2015 EVENT CALENDAR

TERM 2

Wk 4
Mon 11th – Fri 15th May
- Yr10 Careers excursions to Sydney

Tue 12th – Thur 14th May
- NAPLAN for Yr7 & Yr9

Wed 13th May
- P & C meeting in common room at 6.30pm

Thu 14th May
- Yr12 Legal Studies excursion to Cessnock Library

Wk 5
Mon 18th May
- In Concert performance at Sydney Town Hall

Tue 19th – Fri 22nd May
- Yr11 Half Yearly Exams

Tue 19th May
- Yr6 Mini Lessons at MVHS

Wed 20th May
- Yr6 Mini Lessons at MVHS

Fri 22nd May
- Yr10 & Yr12 Career Expo at Maitland Basketball Stadium
- MUNA Rotary Conference at Muswellbrook
- Singleton Horse Sports Day at Singleton Showground
- Yr6 Mini Lessons at MVHS

Sat 23rd May
- MUNA Rotary at Muswellbrook Council Chambers

Wk 6
Wed 27th May
- Zone Athletics carnival at Glendale
- Yr12 Biology & Senior Science excursion to UNSW Museum of Human Disease
- Starstruck Major Movement rehearsal

Fri 29th May
- Yr12 study day at Singleton High

Wk 7
Mon 1st Jun
- Yr7 Dimigan Project 7 in library
- AECG at Cessnock West Public School at 4pm

Tue 2nd Jun
- Global Leadership Conference

Wed 3rd Jun
- Yr8 M & T Project 8 in library

Wk 8
Wed 10th Jun
- P & C meeting in common room at 6.30pm

Wed 13th Jun
- Starstruck at Newcastle Entertainment Centre

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Ms Desley Pfeffer

Welcome to Term 2 - despite it being a wet and somewhat unexpected delayed start to the term for students, they have settled into learning particularly well.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your patience at the start of the term during what proved to be very adverse weather conditions. Whilst I have explained the closure of the school in a letter mailed to each family, I do want to reiterate that the safety of students, and staff, was very much at the heart of the decision. Thankfully we sustained little damage - a couple of trees were down, a number of branches were strewn throughout the school, and there was mud and sludge making it very slippery. The cleaning staff were unable to work on Tuesday or Wednesday and a full risk assessment of the site needed to be undertaken, especially in regard to trees that may have been unsafe and a danger to all. Many of our staff unfortunately sustained damage to their homes. Like them, I hope that any damage caused in your home is now being fixed and that 'normality' is returning quickly!

Our school plan has now been published on the school's website. There are 3 strategic directions that we have taken to lead improvement in the school:

1. Positive wellbeing underpins student engagement in a school life which is future focused.

2. Student learning is personalised and differentiated, responsive to student needs and connected in a
purposeful way to their context, aspirations and the real world.

3. Student and staff learning is enhanced by organisational effectiveness and quality professional practice so as to move towards contemporary learning principles and opportunities.

The front of the school plan shows a stunning artwork by a Year 10 student, Magdalen Plater, titled "Self Portrait." It is a fitting choice as it reminds us that 'students' are at the very heart of our school plan.

One of the changes we have made is that 'welfare' has now been replaced by 'wellbeing.' Hence, Mrs Myers (& the soon to commence, additional Head Teacher Mr Quigley) are now known as Head Teachers Wellbeing (not Welfare). This may seem to be such an insignificant change, but a change from the word 'welfare' which sometimes has negative connotations, to a more positive 'wellbeing' is important!

Finally, I am sure that you will all join with me in welcoming Mr Shane Hookway as our newly appointed Deputy Principal. Mr Hookway joins Mrs Julie Smith and replaces Mr Peter Conroy, who after 13 years as Deputy, has retired. Mr Hookway has considerable experience as a Deputy Principal from his last position at Singleton High School and has 'hit the ground running' assisting with the implementation of a new student wellbeing, attendance and administration system called Sentral. Mr Hookway takes over responsibility for Years 7, 9 & 11.

