Students planting trees and shrubs in the Indigenous Garden
Dear Parents and Friends of Moss Vale Public School

Recreational Swimming Event
Given the swimming carnival held on February 15 was organised for competitors only, the school has arranged for all students in Stage 2 & 3 to participate in a recreational swimming event. This will be held on Friday March 4 and will be held at the Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre. Notes for this excursion have been distributed. Students will be placed into groups according to their ability and will participate in structured, enjoyable water activities.

Allergy Aware School
Moss Vale Public School is an Allergy Aware School. We recognise that we have highly allergic students to nuts and nut products. We request that all parents avoid sending peanut butter, Nutella or similar spreads or whole nuts to school. We provide support to all students to be aware of nut allergies and their contribution to providing a safe environment including not sharing their foods with others. We also ask that families keep us aware of any changes to a child’s medical needs.

Applications for Extended Leave (travel or holiday)
Parents are advised that from the beginning of the 2015 school year, family and travel leave are no longer considered under the Exemption from School Procedures. Parents are encouraged to arrange family holidays and/or travel during school vacation periods. However, consideration can be given to travel during school term if it is considered in the best interest of students. Parents can apply in writing to the principal and complete the Application for Extended Leave form available from the school office.

Volunteer Workshops
Volunteering is a great way to be involved in the life of the school and support your child’s success in learning. To support this, the school will be hosting another workshop this term for parents who wish to become volunteers in the classroom, canteen, library and sporting events during the year. The next workshop will be held on Tuesday March 8, at 9.15am and will be conducted in the school staff room. If you are unable to attend this workshop there will be a number of these held during term and we will advise you of these through the school newsletter.

The Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey
A reminder that our students will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school. I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Friday 4th March 2016. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

School Contributions Due
These payments are made to the school by each family to provide much needed resources for our children. The contributions are allocated to each grade K—6. The contribution amount is determined in consultation with the P & C Assoc. We encourage you to do so as soon as possible. This will ensure that we will be able to provide the best possible resources for your children.

The contributions are as follows: $35 for the first child or $55 maximum per family

Serve veggies first!
Crunch & Sip is a great chance to encourage students (and parents) to pack vegetables rather than fruit. Research shows that kids don’t do too badly meeting recommendations for fruit intake, but only 1 in 5 kids eat the recommended amount of vegetables. Why not consider adding vegetables the next time you pack the Crunch and Sip box with your child?

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar Week 6</td>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong> School Photos - All students to bring envelopes today</td>
<td><strong>3</strong> Hindmarsh/Noble Cup</td>
<td><strong>4</strong> S2 &amp; S3 Recreational Swimming - $2 pool entry</td>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Young Leaders Day</td>
<td>Assembly S1 2pm Last day to pay Hindmarsh Cup</td>
<td><em>Yellow Highlight</em></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar Week 7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 Assembly ES1 11.50am</td>
<td>11 ANZAC Performance Last day to pay Paul Kelly Cup &amp; Snake Tales</td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean Up MVPS Day</td>
<td>Volunteer’s Workshop 9.15am P&amp;C AGM 7pm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar Week 8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 Horse Riding</td>
<td>17 Assembly S3 12.40pm Paul Kelly Cup</td>
<td>18 Snake Tales Last day to pay $/Stars Deposit Year 7 2017 EOI Due</td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar Week 9</td>
<td>21 Last day to pay ICAS</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24 Assembly ES1 11.50am S2 2pm</td>
<td>25 Good Friday Public Holiday</td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## School Contributions Due

These payments are made to the school by each family to provide much needed resources for our children. The contributions are allocated to each grade K - 6. The contribution amount is determined in consultation with the P & C Assoc. We encourage you to do so as soon as possible. This will ensure that we will be able to provide the best possible resources for your children. The contributions are $35 for the first child or $55 per family.

Parent Online Payments are our preferred payment method. Payments are made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card on a secure payment page, hosted by Westpac. The site is accessed via our school website by selecting the $Make a Payment link. Cash/ Cheque also accepted at the front office.

