



Moss Vale High School

Respectful, Safe and Responsible Learners

21 Narellan Road MOSS VALE NSW 2577 • PO Box 137 •

T: 02 4868 1717 •

E: mossvale-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

4 APRIL 2023

NEWSLETTER



New Roof
&
Solar Panel
installations



MOSS VALE HIGH SCHOOL DATES

Term 2

- **Monday 24 April 2023 - STAFF ONLY - STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**
- **Tuesday 25 April 2023 - ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY**
- **Wednesday 26 April 2023 - ALL STUDENTS RETURN**

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



Year 7

We have had a great start to the year with our new Year 7 students who have, overall, transitioned smoothly into high school. Our four-day 'orientation to Moss Vale High School' program was highly successful where students had the opportunity to learn about all aspects of high school including working with Optimum Experience on team building skills through a range of physical activities. The Year Adviser, Ms Brittany Carr, sent out a survey to parents, staff and students, seeking feedback on the program. The responses were overwhelmingly positive, and we will definitely be running a similar program for Year 7 in 2024.

Earthquake appeal for Turkey and Syria

Our school community was moved by the horrific and incomprehensible devastation of the earthquake that hit Turkey and Syria in early February this year. Our Positive Behaviour for Success team and SRC implemented a fundraising appeal for the victims of the earthquake where over 55,000 people died, and millions remain homeless. I would like to congratulate our students and staff on raising almost \$2,000 for the earthquake appeal.



Head Teacher Administration and Attendance

Congratulations to Ms Stephanie Murko who was recently appointed to the substantive role of Head Teacher Administration after relieving in the position during this term. Ms Murko does a fabulous job at ensuring daily organisation processes run smoothly and that our students have a casual relief teacher when their class teacher is absent. I would also like to thank our dedicated group of regular casual relief teachers who remain loyal and committed to Moss Vale High School. These wonderful teachers ensure your children have a qualified teacher in front of their class every lesson of every day and are not sitting in the playground under minimal supervision, which is regularly occurring in many schools across our state.

Ms Murko is also responsible for overseeing all aspects of student attendance. There is a major focus, across all schools, on improving student attendance. Ms Murko is working with senior executive to implement appropriate strategies and interventions to address attendance concerns and engage students with learning. She will ensure parents or carers are supported and are actively involved in planning to improve their child's attendance if there is an issue. Ms Murko and Ms Alyssa Alliston, our Student Support Officer, can work with parents/families where students may have issues with school attendance by providing them with information about relevant assistance: for example, school initiatives to assist with uniform, literacy, school counselling or local community support services.

English Faculty

As many would know, Mr Yianni Vasilakis was appointed as Head Teacher English after a merit selection process last year, which left a classroom teacher position to fill. We ran another merit selection panel last week and Mrs Fiona Schubert is the successful candidate. Currently, Mrs Schubert is working in the English faculty in a relieving position. We are thrilled to have Mrs Schubert as part of our teaching staff, and she comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience in teaching English across a variety of schools.

Kick off With Reading

Our school community has been enjoying reading our Kick Off with Reading book, *Songs of a War Boy* by Deng Adut. Deng's inspirational messages are of resilience and triumphing in the face of adversity. This is the true story of Deng Adut who was forced into being a child soldier in Sudan but went on to be a refugee, a man of hope and a lawyer.

Deng Adut's family were farmers in South Sudan and at six years old, his mother was told she had to give him up to fight. At the age most Australian children are starting school, Deng was conscripted into the Sudan People's Liberation Army. He began a harsh, relentless military training that saw this young boy trained to use an AK-47 and sent into battle. He lost the right to be a child and he lost the right to learn.

I am extremely excited to announce that Deng Adut has generously agreed to visit our school early next term, and speak with our school community about his experiences and the lessons he has learned. I would like to share a poem written by Raphy Eccleston of Year 7 as a reflection on *Songs of a War Boy*.

Reflecting on Songs of a War Boy by Raphy Eccleston 7S

Ak-47's all handed out
Sent into battle to fight
For a cause they did not know about
A time bomb ready to ignite

Dark cold nights
Always on patrol
Never any bright lights
Loved ones are there in your soul

Standing up tall and high
Fighting to save their life
Never getting to say their last goodbye
Dreams of war run rife

Today is a day of sadness and sorrow
It is a new day of sorrow and sadness tomorrow

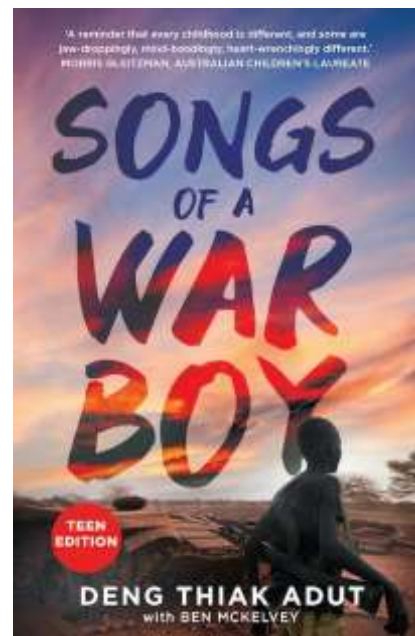
Thank you to Raphy for sharing your beautifully written poem.

Parents and Citizens

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks and appreciation for our hard-working P&C for their tireless support of our school community. In particular, I would like to thank them for the generous donation for the school to purchase our Kick Off With Reading books each year, and for organising the funding of the new student lockers.

Each year the Moss Vale High School P & C funds the following for our school:

- Kick off with Reading \$12,000 per year
- Donations to faculty wish lists average \$20,000 per year



- School blazers each year for the student leadership team \$600 per year
- Presentation award donations average \$1700 per year.

I have sent an email last year requesting that parents please consider joining the P&C. Without on-going and active support from our school families via P&C membership, all these things will be compromised, including the future of the school canteen which is completely operated by the P&C.



I respectfully appeal to the school community to think about joining the P&C to ensure parent involvement, greater opportunities for our students and a viable school canteen.

School Holidays

I wish everyone in our school community, and their families, a safe and happy Easter break. I look forward to seeing our students return on Wednesday, 26 April, when we will commemorate ANZAC Day at an assembly.

Patricia Holmes
Principal



Sponsorship of School Solar Panels

If you would like to support the schools solar panel fund raiser, click on the link below:

<https://portal.schoolbytes.education/other-payment/446>



Term 1 2023 has been a productive time at Moss Vale High School. Significant initiatives have been or will be installed and implemented to improve teaching, learning and whole school experiences.

Moss Vale High School has been part of a NSW Department of Education initiative to improve technology in rural schools, called the Rural Access Gap program. Part of this initiative included supply and installation of main learning displays, interactive teaching/learning panels, into permanent classrooms across the school. These devices were delivered and installed in Term 4 2022 and have proven effective replacements for projectors in many of our classrooms. Teachers are building their capacity to use these devices to their full potential, as effective teaching and learning tools. Thank you to Mr Osiadacz, our Technology Support Officer, who has spent many hours communicating, preparing and working alongside the NSW Department of Education to fully equip all of our classrooms with this new technology.

After months of research, meetings and negotiations Moss Vale High School will soon have over 100 solar panels installed across the school. Thanks to Mr Donaldson, Ms Quinn, MVH P&C and our sustainability team for their hard work and dedication towards this important initiative. Installation of solar panels will support the reduction of carbon emissions and reduce our carbon footprint. As most of the electricity used by the school is used within daylight hours, this initiative will be a highly effective and cost saving scheme.