2015 School Leaders

Introducing our 2015 School Leaders, from left to right; Captains Alan Tull and Gabrielle Alexander, Vice Captains Sophie O’Brien and Matthew Clarkson.

DEPUTIES’ REPORTS

Mr Shane Hookway – Deputy Yrs7/9/11

I would like to thank the staff, students and community for the warm welcome that I have experienced since commencing at Mount View High School. Need I say it was an interesting start given the extreme weather conditions and subsequent effect on normal school life. I hope that things are getting back to normal for all families now. If you feel that your child has been disadvantaged especially in relation to assessment tasks then feel free to give me a call at any time to discuss the matter.

I look forward to getting to know the students and their families over the coming years and working hard to improve the educational outcomes for all. I will be reviewing the commitment and performance of some of our post 17 year old Year 11 students to determine their commitment to learning. Students who are not attending and/or not making a sustained and diligent approach to their school work will be interviewed and have their position at Mount View High School evaluated.

All students should be focused on upcoming assessments and a focus on learning as their teachers prepare to write Semester 1 reports.

Mrs Julie Smith – Deputy Yrs 8/10/12

Year 12 Parent Teacher Night
Thank you for your attendance at the Parent Teacher Night held on Wednesday 29th April. Year 12 students received their Mid-Course reports and also had the opportunity to discuss their progress with teachers. Year 12 students need to take heed of the advice provided and work with their teachers and Year Adviser, Miss Bell to ensure that a regular study program is established. Please ask advice from your teachers, Miss Bell or Mrs Smith if you need any assistance. Remember that the library is available for study during study periods as well as during periods 4 and 5 on Tuesday and sports afternoon. The Homework Centre also runs in the library from 3:00 – 5:00 pm each Monday.
We encourage all students to discuss their reports with their teachers, even if they were unable to attend the Parent-Teacher night to ensure that they access advice and support to improve their understanding and achievements.

**Principal’s Assembly**
It was a pleasure to see so many students in all years receiving Principal’s Awards this week and to welcome family and friends to the formal assembly. Students are reminded to ensure that they hand in five faculty merits to their teacher to receive the commendations which count towards these awards. Every lesson is an opportunity to do your best and work towards your learning goals.

**School Clinic**
To ensure the safety and supervision of all students we have established procedures for the school clinic. If your child feels sick or is injured during school time, they should tell their teacher who will give them a note to go to the print room/clinic.

A clerical staff member will admit them to the school clinic and contact the parent or caregiver if they need to go home or if the injury is serious. Please do not encourage your child to contact you directly. We also must maintain correct records and need to know where students are at all times.

Sick students must not leave the school grounds without going to the clinic. Parents who need to collect sick students should go to the front office.

Could all parents and caregivers please ensure that the school has correct contact details and emergency contact details? These can be sent with your child and handed in at the attendance office.

**Bus Travel**
The school regards students and their behaviour within the bus-bay area and whilst travelling on a school bus as coming under the processes which are included in the Student Welfare and Discipline Policy. All sanctions and rules that apply at school also apply during bus travel.

Students taking buses are to travel directly to and from school each day, boarding and alighting only at their designated stop. They must carry their own bus pass which must be produced on demand. They are not to lend or misuse this pass. Bus travel may be denied to students who regularly fail to carry their pass.

Morning Buses: Students are to move directly from the buses to the school playground. There is to be no loitering in the carpark or bus-bay areas.

Afternoon Buses: Students are to follow the directions of the Head Teacher and teachers on duty. Students are to gather under the covered area and when asked, line up in preparation for safe boarding of the bus. Junior students are to stay behind the school fence.

The school will actively support the bus company in all of its expectations of students. This includes a zero tolerance policy for bullying or harassment and the display of any inappropriate material including mobile phone images or texts.

Students travelling on school buses must understand that they share the bus with students from other schools including primary schools. Their behaviour should demonstrate respect for themselves, other students and the bus driver.

**P & C NEWS**
The new P & C executive for 2015 is:
President – Anthony Morris
Secretary – Jo Harris
Treasurer – Natasha Morris
Publicity Officer – Tim Plater

The next P & C meeting is on Wednesday 13th May 2015 in the Common Room starting at 6.30pm. The P & C invite all parents to attend.

