K/3B enjoy learning how to care for our school vegetable garden

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Follow us on our You Tube Channel and on twitter: @MossValePS
Dear Parents and Friends of Moss Vale Public School

School Self Evaluation

As part of the school’s annual school reporting process, we undertake data gathering through surveys to parents, staff and students. You will receive via email shortly, a link to two on-line surveys to assist us in making improvements to the programs we provide or improve the way we do things.

The first survey concerns SMART Learning. SMART Learning has been operating in our school for two years and as part of the review process, we are asking parents to provide feedback on this initiative. Your assistance in completing this survey is greatly appreciated and will help us to revise the SMART Learning activities in a way that best suits the school community.

The second survey concerns the information and communication you receive from the school. The staff and P&C are trying to find out the best way to notify you about the news, activities and important information such as: excursions, daily activities, notes due and general communication. Currently, one printed copy of the newsletter is given to the eldest child in each family. The newsletter is also posted on the school website, Twitter, emailed and placed on the Skoolbag app. We are also interested if you would prefer an online delivery and/or printed copies. There is also an opportunity to consider the school’s use of social media and the value of the changeable sign on Argyle St.

We value your opinion and welcome feedback through these surveys. Please look out for them in your email inbox in the next few days.

Student Progress Reports

Children in Years K—6 and our support class students will be issued their progress reports on Friday 11 December. The reports summarise your child’s achievements over the 2nd semester (Term 3 & 4) in each of the Key Learning Areas. For students in mainstream K—6 classes, the report provides parents with information about how their child has progressed over the semester using a graded scale. The reports utilise a 5 point scale using the language of Limited to Outstanding and is referred to as the A—E scale to indicate overall achievement in each Key Learning Area. Students in support classes have reports which are based on their Individual Learning Plans and should not be compared to the achievement of students in mainstream classes.

In all reports, a general comment from the class teacher provides more detail concerning your child’s particular strengths, achievements and areas to be developed.

Ethics Classes

Some of our current Ethics Teachers are moving on at the end of the year and we are seeking volunteers so that classes can continue in 2016. In ethics classes, children learn how to think logically, disagree respectfully and support their arguments with evidence, rather than act according to blind habit or peer pressure. Children discuss topics such as: imagining how others feel; how do we treat living things; what is laziness; how do we disagree in a respectful way. Ethics Teachers receive full training through workshops and online modules. If you are looking for an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our school, please visit: http://www.primaryethics.com.au

Presentation Assembly

Our school will be conducting our Annual Presentation Assembly on Monday, 14 December commencing at 9.15 am in the Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA). The presentation assembly provides our school opportunity to recognise students who have excelled in a range of academic work, citizenship or have significantly improved in aspects of their learning. There will also be musical items performed by various student groups to help celebrate this important event. We invite you to attend this assembly to help us celebrate the achievements of our students.

Are you moving and/or changing schools in 2016?

Thank you to those parents who have advised us of their changing circumstances for the 2016 school year. To assist us in planning for next year, we request that parents who will not be returning their child to Moss Vale Public School next year, to contact the school office as soon as possible. Similarly, if you have changed contact details or there is important medical information about your child we need to know, it is definitely a good idea to inform our office staff so that we can update our records.

It takes a community to raise a child
Laurie Connery, Principal
# Coming Events Calendar

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>Learn to Swim (Group 3)</td>
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<td><strong>Dec Week 10</strong></td>
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<td>Links to Learning Graduation</td>
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<td><strong>Dec Week 11</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Presentation Day Assembly 9am</td>
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## Important Aspects of Writing

**Writing** involves using spelling, grammar, design features, handwriting and digital tools to create texts for **specific purposes**.

**Editing**

When we're ready to share our writing with others, it is important to take time to re-read what we have written to make sure that our message is clear and our spelling, grammar, punctuation and capitalisation are correct. The word re-vision means to "look again." After writing an initial draft, successful writers "look again" at their writing to make sure they have accomplished what they set out to do. Once a piece has been revised and major changes have been made, successful writers then edit or polish their writing to make certain that readers won't be confused or distracted by unintentional errors and their message is clear and concise.

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## Power FM Breakfast Show

Last Thursday 19th November Moss Vale Public School was given the opportunity for Power FM to broadcast live from 7am–9am under the cola. It was a most exciting morning with lots of staff, parents and students in attendance. Throughout the morning the 949 Power FM crew conducted interviews with Mr Connery, Mrs Hines, parents and students. There was even a Karaoke stand set up for students to demonstrate their singing and dancing talents. The Live Life Well team explained to people the importance of exercise and healthy eating. They also handed out show bags containing lots of ideas for a healthy lifestyle. The Breakfast kindly donated by our local IGA store was a huge hit with everyone. It consisted of cereal, milk, juice, fresh fruit and a side of toast with butter/jam/vegemite. Definitely enjoyed by all as the pictures illustrate. All in all it was a most successful morning with students, parents, friends and staff having the opportunity to interact with each other in a relaxed atmosphere, as well as talk to the radio hosts.
On Friday 30th October, Stage 1 students visited Calmsley Hill City Farm to learn about the lifecycle of farm animals.