Thanks to the efforts and organisation of our Parents and Citizens Association we now have 132 lockers available for student use. This initiative has been taken up by many families with students utilising lockers during the day to store non-essential resources, reducing the amount carried around in backpacks or extra baggage.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers and students that 'attendance matters'. Supporting students to develop positive school attendance habits is a shared responsibility – everyone has a role. Research into the impact of school attendance has shown that regular attendance helps students to:

- develop a sense of belonging
- develop and maintain friendships
- be more engaged at school
- progress with their learning
- be more aware of career and life options.



Moss Vale High School has the shared attendance goal of supporting students to attend

school more than 95% of the time. This will assist students to make the most of all school experiences and give them the best chance to progress with their learning.

The NSW Department of Education introduced the Inclusive, Engaging and Respectful Schools initiative in Semester Two 2022. The aim of this initiative is to improve student outcomes by strengthening engagement and participation of all students, including those with disability, complex behaviours and additional needs. To support this initiative, Moss Vale High School is in the process of writing a School Behaviour Support and Management Plan to embed into our school systems. As part of this plan, we have introduced a Learning and Behaviour Support Teacher, Mrs Pepping, to work with our students and parents/carers to support students to reflect on the choices they are making and set positive behaviour and learning goals. As part of our behaviour interventions, we have introduced a solution space where students who have demonstrated behaviours of concern meet with Mrs Pepping to spend time working on solutions that will support them to make better decisions in and out of the classroom.

After reviewing feedback from students, staff and parents/caregivers we have discussed how to adjust the organisation and administration of Activity Week 2023. We are currently collecting information from staff on the types of activities that will be on offer this year. This will be sent to parents in Term 2, with further information about 2023 procedures. We encourage all students to participate in Activity Week this year as it is a fun, engaging and exciting completion to the school year.

*Ms H. Campbell
Deputy Principal*

*Mr M. Carlyon
Deputy Principal*

Years 7, 11 & 12 Parent Teacher Interviews — Wednesday 22 March 2023

On Wednesday 22 March 2023, Moss Vale High School Community were able to enjoy face to face, Years 7, 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews for the first time in a couple of years.

We were able to display at this event, one of our much loved and respected members of the Moss Vale High School staff, Mrs Gillian Button's work. Mrs Button sadly passed away last year. With her long love of learning, and love of teaching through her own experience, she believed in the importance of education making a difference in a person's life, that education opens endless possibilities for the future.

Mrs Button was artistic, creative and clever. She was most passionate about working with textiles. She believed that through this medium you could tell a story using stitches and fabric. Below are photographs of some of her work using paint and thread on fabric.





NEWS FROM THE CAPA VAULT

A Creative and Performing Arts Update

And we're back for another year!

We've definitely hit the ground running and are loving having a new cohort of students join us.

CAPA Enrichment Program Extra-Curricular Activities

We have had our first CAPA meeting for the year to establish our Music, Dance, Drama and Art plans for 2023.

Our extra-curricular activities are currently as follows:

Choral: Choir, Vocal Rollers, One Note Longer, Simple Edition, Minor Details and The Hustle

Our Choir is running every Monday lunch and has over 80 vocalists attending. We had our first performance at a PBS Assembly and are working on our repertoire for our Term 2 CAPA Concert.

Our Vocal Rollers Home Group is at capacity and our vocalists are strengthening their technical skills and ability to harmonise.

We have held auditions for our Minor Details (Years 7 & 8), Simple Edition (Years 9-11) and The Hustle (male) Vocal Ensembles. They are learning their parts and choreography for our Term 2 event.

Students have also been selected to be part of our Senior Vocal Ensemble, One Note Longer and our Corazon Vocal Ensemble which featured all girls this term.

Instrumental: Stage Band, Junior Band, Jazz Band, MUGS and String Ensembles

Auditions with Mr Donaldson have been held for our *Stage Band* and the *Junior Band* and both ensembles have begun rehearsing Wednesday and Friday mornings at 8.30am. We currently have 25 students in the Stage Band and 11 students in the Junior Band. The Jazz Band is made up of selected senior students and rehearse Wednesday lunchtimes.

Our *MUGS* Ukulele Group has returned Wednesdays at lunch with Miss Kennedy and our Paridon String Ensemble is rehearsing Thursday lunch with our highly capable string tutor, Maria Dunn.

Visual Arts: Studio Art Project

The after-school Art group, the *Studio Art Project* has resumed on Thursday afternoons with Mrs Johnston, and there is already a waiting list!

Drama: 2024 School Musical Project and Year 7 Drama Club

We have begun planning our 2024 School Musical with auditions being held in Term 3 this year. More details to come – we are very excited to begin!

Next term, Mr Canute will begin Year 7 Drama Club. Students can have their first taste of high school drama during Tuesday lunchtimes in C5. See Mr Canute if you are interested.

Performances

International Women's Day

Our Corazon Vocal Ensemble performed two beautiful items at the International Women's Day Breakfast at Centennial Vineyards in Bowral. The girls also performed for a PBS Assembly in honour of International Women's Day.

BAMF

Over two days in Week 8, a number of our students were fortunate to attend a series of masterclasses as part of the Bowral Autumn Music Festival. Our string groups led by tutor Maria Dunn were able to workshop some repertoire with professional string players from Melbourne. Hannah Torpy (flute), Stella Stravoskoufis (flute), Oscar Dunn-Luck (piano), Simon Georgiou (trumpet), Prue Dunn-Luck (violin) and Mia Gardiner (violin) successfully applied to have individual masterclasses on their instruments. It was a valuable experience allowing the students to develop their performance and ensemble skills. A special thanks to Maria Dunn for organising and directing the string groups.

Oscar Dunn-Luck and Hannah Torpy also had the amazing opportunity to be selected to perform at the BAMF Musica Floreat Concert which featured senior students from schools in our Southern Highlands region. They represented Moss Vale impeccably!

Meet the Music

In Week 7, 25 Year 11 and 12 Music students travelled by train to watch the Sydney Symphony Orchestra play at the Sydney Opera House. They were treated to a number of amazing performances including Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* featuring pianist Simon Tedeschi, and the *Symphonic Dances* from West Side Story. For many students it was their first experience watching a professional orchestra and a first visit inside the Opera House. It was a fantastic night and the students enjoyed the concert and spending some time in the big smoke.

RISE Festival

In Week 6 all the local high schools joined forces to create a festival of music and positivity at Corbett Gardens for the inaugural RISE festival. Moss Vale High was represented by the Jazz Band (Tyler Bryant, Ryan Coulter, James Denman, Oscar Dunn-Luck, Simon Georgiou, Leo Jones and Sam Kennedy) and member of the senior vocal group One Note Longer (Ruby Bagnell, Grace Jones, Sophie Vandervoort and Alyssa Waring). We were very proud of how they all performed and happy to be involved in this community event.

Term 1 CAPA Soiree

We had planned to hold a full CAPA Concert this term, featuring each of our extra-curricular ensembles. However, due to the new NAPLAN dates, we had to make the decision to postpone the event to next term. Instead, we held a Soiree in Week 9 that featured individual items from our Music, Dance and Drama students. 40 students from Years 7-12 lit up the stage and we were so happy to include a large number of newbie performers. Our CAPA staff are so grateful to work with such talented and hard-working students and the audience clearly loved the evening!

Private Music Tuition

Our private music tutors are back in action for the year! The current schedule is:

Mondays

Edwina Carter (flute)

Alex Donaldson (clarinet and saxophone)

Julian Paviour (trumpet)

Wednesdays

Michael Griffiths (drums)

Thursdays and Fridays

Maria Dunn (piano, violin and cello)

In Summary

Every year the CAPA faculty love to give students the opportunity to be involved and do what they love and 2023 is no different! There is always an opportunity for students to perform or showcase their work, and we look forward to their involvement in PBS assemblies, CAPA concerts and community events.