**CCGPS**
The Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools (CCGPS) has developed an exciting and interactive website to support our families and the broader community. Learn more about the initiatives in place across our schools, creating strong educational
pathways for all our students. Great links to parent support sites and local community services, and information about who we are and what we are doing within your community.

Check out the website and get involved in your child’s future today! www.ccgps.schools.nsw.edu.au

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

School A to Z – Practical Help for Parents
The website has been designed with parents who are keen to support their child’s learning and the work being done in the classroom. The site provides practical homework help for school subjects, project starters and tips on learning. Visit www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au

Bus Passes
Mid Term 1 bus passes were distributed to students via roll call. If your child catches the bus and has not yet received their bus pass, students must see Mrs Sternbeck at the front office immediately.

Student Contact Details & Court Orders
With approx. 1000 students at Mount View High School it is important that the Administration Office has up to date student details to ensure we are able to contact parents at any time should the need arise.

Changes to contact details need to be made in writing. A change of details form can be picked up from the Administration Office. Please ensure that if you have moved house, changed home phone, work or mobile number, if there has been a change in care of your child we require parents to complete the change of details form.

Also it is a requirement that if there are any current court orders in place, a copy needs to be provided to the Administration Office to ensure your child’s enrolment details are correct. Any other court orders which relate to your child should be discussed with the relevant Deputy, or with the Principal.

School Fees & Student Assistance
The Admin Office is open for parents to make payments to school fees anytime between 8am – 3.45pm. Alternatively online payments are also welcome.

The student assistance scheme is available to assist parents/guardians meet the cost of subject fees, excursions etc. Therefore parents who receive Centrelink benefits may be entitled to apply for student assistance. If you would like assistance under this scheme please collect a Student Assistance form available from the front office for consideration. For any enquiries regarding Student Assistance please contact our Business Manager, Mrs Knudsen.

Year 7 2016 Enrolments
We have received the Year 7 2016 Expression Of Interest applications from local and non-local primary schools. These applications will be reviewed by mid Term 2. Parents should expect to have a written response in regards to placement by the end of Term 2. If you have any queries regarding your application
please don’t hesitate to contact the Administration Office.

ATTENDANCE

Explanation of Absences
As you may be aware Mount View High School is transitioning to a new attendance and administration system called Sentral.

Perhaps you are familiar with this program through your primary schools.

One key feature of this system impacts on the explanation of absences. If you have not explained your child’s absence within the legal 7 days, the absence is immediately converted to unexplained/unjustified.

Please ensure that all absences are explained via reply sms, phone call, email or note as soon as you know.

A correct absence letter might read as follows:

Dear Attendance Office,

Elsie Wilson from 7 Ruby7 arrived late on Wednesday the 26th February 2014.

We had an appointment at the Orthodontist at 8.45 am.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms M Wilson
ph: 0412345678

We ask for your cooperation in providing justifiable explanations for all absences and partial absences. Unjustified absences do show up on the student’s records.

Early Leavers
All requests to leave school early are to be in writing and handed to the Attendance Office before the commencement of the school day. Requests can also be processed on the days prior to the required leave.

By having your request to leave early in before the start of the school day, the Attendance Staff can ensure that each student has their official DEC pass out of school and can leave the classroom punctually. This will ensure that you make your appointment on time.

Dear Attendance Office,

Elsie Wilson from 7 Ruby7 is required to leave school at 2.30pm on the 27th February 2014 as she has an appointment with Dr Malate at 2.45pm.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms M Wilson
ph: 0412345678

Notification of Holidays
Applications to take holidays during school term are available through the Attendance Office. Please ensure these are completed and submitted for approval before your holiday to avoid attracting unexplained or unjustified absences on your records.
For further information regarding attendance please refer to the Compulsory School Attendance notice attached.

YEARS 7 TO 11 HALF YEARLY PARENT TEACHER EVENING

**TUESDAY 23rd & WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE 2015**

**TIME 3PM-6PM**

IN SCHOOL HALL

Bookings for interviews with your child’s teachers can be made online at [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Enter the school code WQBAQ and complete booking, ensuring to enter your email address to receive your booking confirmation.

