game, Mulwaree didn't stand a chance, going down 81-10.

The boys outplayed Crookwell in their first game and narrowly won a nail biter against Mulwaree. The boys had to fight in the last 5 minutes to keep their lead and remain in possession of the ball. All players (Boys and Girls) put some points on the board and played a convincing game as a team.

Thanks to parent Phil Soon for assisting and all the parents who were able to attend and support our teams.

Both teams will head to the South Coast Finals.













Week 5

Congratulations to Mrs Rossi and our Under 15s Girls Basketball team who, following the recent South Coast finals, are now ranked within the top 16 teams for their age in the state!

This is the first time EVER a basketball team has achieved success like this.



Team photograph

### Week 5- Hockey

Congratulations to our girls hockey team who continued to go from strength to strength in 2022. The girls defeated a gallant Kincumber HS 5 to nil at Welby stringing together some exceptional pieces of team work combined with individual brilliance. They moved into the top 16 hockey schools and played Westfield Sports High School at Narellan Hockey fields. Thank Deirdre Mackay and Jackie Tickner for umpiring and all the support from the parents.



#### Week 6

The Under 15s Boy's Basketball team travelled down to the Snake Pit in Wollongong to compete in the South Coast Basketball Competition.

The boys went undefeated in the pool stage beating Nowra and Karabar High Schools. This saw them advance through to the semi final round against Bulli who unfortunately were too strong for us on the day. The boys competed brilliantly all day and were perfect representatives for our school.

A big thank you to Mrs Rossi and Mr Williams for coaching the boys at various competitions and who have assisted them to get this far. A special shout out goes to Van's father and strategic mastermind, Phil, who ran the bench for us this day and at the last competition.

Well done boys.











Week 7

The MVHS girls hockey team travelled to Narellan to take on Westfield Sports High School to try and claim a position in the top 8 hockey schools in NSW.

The girls ran their hearts out in very warm conditions although unfortunately weren't able to overcome Westfield going down 2-1. Special mention to our goal keeper Toree Wilson who had a cracker in the goals. Thanks to all our awesome supporters who cheered us on. Congrats to all the girls for all their efforts this year and achieving top 16 in NSW.

We have two year 12 girls that have now ended their school hockey careers. Thank you to Holly 'goal scoring machine' Hurford and Rory' I can sing on the bus' Hoare for all your contributions to MVHS Hockey over the years.

Let's get 'em next year girls.































Week 8 Coondoo Mountain Bike Classic

20 of our students travelled to South Nowra to compete in the Coondoo Mountain Bike Classic. The first time in several years.

This event is in a relay format with teams of 3-4 students.

We had 6 teams compete, 3 junior boys teams (Years 7 & 8), 2 boys teams in the 9/10 division and 1 mixed team in 9/10 division.

All our teams competed well on the day with many pushed to their limits. Standout performances were our mixed team who placed 3rd overall and Shan Cecilio who posted the fastest lap time for Moss Vale High School of 20.15.

The behaviour of our students was outstanding, they were also very respectful and supportive of each other. A big shout out to the parents who transported students to and from the venue and helped with mechanical issues throughout the day.

Thank you also to Mrs Cowen and Mr Vasilakis who accompanied our students on the day.





















Week 8 also saw our students head to the CHS State Athletics Championships.

Congratulations to Ruby Blake who has achieved a new Personal Best AND 3rd in the State in the U13 Girls Long Jump , reaching 4.77m. An awesome achievement .

We had Charlotte Withers in 13 Years Javelin. Charlotte placed 8th which is awesome considering she

was still recovering from an injury and unable to run.

Lilea Seville ran in the Hurdles and Ruby Blake ran in 800m. Both girls competed well in heats but unfortunately did not make the finals.

Our U16s Girls Relay team placed 7th in their heat. Unfortunately, the girls didn't make it through to the Finals but still an excellent achievement to make it to the State Championships.

Great work, Asher Miller, Abbey Wallace, Emmerson Rochaix and Sienna Withers

Congratulations to all students involved.





Week 10 saw our Girls 7/8 and 9/10 head off to the OZTAG Championships.

Unfortunately, due to time restraints with newsletter being published we are unable to write a report. Pictured below is the 2 teams representing Moss Vale High.