From 1S, Lucy said “I loved the farm, especially milking the cow”.

Regan liked meeting Coco the camel and being chosen for a whip show.

Lennox had a fantastic time watching Dotty the dog round up the sheep.

We all had a great day out and enjoyed our excursion.

1C had a very busy day exploring the farm and looking at all the animals.

1/2V has been looking at how water is used. Students conducted an experiment to test what types of objects float. They used this information to make machines that float from recyclable materials.
Stage 3 Inspire Day

Last Thursday, the majority of Stage 3 students participated in ‘Inspire Day 2015’. Inspire Day is an award winning initiative partly funded by the NSW Arts Unit and the Moss Vale Community of Schools. It is designed to give primary school students a ‘taste’ of the Creative Arts program they will experience in the coming years and acts as an effective transition program. The day saw staff and students from Moss Vale High School’s Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) Department team up with Stage 3 students from Moss Vale PS, Avoca PS and Penrose PS. Students were broken up into groups that included Drama, Choral Singing, Dance, Creative Art, and Drumming. Workshops were held in the morning and the day culminated with a gala performance of the works created by the students. Inspire Day has once again proven to be both highly enjoyable and richly rewarding for all staff and students involved.

Interschool’s Equestrian Championships

Last holidays, Georgie Cochrane and her pony Wingana Badger Boy competed at the Australian Interschools Equestrian Championships in two disciplines—the Combined Training and Dressage. They came a commendable 11th in the Combined Training. In the dressage they came 2nd and 3rd in their events which put them 3rd Overall in the Primary Division and part of the NSW team that finished 3rd in this division. The competition went for five days and they were required to stay there the entire time. Amazing results! Well done Georgie!

Country Fair Fete

Thank you to our wonderful community for supporting our Moss Vale Public School’s fete on Friday 13th November. It was a tremendous success, with the fete raising over $16,000.00 for the school. Congratulations on a job well done! A special thank you must go to all the teachers, parents and community members for their efforts, support and time in making our fete so wonderful and welcoming. People had the opportunity to browse many quality stalls offering gift baskets, cakes show bags, mystery gifts, groceries and the arts and crafts pavilion. There was a variety of delicious food on offer from nachos, Devonshire teas, pies, right through to a sausage sizzle. Children had the chance to experience many rides from water balls to bungy jumping. All in all a great experience was had by all!!!
Let’s Get It Sorted

Students are taking much pride in maintaining our school vegetable garden. Planting a seed teaches students about the need to protect our natural resources, since clean soil and water are necessary for the plants to grow.

It is also an opportunity for students to cooperatively work on real life tasks and observe all of the principals of ecology in practice.

Students are also learning that we need to preserve open land for food crops, trees and enjoying nature. By taking responsibility for the garden students are valuing their environment which is part of our Ecological Footprint plan.

Some year 6 students are also working with our General Assistant, Mr Bowditch in building the vegetable plots. They are transferring and applying their skills and strategies in literacy and numeracy, learnt in the classroom, into a real life context and they are doing a great job!

Students have been discussing packaging materials that can or can not be recycled in the home and school setting. They have been exploring how much extra packaging is created by purchasing a single serve pack, as opposed to buying in bulk and then putting smaller serves into reusable containers.

Parent Tip for the Week
Teach children about recycling at home. Encourage them to help separate the recyclables from the non-recyclables.
Canteen Roster

*Canteen Volunteers Roster* — if anyone is unable to attend on your rostered day please contact Mindy as early as possible on 0425 218 541.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 2nd December</th>
<th>Friday 4th December</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynda R, Margaret, Lucinda</td>
<td>Madeleine A, Michelle M, Marie D</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wednesday 9th December</th>
<th>Friday 11th December</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lynda R, Jaime W</td>
<td>Madeleine A, Michelle M, Jennie H</td>
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COMMUNITY NEWS

“Kids on Show” Exhibition Opening night Friday 27 November 5.30pm. Bowral Art Gallery, 1 Short St, Bowral. Exhibition open daily 10am - 4pm from 28 November until 6 December. Entry FREE.

FREE Child Restraint Checking Day Saturday 28 November. Underground carpark, Highlands Market Place, Mittagong. 9am - 12.30pm. Bookings essential 4868 0809.

Mittagong Blue Light Disco Saturday 28 November 4pm - 6.30pm. $5 per child 4-14 years. Parents and children under 4 free. SANTA visit! Come dressed in your favourite Christmas Hat or costume.

Moss Vale High School CAPA Concert Tuesday 1 December 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Doors open at 6pm. Cost is $3 per student, $5 per adult and $15 per family.

Marulan Christmas Family Fun Day Saturday 12 December from 3pm. Marulan Soccer Fields. Entertainment, Market Stalls, Santa, Rides, Pizza, Carols and Fireworks. All proceeds to Marulan Volunteer Fire Brigade.