Any student wishing to be part of our extra-curricular Enrichment Program should see Miss K in the CAPA Staffroom. It is never too late to become part of the CAPA family!

Miss Kennedy
Head Teacher CAPA



SOIREE



OTHER CAPA OCCASIONS



OTHER CAPA OCCASIONS cont..



GREEN DAY



Year 8 Journey to school in the style of John Wolseley
Mixed media on Paper



Ava Covington



Bonny Blake



Ella Davies



Georgia Kasoulis



Lilea Seville



Max Harkness



*Left:
Roy Watts and
Tom Georgi*



*Right:
Ryan
McLaren*

Year 10 Artworks

Rashawadee Alexander



Tom Nelson



Mim de Borde



April Jordan



Brodie Neale



Donilyn Barbarona



Jarvis Cape



Claudia Swinley



Georgina G-G



Issac Matthews



Lee Jones



Alice West



Oliver Cassar



Oscar Markovina



Marley Blake

Creativity in the Art Room



From our **Admin** Office

YEAR 12

A reminder to Year 12 students and parents: all outstanding school fees (excluding General Contribution) need to be paid in full by 31 July 2023, before being able to purchase a Formal ticket.

ACTIVITY WEEK 2023



Activity Week will be running again this year for Years 7 – 11, from Wednesday to Friday, 13-15 December 2023 (the last 3 days of the school year for students).

There will be several options available from action packed overnight activities to school based creative days, and everything in between.

Further detailed information will be communicated to students and parents early in Term 2.

REMINDER: Before students can choose an activity costing \$200 or more, all outstanding school fees (excluding General Contribution) need to be paid in full.



School Bytes at Moss Vale High

MVHS uses the School Bytes application for:

- All communications to parents via email
- All excursions with ability to give permission and payment online
- Tuesday sport selections by students online, with ability to give permission and payment online
- Activity Week selections by students online, with ability to give permission and payment online
- All invoicing for school fees
- Use of credit to pay for part or all fees, excursions or other payments
- Monitoring of student health conditions and regular medication

Parents can use the School Bytes application:

- To give permission and payment for excursions, Tuesday sport and Activity Week
- To pay for school fees or other payments
- To log on to the Parent Portal to view past payments, outstanding payments, excursions and activities their child has been in or is yet to attend. (Note that the School Bytes Parent Portal is different to the Sentral Parent Portal, which is currently used for attendance and wellbeing.)

Creating an account on the School Bytes Parent Portal is completely optional and not required for permissions and payments. If you would like to take advantage of this Parent Portal, please follow this link with full instructions:

<https://support.schoolbytes.education/hc/en-us/articles/5184859634191-Parent-Portal-Set-up-your-parent-portal-account>

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 **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:

Online orders via: <https://daylightsportswear.com/mossvale>

Our School Uniform shop is open Monday 8am-10am, Tuesday 1pm-4pm and Thursday 8am-10pm

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.



Important Notices regarding procedures @ Moss Vale High School:

Sick Bay

Changes to our process of dealing with students who present to our administration office feeling unwell:

- Students will be logged on our Sentral system and assessed.
- Basic first aid treatments will be administered where appropriate.
- If deemed unable to remain in class, parents / caregivers will be contacted to collect their child.
- Students will be waiting in the administration foyer for pick-up.

Early Leavers

- Students are expected to be at school all day, every day, unless they are seriously ill or have other extenuating circumstances.

If students are required to leave early the following procedure needs to be adhered to:

- Parents to notify the school via a note with your child, a phone call, email or via Sentral portal messages **before 9am**.
- An early leaver slip will be generated at the Administration Office, which will be given to your child.
- Students present the slip to be excused from class at the correct time.

Blazers & Ties

Students who wish to borrow a school blazer and/or tie, will need to go to the Administration Office in their break times, the day prior to requiring the uniform items. These items are NOT to be kept by students for extended periods of time.

Any students who have borrowed a school blazer or tie, and still have it in their possession, are expected to return it by Friday 10 February 2023 to the Administration Office.

Admin Office Hours

- 8:30am – 3:30pm

Agriculture

Steer Spec

OPPORTUNIYT OF A LIFETIME!!

We are very fortunate to be apart of the South Coast Steer Spectacular program. Our students have been busy dedicating every lunch to preparing the cattle for the show. We have been given the task of quietening down, halter breaking and preparing two Angus steers for the Spectacular in term 2. We would like to thank the committee of the South Coast Steer Spectacular for their support and Brad Hawthorn from Target Creek farm in Kangaroo Valley for supplying us the steers and transporting them to us. Our students are enjoying learning about cattle and the preparation and showing aspects. They are looking forward to their 2-day event where they can showcase their knowledge and skills.



Above : Back– Byron Henderson,
Margaux Riley, Ms Matheson-Gee,
Jemma Freund, Barry Harkness

Front-Ryan Jones, Max Harkness,
Liam Whatman





Canberra Royal

On Friday 24 February a team of 7 students travelled down to Canberra Royal to compete in Alpaca Schools Competition. Students were commended by alpaca breeders on their respect towards the public and the livestock. All our student teams were successful in placing in the event. The students engaged themselves in conversations with professionals within the alpaca, horse and cattle industries. A true representation of our students here at Moss Vale high school and the capability of our agriculture students.



ROYAL CANBERRA

24 - 26 February 2023



Below
 Back-Barry Harkness Byron Henderson, Ryan Jones, Liam Whatman, Margaux Riley
 Front-Max Harkness and Jemma Freund



Above
 The Show Team



Below
 Jemma Freund and Margaux Riley

Above
 Ryan Jones, Barry Harkness and Byron Henderson

Below
 Max Harkness and Liam Whatman



Below
 Byron, Barry & Margaux



Robertson Poultry Show

A small team of students represented Moss Vale High School by preparing our school ducks and entering them into Robertson Show. As always, our show team displayed the true meaning of teamwork and exhibited our core values when around public and livestock. We are excited that our Duck placed first and our two Drakes placed first and second in their class. Our poultry students soaked it all in during a talk with a poultry judge about what they are looking for in show birds.



Above : Charlotte Rutherford, Sam Gambrill, Charlie Boese and Jemma Freund

Below : Lacey Kirkland and Charlotte Rutherford



Above : Well done to the team

Below: Jemma, Charlie and Sam being shown by the judge the attributes of a prize winning duck



Rural Ambassador Program

Four of our students were successful in their application process to become a rural ambassador for Robertson Show. The program exposed students to the variety of exhibitions at the show. Students participated in junior judging and were engaged in multiple exhibitions and management task over the two-day show. Peter Norman was successful in advancing through to Sydney Royal, to represent Zone Group 5 in the Fruit, Vegetable and Grain Junior Judging. We wish him all the best.



Above : Peter Norman

*Report by Miss Matheson – Gee
Agriculture Teacher*



Above: Peter at award ceremony

*Right: Klara Searle Aalto, Hayley de Graaf, Nick Barton and
Peter Norman*



Uniform Clothing Pool

Do you have any uniforms that are in good condition and no longer required?

We have a second-hand uniform clothing pool that would greatly appreciate any donations. Washed items can be given to the administration office. All proceeds from items sold go to our Support Unit.



For more than a decade now, Australians from every corner of the country, in schools, businesses and community groups, have shown their support for Close the Gap by marking National Close the Gap Day on the third Thursday in March each year.

