Helping Children To Learn Well

Fantastic costumes for the Book Parade!

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Dear Parents and Friends of Moss Vale Public School

SASS Recognition Week

This is an important week for our school community as we express our gratitude to the wonderful SASS at our school to support our students, teachers and the school community. SASS is an acronym for School Administration and Support Staff. These valued staff members do so much for our school and our students. They fulfil many vital roles including welcoming parents and visitors to our school, managing the office by answering the telephones, preparing and distributing information through paper and electronic means, providing first aid, supporting our student learning in the classroom and playground, providing social skill training, tending the grounds and so much more! Last Tuesday morning at assembly, our P & C President, Tonia Krebs together with students, parents and teaching staff acknowledged each SASS member of our school. During this week, our students have let them know how much they are appreciated for what they do to support them.

School Strategic Directions 2015—2017 Update

Social Handprint

The Social Handprint team wishes to express their appreciation of parents who responded to the values survey distributed this term. The survey requested students, staff members and parents identify the 3 most important core values for our school. The results are in and after tabulating all responses to our survey, we have established that our school community most strongly identifies with the core values of respect, responsibility and excellence. Our next step is to develop our belief statements which will underpin these values. We invite your participation in a parent workshop aimed at developing these belief statements. The workshop will be held on Tuesday 15 September at 5.00 pm in the school library.

Ecological Footprint - Let’s Get It Sorted

You would have received a note recently from us about a new approach to managing our students’ lunch and packaging waste. The new strategy involves students returning their packaging and food waste to their own lunch boxes instead of depositing it into bins or on the ground. Despite our best efforts over the last 12 months, our litter problem has been increasing and it appears that many of our students are not practising the messages their teachers and fellow students have been putting forward. You may be aware of the ‘Nature Ninjas’ approach which involved student leaders taking the lead role in encouraging their fellow students to deposit litter and waste into bins. Whilst effective to some extent in the beginning, the strategy seems to have been a ‘band aid’ approach.

The school is looking to a more sustainable approach which teaches students about the impact of throwaway packaging, the benefits of reusable containers, better ways of managing food waste and the concepts of reduce, reuse, recycle. Over the coming weeks, students will engage in learning experiences including waste audits, the impact of littering and waste, problem solving and sustainable options will be explored.

Already, we have noted a significant reduction in the amount of littering and waste scattered around the school and less windblown school rubbish flying down Argyle St. Thank you to those parents who have responded so positively to this initiative. Further updates about this initiative will become a regular feature of future newsletters.

Academically Gifted Class 2016 for Southern Highlands Primary Students

Parents of children in Years 4 & 5 this year may be interested in the opportunity for their child to be selected for the AG class next year. The Academically Gifted Class (AG) offers an opportunity for children, to work with their intellectual peers and be extended through a rich program developed to optimise their learning and social skills.

This one day a week class is for children in Years 5 and 6 (in 2016). Students are eligible if they attend a public primary school in the Southern Highlands. Whilst the class is conducted at Bowral Public School, students accessing the AG class remain enrolled in their home school and attend regular classes for the remainder of the week. Entry to the class is by application with the selection process including a testing component. Parents considering application are encouraged to contact the school to obtain an information package.

Community Donations

The Moss Vale branch of the Country Women’s Association have kindly made a donation of $500 to the school for a collection of 2015 Children’s Book Council short listed titles. These books will be housed in our library and will soon be available for student enjoyment and loan. In addition, the Rotary Club of Moss Vale have also made a generous donation of $500 in support of our school’s reading programs. We are certainly appreciative of their continuing support for our students.

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

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### John Heffernan Author Visit

On Wednesday 19th August students from year’s four to six were fortunate enough to be visited by the well renowned Award Winning Australian Author John Heffernan. He entertained us with a mixture of storytelling and actions, which made his books, come to life. John, as he prefers to be known, painted a picture through words of where the ideas for his books come from. We learnt that John has two vastly differing styles of writing and also writes under the name of ‘Charlie Carter’. We were absorbed into the great mysteries of history in the Battle Boy Series and the heart wrenching tale of the Spud, Chips and Pup Series, among many other books. It was fantastic to see how interesting opening a book can open up a new world for us.

### Stephen Michael King Author Visit

Stephen Michael King came to visit our students from Kindergarten to Year 3. Stephen is an Award winning Australian Author/Illustrator. He had three books entered this year into the Children’s Book Council of Australia Shortlisted Early Childhood and Picture Book sections for his illustrations. Stephen shared with us his knowledge on where the ideas for his books come from and how to easily draw pictures by using shapes. He taught us that even though every book has a purpose, it is important to find a purpose for each page when writing. He has left us with some fabulous art work that is...
This term Stage 1 has been learning all about mealworms for their science topic 'Watch It Grow'. Students in 1/2V observe the mealworms each day and write down their observations. Over the past week, students have noticed that the mealworms are moving through the different stages in the life-cycle. They have discovered that the mealworms that are turning pale are shedding their skin ready to turn into darkling beetles.