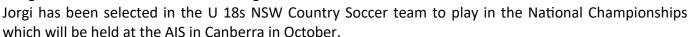




# **Individual performances**

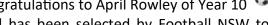
#### Soccer

Congratulations to Year 12 student Jorgi Webb



We wish Jorgi all the best for the tournament

Congratulations to April Rowley of Year 10



April has been selected by Football NSW to play in the U 15 Girls State Country Soccer team in the National Youth Championships competition to be held in Coffs Harbour in September.

Congratulations to Year 10 student Billy Apostolatos.



Billy has been selected by Football NSW to play in the U 15s Boys State Country Soccer team in the National Youth Championship competition to be held in Coffs Harbour in September.

Billy is super excited for this opportunity.

We wish Billy all the best for the tournament.

### **Hockey**

Our two hockey CHS NSW representatives, Holly Hurford and Lucy Nash, travelled to Newcastle to play the NSW Catholic and Independent school sides. NSW CHS had a 3 all draw with NSW Catholic schools and won 2-1 against NSW Independent schools.

The two girls excelled in the two games with both girls being selected in the combined NSW schools team for their efforts For a small school, it's amazing we have not just one NSW school hockey representative from Moss Vale, but two NSW representatives. Congratulations girls.

Thank you to all the coaches who have given up their time and to the students who have yet again been outstanding. Ms Middleton—Sports Coordinator



# SUPPORT UNIT EXCELLENCE

# **Canberra Excursion**

A great day out in Canberra took place on Thursday 7 September 2022. Students and staff from the Support Unit travelled south, stopping for morning tea in Goulburn then on to Questacon for 90 minutes of science, technology, and fun. We enjoyed a packed lunch outside Questacon before making our way to Cockington Green to chill out and appreciate the marvellous displays with a few laps on the train thrown in. We then headed home, stopping for afternoon tea at McDonalds in Goulburn before arriving back at school. Thanks to Ms Regan for organising an excellent day and to Mr Good and Ms Kowalczyk for transporting everyone safely.













# Cricket NSW Team Members Visit

A great session of Cricket Skills Training took place on Tuesday 30 August 2022 involving students & staff from the Support Unit. Visiting cricketers Jack Nisbet & Blake Nikitaras joined regular 'Coverdrive' members Craig 'Jock' McIllhatton & Toby Smith with Sean Barrett (Regional Cricket Manager) and Aaron Hadley (Cricket Blast Member) for a midday session and autograph signing opportunity.

A big thanks to the Kollege of Knowledge Kommittee for Kids (4Ks) for their continued support and to Cricket NSW for organising this wonderful event.









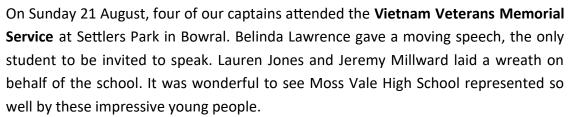


Thanks, from Tim Vandervoort and the Support Unit.



SRC have had a busy term, with the election of our new School Captains as well as SRC members for Years 7-10 and the support unit. We had a great response for elections this year. SRC will grow from 25 members to 33!

The fundraising focus for the term has been Home Groups for the Homeless, inspired by our school focus for the year of making kindness happen. The cold, wet winter made us all appreciate a warm bed and solid roof more than ever, so SRC have been visiting home groups to collect funds to support the work of **St Vincents de Paul and Youth Off the Streets**.



In Week 6, we promoted the annual Wear It Purple Day. This is a day to highlight the importance of creating a safe, supportive environment for Rainbow Youth. Students were encouraged to wear an item of purple to show these young people that Moss Vale High School is a safe place to be yourself. SRC students sold wristbands and stickers in the leadup to the day, and we were pleased to sell out of both items.

Week 9 saw the return of **RUOK? Day**. Inspired by the advocacy of Jeremy Millward, we supported RUOK through fundraising daily. Lucas Millward of Year 9 is stepping up to take over from Jeremy once he leaves Moss Vale High School by continuing to raise awareness about the importance of breaking through stigma surrounding mental health. The wonderful work done by Year 8 PDHPE students built on this even further, with a whole week of conversation-starting activities and stalls.



Student









We're looking forward to the start of Term 4, when we will welcome our new SRC together. We can't wait to get started on the next 12 months of promoting student voice and contributing to social justice.

Ms Curtis - SRC Coordinator

# TAS in FOCUS

Our two Year 12 Industrial Timber students, Karl Punzalan and Dylan Jobe have excelled with their major works. Well done to both these students.





