On Friday 17 July the Southern Highlands experienced some of the best snow seen in years!
Messages from your Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of Moss Vale Public School

Snow Fall Causes Disruption

We certainly felt the winter chills last week as the new term got underway. Last Friday’s snowfall of course, caused significant disruption to transport and services across the southern highlands. Our school remained open, however, a number of families decided to keep their children at home as travel proved too hazardous in the morning conditions and bus transport to and from the school was cancelled for the day.

It’s timely then, to remind all parents with smartphones to download the school app, available free for iPhone, Android and now Windows versions. Just search Moss Vale Public School in your App store and download. This service allows us to send alerts, newsletters and calendar events.

Education Week 2015
Monday 27 July – Friday 31 July

Public Schools NSW – Celebrating 60th Education Week

Education Week provides our school with the opportunity to include our parents and school community in celebrating public education. There are a number of activities planned. Please take the time to visit our school, share in our children’s learning experiences or attend a parent workshop held during this week.

- Student Led Conferences
  Early St. 1 - Tuesday 28 July 2 pm—4.30 pm
  Stage 1 - Tuesday 28 July 2 pm—4.30 pm
  Stage 2 - Thursday 30 July 2pm—4.30pm
  Stage 3 - Thursday 30 July 2pm—4.30pm
K/3E, K/3B, 3/6D, 3/6M, 3/6C - Tuesday 28 July 2pm—4.30 pm

- Special Needs and Parent Support Meeting (SNAPS)
  This meeting will be held in the school’s meeting room on Wednesday, 29th July at 11.00 am.
  For information about what SNAPS offers, visit the website at: http://www.mossvalesnaps.com/

- Volunteer Workshop for parents and community members
  who wish to act as volunteers at Moss Vale Public School. This meeting will be held at the school on Thursday, 30 July at 9.15 am and will be held in the staff room. Please contact our office staff to register your attendance.

- Moss Vale Community of Schools Concert
  Students in Stage 2, members of the recorder ensemble and the concert band will perform at Moss Vale High School on Wednesday 29 July. The concert commences at 6.30pm

School Ground Improvements Update

Playground Equipment

We have completed the installation during the July school holidays and we are now awaiting the soft fall to be supplied and then the equipment will be ready to use for our children’s enjoyment. The new equipment will add increased play options for students, particularly children K-2 with provision made to provide access for students with a range of disabilities. Funding for the installation of this equipment was generously donated by KKKK for which we are very grateful. We would also like to acknowledge once again parents, Geoff Kull and Brad Davies who generously excavated the soft fall area in preparation for the equipment install and soft fall. Thank you Geoff and Brad! In addition, Chris Ingmire of FTR Building and Penrose Pine Products, has kindly donated soft fall material for the entire playground area. The equipment is expected to be in use soon.

Indigenous Landscape Garden

This project is nearing completion and will soon be opened once again for student use in Term 3. Our thanks must go to parent, Brad Davies, who has given countless hours of his own time to work on this fantastic part of the garden. The end result will certainly be of immense benefit to the students and staff in learning about Aboriginal culture and heritage as well as an appreciation of the natural environment of this area of the school. Interestingly, the Department of Education has released the new Geography K—6 syllabus this week and many of the components will make the garden an invaluable resource for student learning in this area.

Kindergarten 2016

I’m excited to advise all prospective and current parents that we are now accepting enrolments for children who will commence Kindergarten in 2016! Children need to be five years of age before the 31st July, 2016 to be eligible. Children must formally be enrolled by their 6th birthday. Please contact our school office staff for details of the enrolment process.

It takes a community to raise a child
Laurie Connery, Principal
Smartphones – the ones children really want – offer far more than the ability to text. Smartphones have cameras, video, games, location services, Internet access, and social networking.

What to watch out for:

- **Constant connection**: Children’s ability to be constantly connected to their friends via their phones can drain their time – and distract them – from their responsibilities. It’s hard for parents to know what’s going on in their children’s lives when they are always using the phone.