## Important Aspects of Writing

**Punctuation**

Punctuation is used to create sense, clarity and stress in sentences. You use punctuation marks to structure and organise your writing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Punctuation Mark</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Commas**       | are used when the writer wishes to:  
                    - pause before proceeding  
                    - add a phrase that does not contain any new subject  
                    - separate items on a list  
                    - use more than one adjective (a describing word)  
                    Examples:  
                    The boy, who knew that his mother was about to arrive, ran quickly towards the opening door.  
                    The lady was happy, eager and full of anticipation at the start of her holiday.  
                    The shopping trolley was loaded with fruit, vegetables, toilet rolls, cereals and cartons of milk. |
| **Ellipsis**     | (three dots) indicates that part of the text has been intentionally been left out.  
                    Examples:  
                    0, 2, 4, ..., 100 |
| **Apostrophe**   | indicates possession or ownership.  
                    Its other use is to indicate where a letter is omitted.  
                    Examples:  
                    Isn’t this a fine example of punctuation?  
                    The girl’s hat was green. |
Students in KD are learning that families have similarities and differences. They are learning that each family is unique and important.

Look at these marvellous family portraits they have completed!

K/2 E are counting music notes and keeping rhythm to some really fun songs. We love playing the Bongo Drums to songs such as ‘Pop Corn’, ‘The Grand Old Duke of York’ and ‘Daddy Daddy Do’. We are using our Talking Tablets to count and talk about fast and slow rhythms, loud and soft volumes and to request new songs for the group to play. We are having so much fun!

3/6M are reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. We have been writing descriptions about the characters and learning all about chocolate. We have looked at where the cacao trees are grown in the world and we have cooked some amazing chocolate treats!
Year 6 Leadership Committee - National Young Leaders Day

Recently our Year 6 students nominated eleven of their peers to form a Leadership Committee. The aim of the committee is to facilitate leadership opportunities for all Year 6 students through the organisation and implementation of initiatives that benefit the school and wider community. Congratulations to the following students who were nominated to be members of the Leadership Committee: Jessica, Charlotte, Jake, Ava, Wil, Lydia, Tahlia, Cooper, Samantha, Byron and Esther.

As part of their leadership experience, the committee yesterday travelled to Sydney Olympic Park to participate in the National Young Leaders Day, organised by the Halogen Foundation. Our students travelled to Olympic Park with students from Bowral PS. Participants received the opportunity to hear a range of presenters who spoke about leadership in a variety of contexts. The day was based around the theme of ‘Master The Little’ referring to the importance in leadership of taking small steps and doing each small task well as part of the longer journey to achieve bigger goals.

Speakers included Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione, Para-Olympian Ben Austin, author Melanie Lee and youth mentor Nathan ‘Dubsy’ Want. There was also a panel comprising of four young leaders who have achieved highly in their chosen areas of interest. The panellists spoke about their personal journey and what leadership skills they had learned along the way.

The students were impressed with the speakers and panellists and all said that they had gained some valuable knowledge and tips about leadership. They are looking forward to implementing some of the skills and strategies discussed throughout the day as part of their own leadership journey. **Mr Ryan**

Wellbeing

Evidence suggests that a small improvement in wellbeing can help people thrive, cope through challenging times and prevent some mental health problems.

**Be Active...**
- Go for a walk or run
- Step outside
- Go for a bike ride
- Play a game
- Do some gardening
- Dance

Exercising makes you feel good. More importantly, discover a physical activity you enjoy and one that suits your level or mobility and fitness.

Landscape Planting in the Indigenous Garden

On Monday 29 February students had the opportunity to plant trees and shrubs in our beautiful Indigenous Garden with the assistance of Mr B Davies. These plants were all kindly donated by the Wingecarribee Shire Council Community Nursery. We thank them for their generous donations and know our students will enjoy watering them and watching the plants grow.
Let’s Get It Sorted

The students from 2B have really embraced our “Let’s Get It Sorted” initiative by packing their lunch with little or no packaging as you can see from the pictures. Students are utilising reusable containers which can be used time and time again, therefore saving money.