1/2V

2B enjoying the Dance-a-thon and NAIDOC Celebrations

1S read 'The Treasure Box' by Margaret Wild. We then discussed what things were important to us and what we would keep in our own treasure boxes.
1C have been making some Jackson Pollock style artwork. They used forks, tennis balls and squeeze bottles when creating their masterpieces.

1K have been looking at people we trust. We have created our own network flowers.

Well done to all the Students from Stage 2 who performed at the Wollongong Entertainment Centre on Friday 28 and Saturday 29 August. A wonderful performance!
Congratulations for helping to celebrate Book Week with our inaugural Book Week Parade. Many inventive and well thought out book character costumes were on display as you can see by our photos. Mabel Rivas beautifully read ‘The Scary Night’ by Lesley Gibbs and Stephen Michael King, although she did have some great help from all the students with their ‘roar’, ‘scream’, ‘sshhh’ and ‘surprise’!

Thank you to all the parents, relatives and friends who attended our wonderful book parade.

A big thank you also needs to go to a wonderful group of year 6 girls who gave up their lunch times to learn the ‘Gotta Keep Reading’ song by the Black Eyed Peas. The girls helped our whole school join in the actions while our enthusiastic Year 6 students sang the song for us. It appears no weather could dampen the spirits of Moss Vale Public School on Monday morning.

Many students won a shortlist book from the Children’s Book Council of Australia Shortlisted Early Childhood and Picture Book sections.

Our Book Week book fair was a huge success. Thank you to all parents and staff who helped during the fair. By purchasing books during the week, you have all contributed to raising $1350 worth of books for our school. Congratulations to everyone! This year twenty four books were donated to our library by students. If you see a ‘Donated by’ sticker in the front of a book that you borrow and enjoy, you might like to thank the person who donated the book. When students donate a book fair book during Book Week to the library, they go into a draw for a book of their own choice. This year Harry Roberts from 3C was the lucky winner. Congratulations Harry!
End of Term Sausage Sizzle – Can You Help?

As a way of celebrating another great term, we’re holding our BBQ Sausage Sizzle on the last day of each term and that’s coming up real soon.

In order to serve hundreds of sausages in a short time frame, we need as many helpers as we can get, so if you’re available between 9 and 12 on Friday 18th September we’d really appreciate your help. Please email mindyhindmarsh@gmail.com to note your availability. Thank you.

Term 4 Canteen Roster

Very shortly we’ll be putting together our volunteer roster for term 4 and would love to hear from anyone keen to help out. If you haven’t been on the roster yet, and would like to, please email mindyhindmarsh@gmail.com with your preferred day.

It’s a great way to meet new friends, help the P & C and your children will love having you around!

Gift Boxes for the Fete

Donations are starting to roll in for the gift boxes which will be sold at the fete – thanks, everyone!

If each student brings in one item to put into the collection box in their classroom, the committee will be able to put together some great hampers.

Each year group has its own theme: Kindergarten – Craft; Year 1 – Baby; Year 2 – Toys; Year 3 – Stationery; Year 4 – Mums; Year 5 – Dads; Year 6 – Kitchen.

We’re looking forward to seeing what great ideas you come up with!

For help, contact suzi.bryant@blacklight.com.au or 0414 679 259.

Clothing Pool Update

New hat stock has arrived. We now have 4 different size hats: X-small (new size), small, medium and large. Just $10, available from the Clothing Pool. Open Mon and Tues 2.30pm - 3pm and Wed 8.30am - 9am.

LOST PROPERTY - At the end of the term all items (without names) will be donated to the clothing pool or to charity. Please have a look for your child’s missing items.

Some of our 2015 Fete Sponsors include:

- Eyecare Plus, right behind Coles, are silver sponsors to help with the rides at the fete!
- Peppers Manor House with a lovely 3 course dinner and bottle of wine
- Moss Vale Village Pharmacy are donating a fantastic box of makeup to win!
- Moss Vale Services Club are very generously being gold sponsors of the fete
- Bowral Co-op are kindly donating 4 vouchers to win
- Moss Vale Golf Club are providing 18 holes of golf with a golf cart included!

TERM 3 Events & Dates

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<th>End of Term BBQ Can you help? Friday 18th September</th>
<th>P&amp;C Meeting Library Tuesday 13th October 7pm</th>
<th>Our Annual Fete Country Fair School Grounds Friday 13th November</th>
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Family Art Day Bowral & District Art Society Workshops. Sunday 20 September 2015 from 9am. $180 per family group - all materials including stretched canvas (1m square) More information contact Tracey Miller 0418 235 990 traceymillermail@gmail.com

NSW Bike Week Bong Bong Track Bike Ride. Sunday 20 September 2015. Free 9km return cycling event for riders of all ages and abilities. Register on the day at 10am (Southern end Railway Road, Burradoo (just past Oxley College). Bring own bike and helmet. More information Council’s Road Safety Officer 4868 0809 www.wsc.nsw.gov.au

OzTag 2015/2016 registration Tuesday 1st, 8th, and 15th September at Community Oval Moss Vale. All games played at lackey Road Moss Vale. $70 registration $25 shorts. More information call Nicky 0422 589 890 or Nadia 0451 510 177


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