- **Download fees**: Music, games, apps, movies, TV shows, and in-app purchases are all available through the phone without ever seeing actual money change hands.

- **Location services**: Nearly all phones come with GPS, which can be used for safety reasons but can also be used to tell other people where to meet you using apps like Foursquare. GPS can also tag photos with their location, which follows the photo when it's posted – unless you turn it off.
6P have begun their next Science Unit called Earth’s Place in Space. We will be learning about our planet, other planets and how they all interact in the Solar System. We started off by using oil pastels to create our own fictitious planet as we get ready to explore the amazing phenomenon of space!

4/5P tried their hands at being authors of imaginative writing styles at the end of Term 2. We worked on poetry and descriptions of imagined characters. We chose swamp monsters for our descriptions because our classroom is called “The Swamp”. For poetry, we wrote cinquains, haiku and acrostic poems about animals and mythical creatures.

Fred by Tayla Gage-Simpson
Kangaroos can jump
Kangaroos are really red
Kangaroos can’t read

Koala “Koalaloo” by Hayley Lane
Koala
Gray, beautiful
Climbing, running, walking
Kind, intelligent, proud, wild
Mammal

Pig “Peppa” by Chloe Lammers
Pigs are awesome
Inspirational
Greedy things
NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS

Last Friday, our students celebrated the recent NAIDOC Week by conducting a series of activities during the morning session. All students K-6 were involved. The purpose of participation in NAIDOC activities is to provide an opportunity for all students to learn about, celebrate and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

Students completed four activities during the morning on a rotational basis. The activities included Aboriginal Art using chalk, learning about ‘Bush Medicine’ with special guest Wendy Lotter, reading Traditional Aboriginal Stories and playing Indigenous Games.

Participation in the activities provided opportunities for students to recognise the unique history and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s including gaining an understanding of the deep and lasting connection to the natural environment. Judging by the children’s comments, many students learned many things about a number of aspects of Aboriginal culture. The morning was a big success, albeit a little chilly! Mr Ryan

Aboriginal Art using chalk

Bush Medicine

Reading of Traditional Aboriginal Stories

Message From the Office

We would like to remind families that for student’s requiring medication to be administered at school, that all medication must be stored at the front office. The school requires an indemnity form signed by the parent/carer giving permission for your child to take medication at school. It is for the safety of your child and others that we request this process. If you have any questions, or require an indemnity form, please contact the front office.

Child Protection

Child protection is a sensitive and challenging area for school communities. Because children and young people are relatively powerless in abusive relationships they rely on responsible adults to intervene and to assist them. It is the responsibility of our school to provide educational programs in child protection as part of the Physical Education, Health, Personal Development Curriculum.

Child Protection aims to assist students to develop skills:
- recognising and responding to unsafe situations
- seeking assistance effectively
- establishing and maintaining non-coercive relationships
- strengthening attitudes and values related to equality, respect and responsibility.

The program K – 6 will be implemented over the second half of this term. Parents seeking further information about the program should contact their child’s class teacher. If you do not wish for your child to participate in these lessons, please advise the class teacher as soon as possible.
Moss Vale Public School is currently taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2016

If your child or a child you know is starting school in 2016 please call in at the front office for an enrolment pack. Alternatively, you can contact us on 4868 1866 or return this note and we will send one home.

Child’s name: ___________________________________ Parent’s name: ________________________________

Parent’s Phone: ___________________ Address: _______________________________________________________

Siblings at Moss Vale Public School: _________________________________________________________________

GIRLS HOCKEY

Last Tuesday, the first day back for students, I had the pleasure of taking a beautiful bunch of 11 girls to Goulburn for a Hockey Knock Out / Gala Day. These girls were a much younger and less experienced team, than all the other schools. Although we didn’t win any of our three games, I was incredibly proud of the Moss Vale girls who played with determination, teamwork and persistence! They also displayed outstanding sportsmanship and enjoyment of the game. It was a delight to watch their smiling happy faces and the encouragement they gave to their team mates. Congratulations to Olivia Daley (captain), Ruby Wainberg (our super star goalie), Zoe Hamilton, Kate Rich, Mackenzie South, Indie Martin, Abbey Wallace, Isabella Glenn, Torree Wilson, Asher Miller and Adel Semmler. Thank you to the many parents / grandparents who transported children to the day and encouraged from the side lines in freezing conditions!