Bookings open 9am on Tue 9th June and will remain open until 3pm on Fri 19th June.

Please get in early to avoid missing out on your preferred timeslot.

Alternatively, Community Liaison Officer Tania Spruce is available to make bookings on your behalf, therefore please feel free to contact Tania on 49902566.

Half Yearly reports will be issued

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**YEAR ADVISERS’ REPORTS**

Half Yearly Parent Teacher Evening

This year our Half Yearly Parent Teacher evening for Years 7 to 11 will be held over two nights on **Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th June 2015**, in the school hall between 3pm – 6pm giving families the opportunity to speak with their child’s teachers. Half Yearly reports will be available for parents to collect upon entry.

Mount View High School uses an online booking system called School Interviews for our Parent Teacher Evenings. We believe this system is a more efficient and convenient way for parents who want to have a brief 10 minute interview with their child’s teachers, allowing parents to instantly make a booking at a mutually suitable time. A letter will be given to students at the start of June with further information on how to make bookings.

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**ENGLISH/DRAMA FACULTY**

Melissa Wyper – Head Teacher

_Developing_  

On the first of May the Year 10 Debating team participated in their first round of The Premier’s Debating Challenge in a debate against Cessnock High.

Our team consisted of first speaker, Fanogo Maher, second speaker Cameron Abbott, third speaker Myah Grave and team advisor Aleesha Pyne. All the topics of the first round of debating were education related and the topic chosen by both teams was that “assessment tasks should replace all examinations”. The affirming team, Mount View High School, built their case on the fact assessment tasks allowed for creativity in a students’ work, time management skills to develop and a fairer grading system that is based on consistent work of students throughout the year instead of a bulk weighted examination. The negating team, Cessnock High School argued that assessment tasks were designed as study tools and that cheating would be made easier. Throughout the debate, both teams stood on an even playing field but in the end Mount View’s strongly stated arguments won the debate with the adjudicator praising them on their team line and well-structured arguments.

Meanwhile, in English, this term Year 7 engage with the concept of Imagery and explore the ways imagery is used and created through picture books and poetry. Year 8 develop their understanding of representation and, specifically, the representation of environmental issues in texts that capture the concerns of their world. Year 9 deepen their understanding and demonstrate greater skills in the construction of narrative voice. Year 10 are developing a deep knowledge of a particular context to evaluate the ways texts reflect context and are shaped by context. Years 7 to 10 are congratulated on their completed assessments and work in Term 1 and are encouraged to continually reflect on their approaches to and ways of learning in English. We look forward to further success throughout the new term.
CAPA SUCCESS

Larayne Jeffery – Head Teacher

State of the Arts!

Learning Exhibition and Performance (LEAP) centre update

After a wet and slow start to the term, the external doors and LEAP centre and it is up to lockup stage. The next step will be data cabling and electrical fit-out, with lining, plastering and carpeting to complete. Students are becoming very excited to see and use this wonderful facility in the near future.

Curriculum Snapshot

Year 8 Music students have begun their ukulele performance unit and are preparing for their first performance assessment in week 5. Many students have developed a new found respect for the instrument which is not as easy to master as they thought! Despite this, the students are progressing well, especially those who attended the special beginners’ workshop late last term.

As a continuation of the study of the concepts of music, Year 8 are studying tone colour and will be focusing on three main areas: instruments of the orchestra, instruments of the world and instruments of rock.

Year 9 students are preparing two tasks on their new topic entitled ‘Rock Since 2000’. Students will prepare a viva voce in the style of the HSC, discussing the concepts of duration and pitch in a rock song of their choice.

They will also be using the app ‘garageband’ to compose their own rock song. Students will be able to access this on school iPads and PCs if they don’t have the technology on their iPhone, iPad or android.

Regional Choral Rehearsal

Students who are part of a specially selected choir will perform at the Secondary School Choral Concert at Sydney Town Hall on the 18th May. In preparation for this event, they have been rehearsing at home via backing tracks as well as a combined rehearsal every week in their lunch break. They have been assisted by Mrs Jeffery and Mrs Rees, the vocal peripatetic music tutor.