Students assisting in the vegetable garden by watering, mulching and picking the vegetables. As you can see from our pictures they are certainly enjoying themselves and learning about sustainable practices at the same time.
AGM Notice

The MVPS P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to be held Tuesday 8 March 7.00pm in the School Library.
At this meeting we will elect representative roles. Now is a great time to share your enthusiasm, drive and commitment and make a contribution to our wonderful school community. It’s a great way to make new friends, learn new skills and have some fun!
There are a number of current representatives who are not standing for re-election and these roles will need to be filled by new volunteers. We’d love to have you on the team.
If you have any questions or queries you can email us at mossvalepandc@gmail.com or call Tonia on 0418 864 435

Canteen Update

On behalf of the canteen committee, we’d like to apologise for the hiccups we’ve had with some lunch orders over the last few weeks. We are doing our best to iron out these problems and get back to a more reliable canteen service and really appreciate your understanding.

We’ve added a few items to the menu (and to Flexischools) and now have available:

**Wednesdays Break 1**
- Chicken Burger or a Cheese Burger (meat and cheese) and a drink $5
- Pie or Sausage Roll and a drink $5 (includes sauce).

**Fridays Break 1**
- Spaghetti bolognaise, garlic bread and a drink $5
- Pie or Sausage Roll and a drink $5 (includes sauce)

At both breaks one and two, we have an assortment of healthy snacks available. These items change daily, though generally include pizza muffins, apple slinkies, popcorn, melon slices, carrot sticks, low fat ice creams and healthy fruit muffins. We also now have plain milk available, so our healthiest drink is also our cheapest @ $1.20.
We’re so excited to be using fresh produce from our school vegie garden. When you order a burger on a Wednesday, the tomatoes are from the school garden and the bolognaise on a Friday includes our home grown, grated zucchini.

YOU’RE INVITED. Come and have a cuppa and a chat, make new friends.

On Tuesday 15th March at 9am (after morning assembly) we’re having a HAVE YOUR SAY about the canteen morning tea. Guess where? Yes, in the canteen! We have a really great facility and you might never have been in there! So, we’re inviting all parents, carers and interested community members to come and have a cuppa and a chat and give us your feedback on how you’d like to see the canteen run. Are you happy with the menu? Do you have new ideas? Would you like to bake for us?
If you can’t make it to the morning tea but would like to have your say, we’ll also be sending a link to an online survey, real soon.

Thank you to some of our fete sponsors..

- Tooses for donating a tasty dinner voucher
- Thredbo Alpine Village for their generous donation of lift passes
- The Jemmy Moss for donating some great footballs to use as prizes!
- Southern Highland Motor Group for their much appreciated Gold Sponsorship!
- Plant Source for some great plants for the plant stall
- Moss Vale OOSH for their generous Silver Sponsorship!

### TERM 1 Events & Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>AGM</strong></th>
<th><strong>Clothing Pool</strong></th>
<th><strong>Canteen Morning Tea</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8 March 7.00pm School Library</td>
<td>Open Mondays 2.30-3pm Can you help on another day?</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 March All Welcome</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clean Up Australia Day!

On Monday 7 March, students will be conducting a clean up of their playground as part of the Clean Up Australia campaign. Clean Up Australia inspires and empowers communities to clean, fix up and conserve our environment.

Students will be familiar with how rubbish can pile up in our own playground. They will be inspired to think critically and develop and implement some solutions to the problem of mounting rubbish and reducing their environmental footprint.

Parents/Carers, if you would like your children to wear gloves during the clean up, please ensure that they bring them to school on the day.

Janet Brookfield - Clean Up Australia Day Coordinator.

Community News

Mittagong Blue Light Disco Mittagong RSL Saturday 19 March 4pm - 6.30pm. $5 per child 4-14 years. Parents and children under 4 years free.

Southland's Care & Highlands Grace are working together to serve our local Highlands Community by opening a Moss Vale outlet for the $20 Food boxes from Soul Food Co-Op. Amazing value for money. Available to those who hold a current concession or Health Care Card. Distribution and Pick Up on Thursday mornings at Southlands Care Op Shop - Willow Drive, Moss Vale from 10am.

Taronga Zoo Mobile - Animals of the Dreaming is a program that combines Australian Animal encounters with Aboriginal Dreamtime Stories. Animal displays and performance by Col Hardy, an Aboriginal singer born and raised in outback NSW. 9 April 2016 from 10.30 - 2pm at the Aboriginal Cultural Centre 1a Rainbow Road, Mittagong.