On Thursday 16 March, Moss Vale High School came together to raise money via a sausage sizzle for this important cause, and promote the message that Australians value health equality as a fundamental right for all. The fundraiser was led by the Aboriginal Education Team and students from the Connection Crew. Additionally, other staff members from across the school came together to pitch in. Thank you to all who assisted in making the day a success.

M. Tilden
 Aboriginal Education Team Leader



Below: Trey Stevens, Jemima Finlayson, Katie Cripps and Trinette Le-Grand

Below: Tom Keft-BBQ King



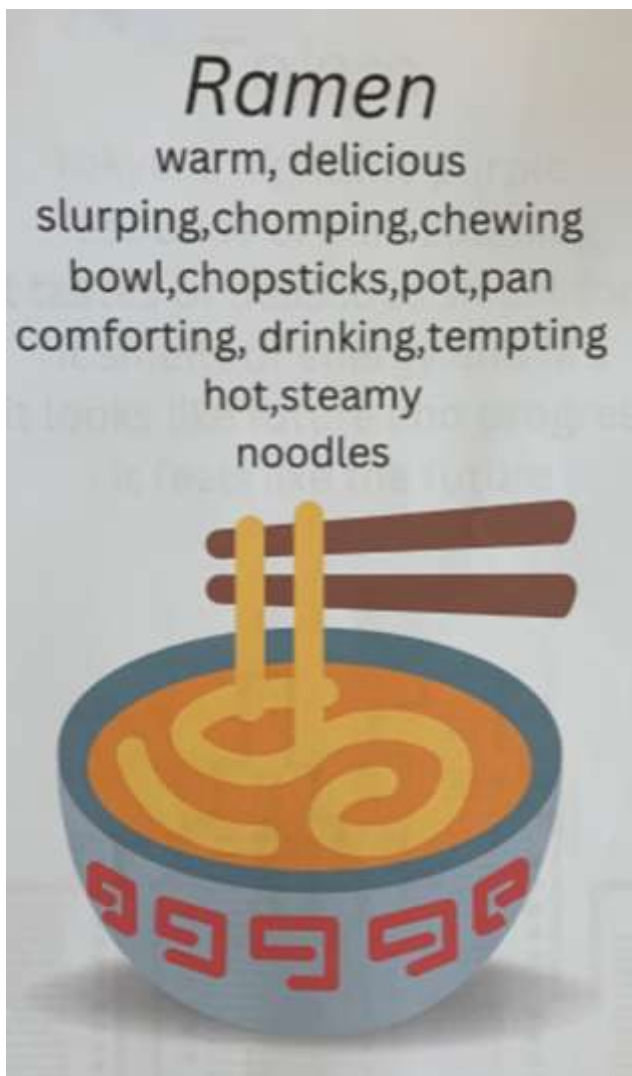


Year 7 have made a wonderful start to their high school English careers; they have created some amazing poetry. Students have been learning about poetic forms and techniques and have put this knowledge to good use by writing sense poems, haiku, diamante poems, shape poems, limericks, Dylan Thomas portraits and sonnets.

The challenge was then, to justify the choices they made in developing their poems. This gave us, as teachers, an insight into each student's understanding of the power of language and poetry.

As teachers it has been exciting to see students experimenting with language, putting to good use their poetic licence, and most importantly learning while having fun.

This is a very small selection of the poems that have been created but be assured, we are proud of the efforts of every student who submitted their anthology and justification.



By Xavier Smythe

Four Seasons

Summer burns like depths of eternal hell
The slow Transition from the dead Autumn
The fires of hell, like newly casted spells
Colours rich red like billionaire Guatum

Autumn makes all retreat with the weather
Changing towards the deadly ice and snow
Tree's leaves fall, slowly like a white feather
Now the water will start to freeze, not flow

Winter freezes all, stuck in slow motion
Frozen life will soon be slowly reborn
Cold makes all shake, creating commotion
The ice spikes sharper than a prickly thorn

Spring causing nature to re-awaken
The hell like heat cannot be mistaken

Lucas Shih

Haiku
 the mirror to me
 a distant rippled ocean
 flexibility

on the grass it sways
 the water drops run away
 a jiggly dew

By Samara Harvey

LOST

I FIND MYSELF FILLED WITH A DEEP YEARNING,
 FOR THE DAYS WITHOUT THIS BLACK HOLE INSIDE,
 WISH FOR THE DAYS WHEN I WAS JUST LEARNING,
 BUT ALL I FIND IS THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE DIED.

I WANT ONLY CONSOLATION OF CALM,
 TO BE WRAPPED UP THE THE WARMTH OF YOU LOVE,
 BUT MY MIND IS LIKE A RIOTING FARM,
 I'M ONLY LEARNING THAT YOU'RE UP ABOVE.

I WANT TO LOVE YOU AND CREATE A TIE,
 MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE LET YOUR FEELINGS SHOW,
 BUT I STRUGGLE TO ALLOW YOU TO FLY,
 WHAT STOPS ME FROM BEING ABLE TO GROW,

IS THAT YOU STILL LIVE WITH ME IN MY HEART,
 AND I REALLY CAN'T BEAR TO BE APART.

By Imogen Brown

Nurturing earthy grove

Trees
 Windy, Green
 Blowing, Providing, Nurturing
 Home, Nature, Earth, Shade
 Waving, Dancing, Living
 Healthy, Tall
 Grove

By Charlotte Crowe

Flowers

Smell like a bottle of perfume
 Look soft and smooth
 Feel delicate and thorny
 Sound like buzzing bees
 Taste like dewy drops

By Isla Garrett

Rain

It resembles the appearance of a snow-white soul lost in the dance of life.

It sounds of many crying in despair, for lost loved ones.

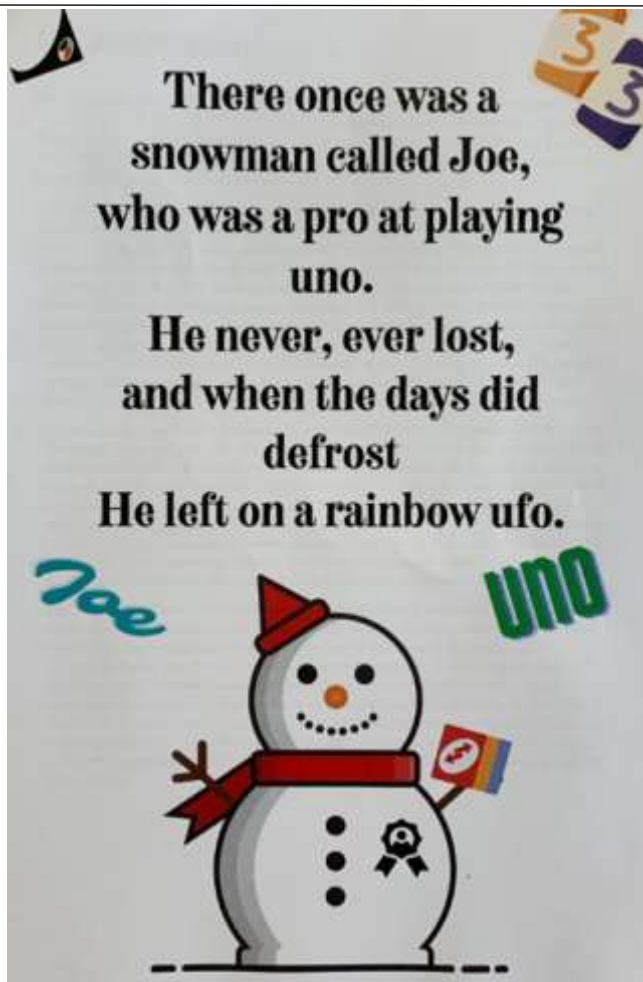
It tastes as if the very essence of life is washing down your throat.