Australian Composer comes to Mount View!

Paul Jarmen is an Australian composer who works with Musica Viva to enhance and encourage music composition skills in schools. Paul has been working with a musical and creative student team over two
days in an intensive workshop to re-write the school song in order to make it more reflective of our current situation. Students are excited to be part of this collaborative project and we look forward to its release later in the year.

**HSC Music at Newcastle Conservatorium**

HSC Music students will attend the annual Conservatorium workshops designed to inform students in all aspects of the music syllabus. This includes Performance Master Classes where feedback is delivered by HSC Markers, composition workshops delivered by real composers, musicology viva voce lectures and practise in aural skills. The venue is superb and allows students to focus on their best options for the HSC exam in order to maximise results. Thank you to Mr Steve Oakley who helped Mrs Jeffery transport students to and from the event.

**TAS FACULTY**

Andrew Newman – Rlg Head Teacher

*Formula 1 Comes to Mount View High School*

During March the Revolution Racing team represented Mount View High School and the Hunter Valley at the REA F1 in Schools National finals in Melbourne which was held at the Formula 1 Grand Prix. During the five day event the team was involved in racing their car, verbal presentations, engineering reports/displays as well as entertaining the 100 000 expected visitors where the team had the pleasure of discussing all of the aspects of this STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) program as well as their logo & racing cars, their school & sponsors.

The team also had the privilege of meeting the F1 Lotus Racing Team, who were very interested in their cars design and were able to walk down pit lane of the Albert Park circuit.

After a hectic three days of competition the team placed 6th out of 15 teams in their division, which saw their car run a respectable 1.111secs over 20m. Well done boys as this is the first time the school has competed at this national event and without the commitment and dedication of Mr Mark Bassett and Mr Grahame Chamberlain this would not have been possible.

![Revolution Racing, red car (right lane)](image)

(Lto R) Liam Whiteley, Jarod O’Neill, Daniel Lambkin, Connor Minchinton, Jack Stephenson

**PDHPE FACULTY**

Jamie Grove – Rlg Head Teacher

*MVHS Fit Club*

Term 1 was a successful term for our students who attend the Gym on Tuesday and Wednesday at lunch time. This is an opportunity to utilise school time to improve their general
health as well as to train to improve their fitness test results. A consistent 10 to 15 students have been utilising the gym during these times and should be congratulated.

As well as the Gym Club, in Term 2 a seven a-side soccer competition will commence as part of the MVHS Fit Club. Students will be asked to nominate a team for a competition to start in week 5. Good luck to all teams who have nominated. Students were also offered an opportunity to participate in the “Big Beep”. This is an opportunity for all students to participate in a beep test. The two winners, and the students now known as the fittest athletes at MVHS, were Brady Cross of Year 9 and Marnie Bullen of Year 9. There will be another opportunity to do the Big Beep and hold the title of the fittest students at MVHS in Term 3.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Julie Myers – Head Teacher Wellbeing

Immunisation program
On Monday 4th May, the NSW Health nurses were back at school to administer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program to students who have supplied a signed consent form.

The final clinic day will take place in September but we will notify parents in The View of the date closer to the day.

Mother’s Day Breakfast
Friday 8th May was a glorious morning for our annual Mother’s Day breakfast. It was great to see such a fantastic turn out which made for a thoroughly enjoyable and successful event. Special thanks to all the staff who helped out and to students and their guests for attending. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

Mount View High School would like to thank Fuse Gallery & Cessnock Plaza Pharmacy for their wonderful contribution to our Mother’s Day lucky door prize.

Many students completed the basin run in Term 1 which is one of the MVHS Fit Club’s fitness tests. Students will complete one per term to try and improve on their results. Congratulations must be given to the following students for posting the fastest results in their year: Year 7 – Ainslie Daniel (6.45), Brock Beveridge (5.52), Year 8 – Taneisha Rosser (8.56), Ethan White-Drayton (6.01), Year 9 – Taneeka Smith (7.15), Year 10 – Tahlia Brydon (8.25), Cody Gibbons (5.29). Congratulations must go to all students who had a go and I challenge everyone to beat their time in Term 2.