Left and Above : Amazing work from Karl Punzalas

Right and Below: Impressive work from

Dylan Jobe









For their continued support and donations to our school community

# TAS in FOCUS cont..

Week 8 saw the final café lunch for Term 3 prepared and served by our Year 12 Hospitality students, Kaitlyn Yearsley and Ebony Williamson with Ms Killian out on our deck A delicious chicken, bacon, leek and sage pie with a side salad and accompanied by a scrumptious pina colada (mocktail of course).

















# Student Wellbeing

## **PCYC Garden Project**

This term 2 students participated in and completed a Fit to Learn Program with Mittagong PCYC.

Jesse Smith and Oliver Pettit worked with Youth Command Officers and local tradespeople to design a garden at Mittagong Leafy Baths and Zoo which is located opposite the PCYC building. The area was transformed into a multi-purpose usable space to complement the already existing youth programs within the PCYC. Golf club users, Mittagong Rugby and the community have access to the garden.

Jessie and Oliver worked diligently during the program and should be proud of the garden they designed and constructed.

Ms Killian - Student Wellbeing Coordinator



Onver Petiti produty wearing his Fit 16 Lean Rugby top with his certificate & Ms Killian

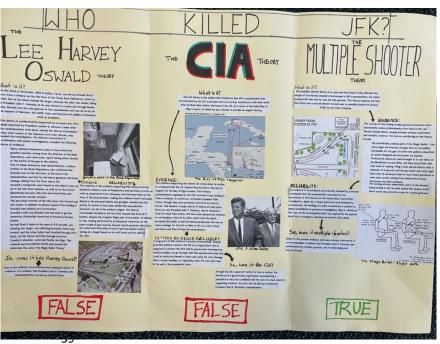
Proudly supported by the New South Wales Police Force

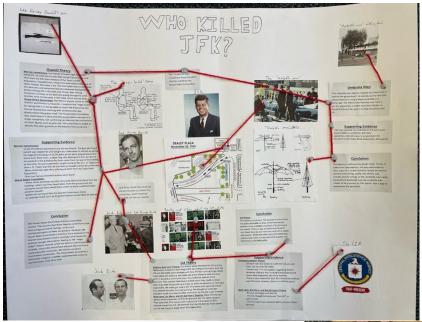


## **Year 9 History Mysteries**

History Mysteries is an elective course undertaken by Year 9 and 10 students. It aims to build student's skills in historical analysis, as well as providing an opportunity to study topics not covered in the main History course. This term, Year 9 students have been playing detective, looking at evidence to try and answer the enduring question - who really assassinated JFK? Their assessment task was to create a crime board delving into three theories, using the evidence to come to a conclusion. Do you think they cracked it?



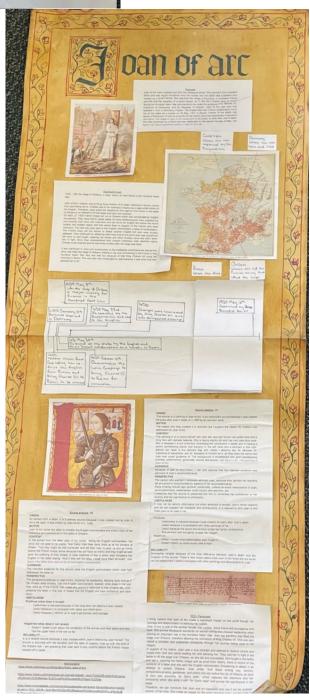




## **Year 8 History**

During Term 3, Year 8 History have been studying Medieval Europe. In their recent assessment task, students had the opportunity to research a significant Medieval individual of their choosing. The Medieval individuals students selected from included Charlemagne, Joan of Arc, William Wallace and Eleanor of Aquitane. Students were required to use a range of historical skills, including source analysis, to explain how their individual had an impact on the world. Research was to be presented as either a report or a poster. India Levings and Lily Vanbentum are two students who are to be commended on the exceptionally high standard of work produced in this task. The images below depict their work. Well done, Year 8!





### **NSW Department of Education**



# 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)



#### **NSW Department of Education**

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 e 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...



#### 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 School Website: mossvale-h.schools.nsw.gov.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 <u>we do not encourage comments of posts relating to questions</u>, 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 <u>mossvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u> or by contacting our administration office on 48681717 between the hours of 8.30am-3.30pm Monday to Friday during the terms.

# **Uniform Shop:**

Until further notice all orders are to be placed via: https://daylightsportswear.com/mossvale

# **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. 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 Parents and Caregivers may place orders with payment via *flexischools, please ensure orders are placed before 8.30am on the day.*