It looks as if it is performing a dance of a thousand dancers, one by one, completing its act before soaking into the harsh, dusty earth.

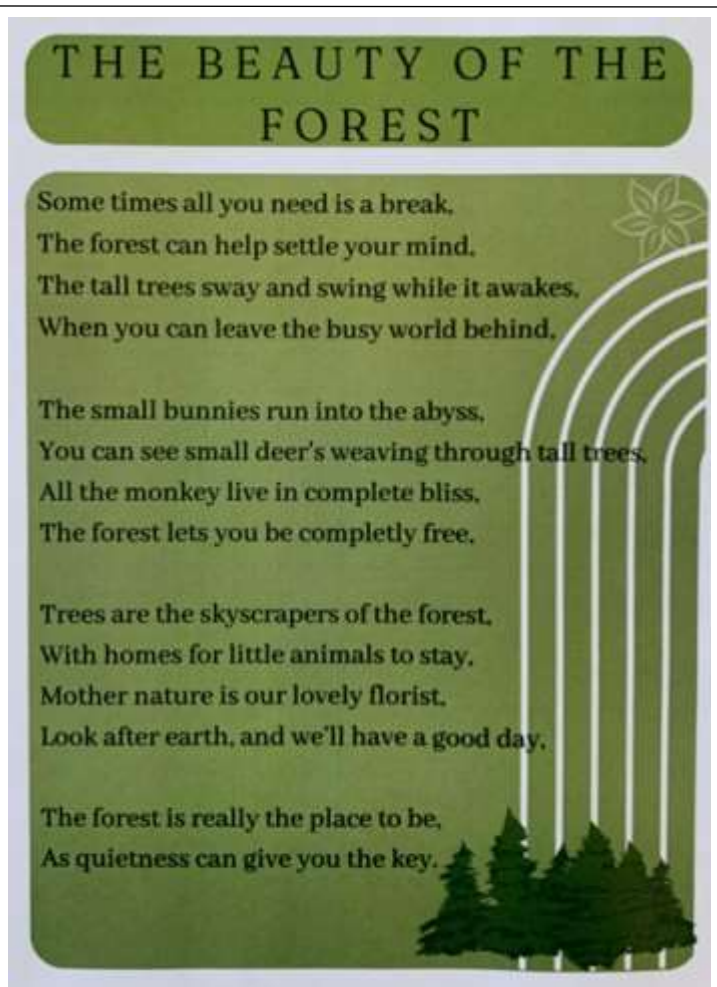
Thus, ending its cycle once again.

It makes me feel as if it were lulling one to slumber to wake when it's all over.

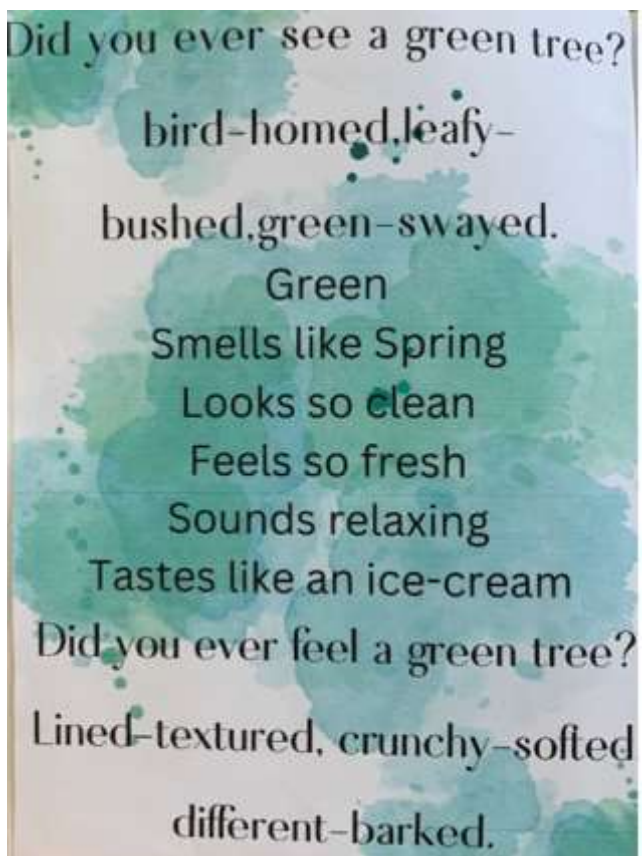
By Noah Stone



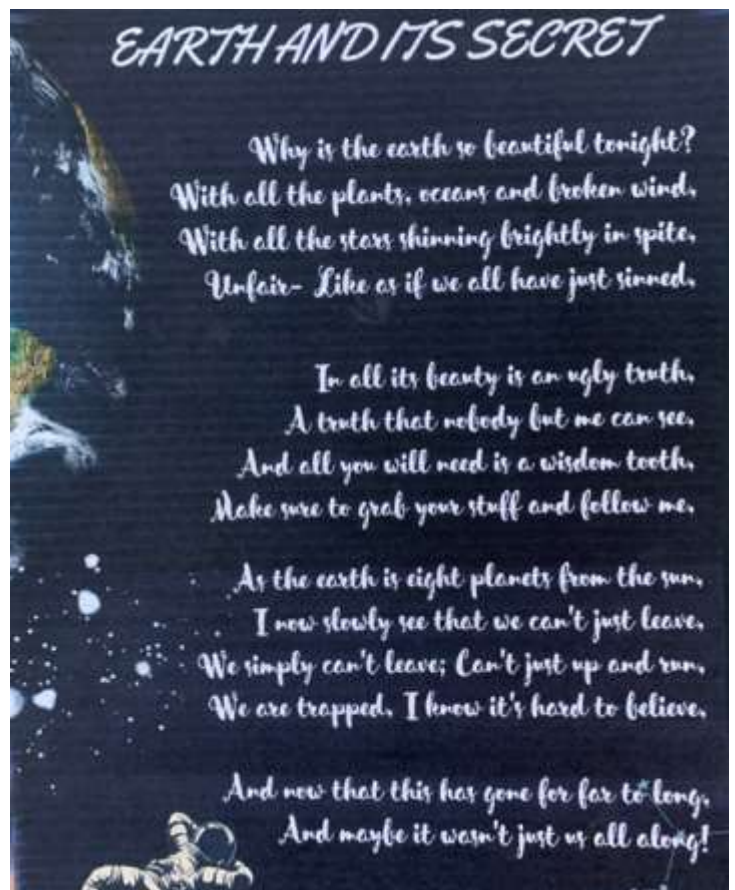
By Odette Webb



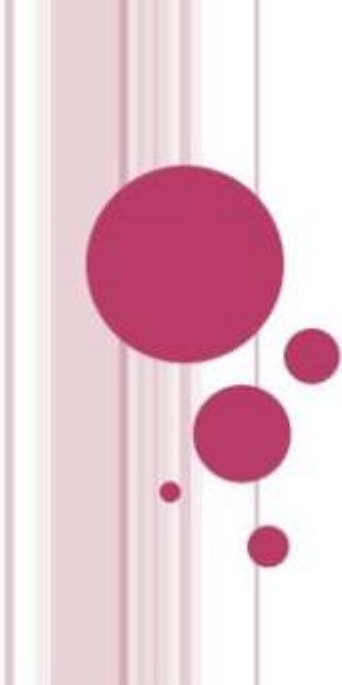
By Nikayla Aitken-Coburn



By Emilia Medcalf



By Bindi Bova



LITERACY IN EDUCATION

@ Moss Vale High School

As part of Moss Vale High School's Strategic Improvement Plan, there is a focus on improving the Literacy rates of our students. As part of this targeted intervention, Stage 4 students are participating in an ongoing Literacy development program. Each student has been tested to determine their current Literacy levels in Reading and Comprehension and each student will follow an individualised and differentiated program of support.