Stay active!
Building positive relationships and self-confidence.
One of the new programs we introduced in Term 1 was the Boys’ Shed. Selected students were invited to participate in the program to support their wellbeing and learning. The Boys’ Shed program looks specifically at the mechanics of push bikes whilst focusing on working as a team and character traits including perseverance, commitment and positive talk.
**CAREERS**

Mavis Godber – Careers Adviser

Attention students - Do you need advice about choosing a pathway? Come and talk to me anytime as I can provide you with information, advice and guidance to help students make realistic choices about education.

**Year 10 Careers Camp – Mon 11th to Fri 15th May**

Many Year 10 students have travelled to Sydney this week for the annual Careers Camp.

A report from the camp will be in the next “View”, I am confident all will have a beneficial time. It is important for parents and students of non-attenders to realise that there is an alternate program being run at the school during that week. It is expected that all students will either be at the camp or at school.

**Hunter Valley Careers Expo – Fri 22nd May**

Attention all Year 10 and Year 12 students. The Hunter Valley Career Expo only happens once a year! It will be held on Friday, 22 May 2015 at Maitland Basketball Stadium (Bent Street, Maitland). Enjoy it, use it - take in the challenges and spend your time effectively to search out information that will assist you in developing a good working model that will open doors to a fulfilling career path.

You will be able to talk to people who are working in many different types of jobs. There will be representatives from employer and professional associations, Hunter TAFE, Universities, other training providers and employment agencies.

Asking lots of questions and listening to many different people speaking about jobs and training options helps you decide on your future career goals. Gather as much information as you can about the careers and jobs you are interested in.

**Year 12 Study Day**

All Year 12 students are invited to the Singleton Study Day excursion at Singleton High School for HSC students. It will be held on Friday 29th May. It is a valuable opportunity to ask questions of people in the know and mix with other HSC students from different schools.

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**Job Jump**

Want to receive the latest Careers News personalised to your child’s interest?

Want to quickly find information and latest news to help with career choices?


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**DOMINOS PIZZA CESSNOCK**

Domino’s pizza Cessnock is looking for new employees to join our team. If you’re looking for a job with levels to progress throughout the business then Dominos might be the job for you.

Looking for:

- 14-15yrs for instore position
- 16-17yrs for electric push bike delivery
- 17-18 yrs. for driver position (must hold current p licence)

Please contact the store manager Guy Collier at guycollier@live.com.au

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**SPORT**

**Zone Cross Country**

The Zone Cross Country was postponed due to the flooding and wet weather. It was changed from Tocal to Cessnock Race Course on Wednesday 29th April 2015. We had over 40 Mount View High School students participate and they represented our school with pride against Maitland Grossmann High, Rutherford High, Cessnock High and Kurri High. Congratulations to all students who ran a very wet track and finished a long race with Mount View High School placing second to Maitland Grossmann placing first on the overall point score for all high schools in the competition.

The following students have made it to the Regional Cross Country:

- Brock Beveridge – Third in 12 year boys
- Kai Laybutt – Fifth in 12 year boys
- Ainsley Daniel – Second in 13 year girls
- Chloe Bain – First in 14 year girls
- Dayanidhi Torrisi – First in 14 year boys
- Brady Cross – Sixth in 14 year boys
- Marnie Bullen – Fourth in 15 year girls
- Jack Robinson – First in 15 year boys

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- Chloe Bain – First in 14 year girls
- Dayanidhi Torrisi – First in 14 year boys
- Brady Cross – Sixth in 14 year boys
- Marnie Bullen – Fourth in 15 year girls
- Jack Robinson – First in 15 year boys
Connor Garrington – Second in 15 year boys
Erin Daniel – Fourth in 16 year girls
Lindsay Daniel – Second 18+ year girls

School teams
Luca Hawkins  Brock Beveridge
Kye Burgess  Kai Laybutt
Cameron Abbott  Josh Pateman
Jack Stephenson  Callum Delaney-Dunn

Horse Sports
Our first competition for 2015 will take place at Singleton on Friday May 22\textsuperscript{nd}. The team will be supported once again by Mrs Jeffery and Mrs Winstanley.