Mrs Tory Knowles

IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF WRITING

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

Vocabulary involves understanding the meaning of spoken and written words and using words to create and understand texts.

We use spoken and written words every single day to communicate ideas, thoughts, information and emotions to those around us. Sometimes we communicate successfully and sometimes we’re not quite so successful. However, a good vocabulary can help us say what we mean and really engage our audience.

A good vocabulary does not mean you know many long or difficult words. Instead, it means that you know how to express yourself so that the reader will be engaged and understand your writing. Sometimes it is necessary to use technical terms, but you still must make sure everyone understands the intent of what you are communicating.

DANCE-A-THON

This event is scheduled for Friday 14 August and will be held at school from 11.50 am. Students will have the opportunity to show off their dance moves to a range of music styles, but also dress in dancing gear whilst helping to raise funds for our school. Every student who makes a pledge to raise funds will go into the draw to be ’Principal for the Day’!
Canteen Update

Wow, what a wonderful response we’ve had for the re-opening of the canteen. As you’ll be aware, we tried various menu items at the end of term 2. Our dedicated volunteers have now implemented a basic menu, which varies each day. On Mondays we have outsourced a choice of rolls, Wednesdays is chicken burgers and Fridays home made pizza. Be sure to have your orders in by 9am to the canteen box or flexi-schools. **Mondays is currently a pre-ordered break 1 lunch service only.** On Wednesdays and Fridays there are also other items available directly from the canteen at both breaks. These will vary slightly according to availability and demand.

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

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<th>Fri 24th July</th>
<th>Mon 27th July</th>
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Looking After Yourself While Looking After Others.

4 stand-alone sessions suitable for all types of carers - presented by Moss Vale SNAPS and Macarthur Disability Services.

**First Session: Thursday 30/7/15 “Are we on the Emotional Roller Coaster?”**

The effects of stress on our bodies. DVD – Adrenal health.

For further information including session details and to RSVP please see the SNAPS website – Important SNAPS dates in 2015 http://www.mossvalesenaps.com/important-snaps-dates-in-2015.html or contact Sophia via email: mossvalesenaps@gmail.com or phone: 0401350461

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FETE -

Friday 13th November!

Our Annual Fete, which this year has a fun, Country Fair theme is on Friday 13th November in the school grounds. We are seeking support for our fundraising in various ways. Are you able to donate a prize or sponsor an event through your business? Maybe you can volunteer on the day or help with preparations leading up to the fete?

Please call Dianna on 0411 269 093 to discuss how you can help be a part of this great event.

**TERM 3 Events & Dates**

**SNAPS Committee Meeting School Office**

Wednesday 19 July 11am

**Dance-a-thon and Mufti Day Win Principal for a Day!**

Friday 31 July

**P&C Meeting School Library**

Tuesday 4 August 7pm
COMMUNITY NEWS

Mittagong Blue Light Disco  
Mittagong RSL Saturday  
25 July 4pm - 6.30pm. $5 per child 4 - 14 years.  
Parents and children under 4 free. The July Blue Light is to be dress up! Dress in your favourite costume, if you don’t want to, still come along and have some fun.

ADVERTISE HERE

Put your advertisement in the MVPS Newsletter  
Reasonable rates by issue/term/year  
All proceeds support the school  
For info contact: mossvalepandc@gmail.com

Zaza Family Day Care  
I am registered Educator with Wingecarribee Council for children 0 to 5 years old.  
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