This assessment process has provided teachers with a wealth of data to understand where their students are in their learning and to plan what to do next. Staff spent a busy afternoon analysing this data to identify areas where students' learning needs may require additional attention and development. Consequently, teachers know their students' reading levels, areas of concern and areas to extend. Each term, staff will have access to regular data updates that underpin and drive their assessments and class work.

This term, students in Year 7 & 9 participated in NAPLAN. NAPLAN is the national assessment that tests students' ability in three areas of Literacy—Reading, Writing and Language Conventions (spelling, grammar, and punctuation) and Numeracy. This year, NAPLAN was held in March, so that schools and parents can see students' results earlier, giving teachers more time to carry out targeted teaching while the data is current. Congratulations to all students who completed the NAPLAN tests and thanks to all teachers who assisted in delivering NAPLAN tests!

Next term, Year 8 will also take part in Check-In Assessments. Like NAPLAN, Check-in assessments are online diagnostic assessments in Reading and Numeracy that assist schools to supplement existing school practices used to identify how students are performing. Staff will use this data to identify strengths or areas of focus at a school, class and individual student level to identify "where to next" in each student's learning progress. More information will be made available in term 2.

Ms Westbrook
Specialist Teacher Literacy & Numeracy





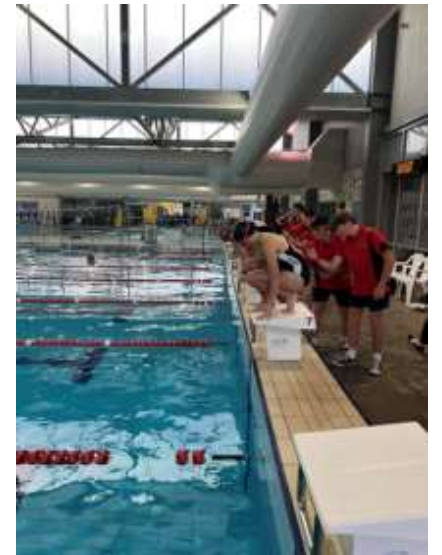
Swimming Carnivals

Term 1 is always a super busy term with swimming carnivals, many first rounds in our knockout competitions and a range of individual trials at Zone and South Coast levels.

This year we started off with a competitors only swimming carnival due to not being able to secure a date suitable at Bowral Swimming Pool. Whilst it wasn't a whole school event with lots of colour and activities, our swimmers were happy to make their way down to the Moss Vale Aquatic Centre where they all performed well.

Congratulations to all the students who competed in the carnival. As always their behaviour was exemplary. Thank you to our Year 10 Pass students for assisting in the running of the carnival!







Age Champions School Swimming Carnival

Age	Girls	Boys
12 years	Jade Bradley	
13 years	Sophia Blake	Matthew Hong
14 years	Olivia Brumfield	Ziggy Winley
15 years	Donilyn Barbarona	Lachlan McNeilage
16 years	Emily Harlor	Riley Wallace
17 years	Amelia Gentles	Andrew Hong



Above : Sophia Blake, Donilyn Barorona, Emily Harlor and Jade Bradley

Above : Ziggy Winley, Andrew Hong, Riley Wallace, Matthew Hong and Lachlan McNeilage



Moss Vale High School Basketball Success

Our Basketball teams have picked up where they left off in 2022 and continue to have success, with both the Boys and the Girls Open Basketball teams progressing to the next round in Goulburn.

The boys were undefeated, placing first in front of Mulwaree HS and playing not unlike the Harlem globetrotters at times! The girls came in second behind Karabar HS.

Caitlin, Ana, Lillian and Eliza are to be congratulated on their zone team selection.

All players were exemplary in their behaviour, supported each other and genuinely had fun playing whilst remaining competitive.

Thanks to Lillian for refereeing and all players who happily completed our bench duties.

The next round was played within the next week.

A big thank you also to supercoaches Mrs Rossi and Mr Williams who continue to advocate for, organise and passionately coach our teams when required.



Above : Cody Shaw, Nazareth Christie, Marcel Honore, Bailey Palmer-Quigg, Henry Rough, Joshe Kelly, Izaak Philippe, Noah Rochaix and Nathan Collision



Above : Ana Risteska, Hanna Ash, Eliza Rough, Georgia Stone, Emmerson Rochaix, Lily Ragan, Lady Dela Cerna, Elly Ragan, Ayessa Cecilio and Caitlin Stone



OPEN BOYS FOOTBALL ZONE CHAMPIONS

The CHS Open Boys Football knockout competition has undergone a revamp this year, as the tablelands zone schools (Bowral High School, Yass High School, Mulwaree High School, Goulburn High School, Crookwell High School NSW DoE, Queanbeyan High School, Karabar High School and Moss Vale) competed at the zone knockout gala day at Church Road, hosted by MVHS.

Our boys swept aside all competition to take out the title of zone champions and progress through to the next round of the competition.

Results were as follows:

Round 1 v Mulwaree HS 6-1 win

Semi final v Yass HS 4-0 win

Final v Bowral HS 4-1 win

The boys played with flair, enjoyment and great sportsmanship and were brilliant ambassadors for MVHS.

There were so many highlights and outstanding performances from each game, however, a big congratulations goes to the following students for their selection in the first Open Boys Tablelands Zone Football team in over 11 years:

Gabriel Stanley, Luke Arregui, Andrew Hong, Joshe Stone, Evan Woods-Jack, Rowan Davies and Billy Apostolatos.

These students competed at the South Coast Combined High Schools Trials/gala day in Shellharbour in March.

We are also grateful for Moss Vale Football Club for allowing us to use their amazing facilities with minimal notice, our referees, Year 10 PASS students and Super Coach Mr Vasilakis for all their efforts in making the day the huge success it was for our Tablelands Zone students and who assisted the new Tablelands Zone Football Convenor Mr Vandenberg.



Above : Front Row– James Smith, Andrew Hong, Izaak Philipse, Joshe Stone, Luke Arregui, Evan Woods-Jack, Henry Morris, Rowan Davies, Reuben Streatfield and Barry Harkness

Back : Billy Apostolatos, Connor Burroughs, Cody Shaw, Gabriel Stanley, David Gillis, Isaac Guymer and Henry Rough

OPEN GIRLS BASKETBALL ZONE FINALS

The Open Girls basketball team faced some strong competition at the zone finals in Goulburn.

The girls arrived energised and determined to bring their “A game.”

Kiama High School was no match for the girls in the first game, where they came away with a 59 to 32 win.

In round two they played a competitive game against Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts, losing by only 11 points. High point scorers on the day were Eliza Rough and Elly Ragan, followed by Ana Risteska. All girls are to be commended on their sportsmanship and support of each other and thank you again to our Basketball guru and Super Coach Mrs Rossi, for everything she does for our school’s basketball program.



Above Left to Right: Elly Ragan, Ana Risteska, Lady Dela Cerna, Hanna Ash, Caitlin Stone, Georgie Stone, Eliza Rough, Emmerson Rochaix, Lily Ragan and Ayessa Cecilio



Left : Georgie Stone



Zone Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our 23 students who travelled to Queanbeyan to compete in the Zone Swimming Carnival.