Our team for this event will consist of:
Year 10 - Abby Baker, Grace Philip, Olivia Lambert and we welcome newcomer Zoe Hartley
Year 9 - Breanna Lindsay, Jordyn Jeffery,
Year 8 - Lloyd Broadfoot

Our team is pictured below with their new equestrian team caps awarded at the end of last year.

SRC & SENIOR LEADERS

Karen Blandon – Co-ordinator

Cessnock Anzac March Saturday 25\textsuperscript{th} April 2015
The goal for the Cessnock 100\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary Anzac March was to have one hundred students to represent Mount View High School.

This became an uncertainty due to the floods and catastrophic weather of the week and the closure of

the school days ahead of the March. It was such a proud feeling to see many staff and students participate on the day and to show their pride in our school and for those who fought for our country.

Our school Captains Alan Tull and Gabrielle Alexander showed true excellence as they delivered their speeches on “What Anzac means to Me”, and it was an honour that our school was chosen to speak on this special occasion. Our Vice Captains Sophie O’Brien and Matthew Clarkson laid the wreath on behalf of Mount View High School.

Congratulations to the following students who gave up their time to attend:

Georgia Bradley  7
Tamsyn Cordowiner  7
Mia Culley  7
Darcie Davies  7
Zac Ellis  7
Ethan Ellis  7
Jacob Ellis  7
Ben Galvin  7
Rose Lucas  7
Alexia Vowles  7
Parris LeMarseny  8
Georgia Bailey  9
Hamish Burke  9
Ty Jackson  9
Angus Lethbridge  9
Taylee Short  9
Taneeka Smith  9
Paige Trowbridge  9
Storm Walton-Clare  9
Khadija Arain  10
Brydie Burke  10
Connor Garrington  10
Nathan Green-Hill  10
Matt Griffin  10
Elliott Metcalfe  10
Taylah Mills  10
Joseph Smith  10
Dahnley Crossie  11
Ally Crossley  11
Jayde Ellis  11
Samantha Gallegos  11
Sidnee Harris  11
2015 Secondary Schools Student Leadership Program
Our two School Captains, Alan Tull and Gabrielle Alexander have been invited to attend Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney on Thursday the 2nd June 2015 to meet with His Excellency, General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret’d,) Governor of New South Wales. We wish them well on this excellent opportunity.

2015 MUNA – Model United Nations Assembly
Marnie Bullen and Cameron Abbott have been sponsored by our Cessnock Rotary Club for MUNA 2015. They will travel to Muswellbrook’s John Hunter Motel on 22nd May 2015, Friday afternoon and meet with other participants from all over the state. They will be attending a formal dinner that night representing Mount View High School and Cessnock Rotary. Cameron and Marnie will then attend Muswellbrook Council Chambers on Saturday 23rd May to debate for the country of Italy. We wish them well for this competition.

AMAROOKOBA NEWS

By Members of the Junior AECG & Michelle Bedford

Welcome back to Term 2 - after a wet and wild start to the term our students have now refocused and commenced the term well.
We are now winding up the current group of girls on Sista Speak, all of the girls and staff that were involved have thoroughly enjoyed the program.

A highlight for the girls was definitely our day on Country, visiting local Indigenous sites like the grinding bowls, the menu cave and Biamies Cave. A big thankyou to Jenny Campbell who came with us on the day. She explained the sites and the surrounding areas to us as we passed through them. Jenny shared her intimate story & knowledge with our girls in a very open and honest way. All of the Sista Speak girls were very appreciative of Jenny and the time she gave to them.

Another highlight for the girls has also been cooking with Carmen from Hunter New England Health. The girls have had valuable lessons in reading, following a recipe and cooking. The girls have enjoyed the fun loving vibe that Carmen brings with her to the cooking rooms. Carmen incorporates some Indigenous flavours to the recipes we follow and many of our girls tried Kangaroo for the first time through Sista Speak.