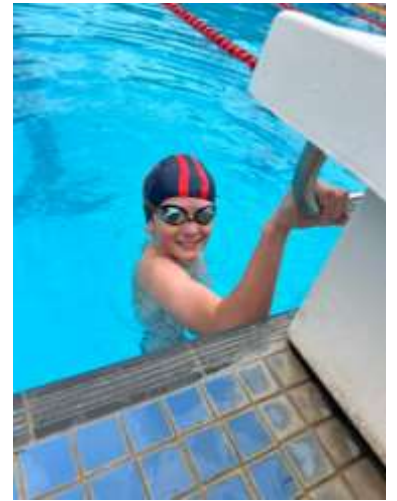
All students performed to the best of their ability and are to be commended on their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour.

We had several relay teams place 3rd and a number of students placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd who will now progress to the Regional carnival. Lachlan McNeilage had an outstanding day being named the Zone 15ys Boys Age Champion, Congratulations.

Thanks to Mr Cooke for assisting Ms Middleton and for the parents transporting students.

Below : Lachlan McNeilage





Above: Annabel Harper, Emiko Curcuruto, Emma Kirkland and Jade Bradley

Right: Harlor Riley and Riley Hong

SOUTH COAST BOYS BASKETBALL

The Open Boys Basketball team travelled down to the Snakepit Stadium in Wollongong to take part in the South Coast Tournament.

Due to injuries the side was slightly depleted and only had 1 substitute on the bench but the boys saw it as a positive with plenty of game time ensured.

The first two games were against strong teams in Smith's Hill High School and Bulli High School. We were very competitive but went down in both games. The third game was against Ulladulla High School and we managed to secure the victory by just 1 point - MVHS's first win at the tournament in a very long time. At the end of the day, we had 6 very tired boys, who never gave up and proudly represented the school for the entire tournament.

Thanks to Mr Williams for his expertise and guidance in coaching our boys team again this year. A special mention has to be made to our Year 12 players, Bailey Palmer-Quigg and Naz Christie who have played their last game for MVHS. Naz finished off the day by hitting a 3 point buzzer beater to get the win against Ulladulla.

Well done boys!



Above : Nathan Collison, Marcel Honore, Henry Rough, Cody Shaw, Nazareth Christie, Bailey Palmer-Quigg and Noah Rochaix

OPEN GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM, ZONE CHAMPIONS

The CHS Open Girls Football knockout competition has undergone a revamp this year, as the tablelands zone schools (Bowral High School, Yass High School, Mulwaree High School, Goulburn High School, Crookwell High School, Queanbeyan High School, Karabar High School and Moss Vale) competed at the zone girls knockout gala day/ trials at Church Road on Monday 27 February 2023.

Our girls were outstanding all day and only got better as the day progressed, sweeping aside all competition to take out the title of zone champions and progress through to the next round of the competition.

Results were as follows:

Round 1 v Mulwaree HS 2-0 win

Semi final v Yass HS 4-1 win

Final v Bowral HS 5-0 win

While there were many brilliant performances, Year 11 student April Rowley put in a shift for the ages in each game scoring nearly every single Moss Vale goal, including all five in the final. April could have had plenty more in this final, however, true to her unselfish nature she attempted to share the goals around and set up her teammates, passing the ball to many of them when she was one on one with the goalkeeper:

A huge congratulations goes to the following girls for being selected in the Zone team:

Emma Turner, April Rowley, Emmerson Rochaix.

These students will compete at the South Coast Combined High Schools trials/gala day as part of the Tablelands Zone team in Shellharbour next week.

A huge thank you goes to Moss Vale Football Club for allowing us to use their amazing facilities with minimal notice, our referees, Year 10 PASS students and Coach Miss Duffy.



*Front Row : Left to Right-
Ash Wilson, Emmerson
Rochaix, Emma Turner,
Grace McAlpine, Bridget
Connors*

*Back Row : Eliza Shields,
April Wallace, Tess
Stanley, Keira Hol, April
Rowley, Alexe Murray,
Grace Turner, Lucy Smith
and Darcey Ingrey*

Girls Open Cricket

On Friday 10 March our girls open 2022 cricket team travelled to Blacktown to compete in the final stages of the 2022 knockout competition against Westfield Sports High School.

Moss Vale won the toss and sent Westfield into bat. There was some great batting by Westfield, however, our girls never gave up and took some awesome wickets. Ashleigh Wilson took 3/19 off 5 overs and Zahra Nasser took 3/37 from 6 overs. Keira Hol took a couple of great catches as did Zahra, Emmerson Rochaix and Lucy Nash with Alex Beveridge working hard in the outfield. Westfield were all out in the 29th over for 9/185.

After a quick break Moss Vale headed out to bat but it wasn't to be our day. Wickets fell fast as a result of some outstanding bowling from the Westfield girls, which we were no match for. Zahra Nasser top scored with 7 runs.

Friday was also the last game for our Year 12 girls. With Keira Hol and Neve Wallace leading the way over the last couple of years representing at CHS level, they helped create a great culture amongst the team accompanied by Lucy Nash, Taylah Robson, Alexe Murray, Grace Turner and Bridget Connors. These girls have been great role models for the younger girls and have always demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and a positive attitude. A big thank you goes to these girls for all their dedication to our girls cricket team - they will be missed.

*Below: Back- Lucy Smith, Bridget Connors, Emmerson Rochaix
Middle-Georgi Hurford, Alexe Murray, Taylah Robson, Lucy Nash, Keira Hol
Front-Grace Turner, Alex Beveridge, Zahra Nasser, Ashleigh Wilson and Neve Wallace*



*Above: Bridget Connors,
Taylah Robson, Lucy
Nash, Keira Hol*

*Front: Alexe Murray,
Grace Turner and Neve
Wallace*

Right: Ashleigh Wilson





Left :Alexi Murray

Right: Alex Beveridge



Regional Swimming Carnival

14 of our best swimmers attended the regional swimming carnival at Dapto pool. Well done to all students for representing your school and zone and to Mr Williams for accompanying our students on the day.

Results for the day are as follows:

Relays	3rd Girls 15s 200m Relay Heat	2nd Boys 15s 200m Relay Heat	
Lachlan McNeilage	1st 15yrs 100m Free-style heat	3rd 15yrs 100m Breaststroke heat	2nd 15yrs 50m Free-style heat
Donilyn Barbarona	2nd 15yrs 100m Breaststroke heat		



Junior Boys Cricket

Junior Boys Cricket team travelled to Yass to compete in the first round of the knockout competition. MVHS batted first and made 5 for 107. Justin Murray made 35 and Josh Green 33

We then restricted Yass to 4 for 69 in their 20 overs. Max Wallace 1 for 10 bowled beautifully. Josh Green 2 for 6.

A great team effort, well captained by Noah Nasser. The team played the game in an excellent spirit worthy of MVHS sports teams.

Thank you to Mr Good for coaching and all his organisation.



In the final weeks of term 1 we had a number of events from the Girls Open Cricket, Junior Boys and Girls soccer's 1st round of their knockout competition and our school Cross country. All these events are reported on facebook and in next term's report due to the timing of the newsletter.

Over term 1 we have had a large number of students attend individual trials in Rugby League, Hockey, Soccer, Netball, Basketball, Cricket and Touch Football.

Lucy Nash, Bridget Connors, Georgi Hurford and Justin Murray have been selected to represent at South Coast for Hockey.

Lillian Ragan has been selected to represent South Coast for Basketball.

April Rowley and Billy Apostolatos have been selected as shadow players for South Coast in Football (Soccer).

Riley Wallace and Noah Nasser have been selected to progress to the next trial later in the year for Cricket.

Congratulations and good luck to all these students in their upcoming tournaments.

Berrima District Sports Awards

Moss Vale HS was well represented at Berrima District in February.

The Berrima District Sports Awards were held at Mittagong RSL. MVHS held six out of the nine nominations for the School Team award including U15 Girls Basketball, Open Boys Basketball, Year 7/8 and 9/10 Oztag, U15 Girls Netball and the Year 8/11 Senior Girls Cricket Team. The award, however, went to Robertson Primary Schools Hockey Team for their outstanding success.

Other students who achieved awards included Lucy Nash for Hockey, Billy Apostolatos for Athletics and Soccer, Charlotte Withers for Athletics and Jack Bowie for Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. Past students Holly Hurford, Jorgi Webb and Riley Tozer were also mentioned for their success in 2021/2022 for Soccer, Cross Country, Hockey and Soccer. Remi Mant and Jorgi Webb for Rugby League.

Well done to all students involved.

Berrima District Sports Awards continued



Right: Lucy Nash



Left : Sue Rossi, Ayessa Cecilio, Lillian Ragan and Taylor Moran

Above : Billy Apostolatos



Left: Holly Hurford



Above : Holly Hurford and Lucy Nash

Thank you to all the coaches for their organisation and to our students for their enthusiasm and great sportsmanship.

Looking forward to next term. *Ms Middleton Sports Co-ordinator*

in the Hall, with students bringing a book and exchanging it for one new to them, embodying the ideal of reduce, reuse, recycle.



On Wednesday 8 March, the girls in our senior leadership team (Year 12 SRC) were invited to attend the International Women’s Day breakfast organised by the CWA at Centennial Vineyards. Captains Sara Rosas and Alyssa McCrow, along with SRC members Neve Wallace and Sarah Brumfield, were privileged to listen to the guest speakers on the day, as well as chatting with other attendees. It was a wonderful morning celebrating the strong women in our community and understanding the challenges which lie ahead.

On Monday 27 March, 10 students from our SRC travelled to Sydney to participate in the YLAA Youth Leadership Conference at the ICC at Darling Harbour. While it was a very long day (made longer by an unfortunate train delay on our return), the students were inspired by the conference, which was attended by well over 2000 students from all over NSW. Those students will also engage in a 10 week online program designed to further develop their leadership capacity.



In Term 2, our SRC focus is shifting to the challenge of domestic and intimate partner violence, another issue which was identified by students as being of high priority for young people in our community. Elections for our SRC start at the end of Term 3, in preparation for joining the group in Term 4.

Our current members are: **2022-2023 SRC member list**

Captains (4)

Alyssa McCrow
Sara Rosas
James Denman
Sam Kennedy

Year 8 (3)

Ryan McLaren
Toby Longshaw
Jacob Fleming

Senior Leadership Team (6)

Brody Martin
Neve Wallace
Zoe Maguire
Jasmine Palk
Sarah Brumfield
Pic Phin

Year 11 (7)

Mia Gardiner
Emerald Fleming
Patrick McIntosh
Nathan Collison
Emmerson Rochaix
Zahra Nasser
Elyse Denford

Year 9 (4)

Nash Leith
Charlotte Withers
Tory Attwood
Lucy Smith

Year 10 (6)

Asher Jansen
Dixie Kumal
Jeremiah Good
Donilyn Barbarona
Angelina Cooksley
Lucas Millward

Support Unit (2)

Nicholas Hamilton (Yr 10)
Brody Shepherd (Yr 9)



Spotlight on HSIE

International Studies - Harmony Day



Harmony Day was celebrated at Moss Vale High School on Monday 21 March with our second annual Harmony Day stalls.

Harmony Day is a celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. The International Studies elective presented stalls that aimed to share the culture of different countries around the world. There was plenty of colour, some delicious food (including churros, baklava and Jumeok-bap (Korean rice balls!), music, interactive activities and lots of enthusiasm. Countries on display included South Korea, Israel, Mexico, Japan, Italy, Cuba, France and Tanzania!





Sydney Jewish Museum - Year 10 History

Our Year 10 students embarked on an excursion to the Jewish Museum in Sydney on Monday 20 March 2023. The visit was organised as a part of their history course where they have been learning about the Holocaust.

The museum provided an invaluable opportunity for our students to gain a deeper understanding of this tragic event in history. They were able to engage with the extensive collections of artifacts and photographs, as well as listen to the first-hand accounts of survivors Lucy Chladek and Maurice Linker.

The students demonstrated a great level of interest, maturity, and respect throughout the visit. They asked thoughtful questions, listened attentively to the museum guides, and showed a sincere desire to learn and reflect on the lessons of the Holocaust. The museum staff were impressed with their





level of engagement and dedication to their learning.

Overall, the excursion was a valuable and enriching experience for our students, helping them to broaden their perspectives and deepen their understanding of this significant event in history.

Year 11 Geography - Minnamurra River

Senior Geography have been out and about completing their fieldwork on the biophysical interactions taking place in the Estuary at Minnamurra River. Students spent the day canoeing down the river, stopping along the way to observe different processes in action. The weather looked like it was going to spoil the day but cleared just in time to make for an enjoyable day.





Year 12 Legal Studies - Moss Vale Police Station

On 21 March, Year 12 Legal Studies visited the Moss Vale Police Station. On the day of the visit, we had to meet up with our whole class at the start of recess to walk down towards the Police Station and meet with Senior Constable O'Brien and Senior Constable Dan, who gave us a tour of the whole premises, including an evidence storage facility, which held multiple significant case files including the Ivan Malat files. We also saw the evidence lockers which held a wide variety of evidence, including weaponry such as guns and ammo. We were later shown the garage facility of the premises, which held the RBT van and multiple police vehicles. We were shown the practical gear used by everyday policemen, such as the police vests, handcuffs and riot gear, which we all had the chance to wear. After the showcase we were shown all the offices of the different types of police workers, such as detectives, preventative officers etc. We were able to have the chance to be shown the interrogation rooms.

By Pic Phin and James Denman.





SUPPORT UNIT EXCELLENCE

Welcome to new Staff and Students

The Support Unit at MVHS proudly welcomes new staff members Heather Duffy and Trinette Le-Grand to our team. They join existing teachers Jim Good, Kate Regan, Anita Austin, Paulina Kowalczyk and Tim Vandervoort as Head Teacher.

We are also very pleased to welcome eight Year 7 students and their families to our team. With the addition of the Fitzroy class, we now have five classes.

Support Teacher Transition Visit

On Wednesday 15 March, MVHS hosted a Parent Information Session conducted by Merryl Bennett. Merryl is the Regional Itinerant Support Teacher Transition for the NSW DoE. The purpose of the 2 hour session was to help parents (and staff) better understand the range of options that are available to students in their post school life. Merryl was also able to successfully convey some of the pathways toward participating in these post school options. The session was particularly aimed at families who have a child in the Support Unit in Years 10, 11 or 12. Thanks to Merryl and to all the families who came along.

Robbo Class TAS Projects Term 1

For the last eight weeks Robbo class have been producing 'Rope Baskets'. These baskets will then be filled with decorated eggs - created by blowing the contents out of the eggshells then decorating the eggshells ready for Easter.



School Sport Term 1

Thanks again to Toby Smith from 'Coverdrive' based at Bradman Oval and the Kollege of Knowledge Kommittee for Kids (K4KK) for their continued support.



Thanks, from Tim Vandervoort and the Support Unit team.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters



When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills

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

CONGRATULATIONS!

422 STUDENTS
WITH
95-100%
ATTENDANCE
FOR TERM 1!



*Thank
You!*

Moss Vale High School
Staff and Students
would like to send
a **HUGE**



**GUBBINS PULBROOK
MITRE 10**

for their generous
donation of plants