We now look forward to the new group of Year 7 Sista Speak girls commencing and following these girls through the program.

Students from MVHS also travelled to Cessnock High on Monday 23rd March to participate in the ‘Close the Gap’ annual sports day. This year it was decided to play basketball and touch football. Whilst it was a fantastic day and the ‘Close the Gap’ message was delivered to all that attended, it is with great regret that I inform you we lost both games on the day and Cessnock High keeps the trophy for one more year. A big thankyou to Alix Scolari who refereed the touch football game and may have even played in the student’s basketball game. We hope this sporting event continues for many years to come. It is an excellent way to raise awareness of the need to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in areas such as life expectancy, child mortality, access to education, educational outcomes and employment outcomes.

Our Aboriginal Education focus group meets again next week to discuss the finer details of upcoming events/dates such as Reconciliation week, NAIDOC and the Year 7 Cultural Immersion day. We are always looking for family and community involvement with these and many other programs/dates throughout the year. If you have any cultural knowledge or talents that you could share with our students we would welcome your involvement. Please contact Michelle Bedford - 4990 2566.

We will soon be contacting all of our families to commence your child’s Personalised Learning Plan (PLP). PLP’s are specifically for our Indigenous students and they are used as a way of improving the results for our children. We, as a school, are very enthusiastic about getting these PLP’s completed and then using them throughout the year as an extended teaching/learning tool. Ideally one or more family/carers will come into the school for approximately 30 minutes, where we look at your child’s interests, strengths and needs. We then formulate a plan where we work as partners to get the best results we can for each child.

Uncle Les Elvin in partnership with Catholic Care will once again be holding his Indigenous Art and Culture Program. The dates are 31st May, 7th and 14th April, 2015. MVHS has had numerous students participate in this program over the years and all have gained invaluable knowledge and enjoyed themselves whilst there. For further details please contact Kylie from Cessnock Catholic Care Youth and Family Support Service on 0409 921083.

We are looking forward to a positive term, with greater students’/family engagement with the completion of the student PLP’s and having community at school for upcoming celebration days.

COMMUNITY NOTICES
LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!

“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes”, - Marcel Proust, 19th century novelist.

Volunteer to host an international high school student through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at how this unique and rewarding experience can help bring your family together, understand yourselves better and see the world in a new light.

We have students aged 15-18 arriving from France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Scandinavia in July 2015 who are seeking welcoming families all over Australia, in both rural and urban communities. They will live like a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive travel insurance – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Capture the spirit of family and friendship - visit us on Facebook or at www.sccex.com.au, email sccexaustralia@sccex.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501 to request a booklet of international student profiles.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS STUDENT?

Experience another culture, make new friends and improve your language studies at home

Hosting – An Experience for Life

Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

www.studentexchange.org.au
1300 135 331 (cost of local call)

AN INVITATION TO CARERS

Do you provide care and support to another person?
You are invited to Carer Connections
Take the Opportunity to Connect with other Carers and listen to our Guest Speaker!

Carers are usually family members or friends who provide support to children or adults who have a disability, mental illness, chronic condition or who are frail aged.

Guest Speaker: National Disability Insurance Agency
Topic: NDIS Community Conversation
Where: East Maitland Bowling Club, Bank Street, East Maitland
TIME: 10.00am – 12.00pm
COST: Free - includes Morning Tea
WHEN: Monday 25 May 2015
Rsvp: Wednesday 20 May 2015

For more information or to Register Contact
HNE Carer Education & Support Program – Hunter 0492 4586 or 1300 897 776
Email: support@hnesupport.org.au
We ask that you RSVP for catering purposes.
Strive
Families Supporting Families Coping with Autism

2015 SHOPPING TRIP 17 & 18TH OCTOBER

Shop yourselves in for the most fun you will have all year at our 3rd annual Strive bus trip! We are so excited to offer another trip full of fun and excitement not to mention outstanding bargains and unforgettable girls only weekend away.

Our aim is to create a fun and exciting weekend shopping trip to raise much needed funds for families supporting and coping with Autism.

Money raised goes towards Strive awards in Local schools, Sponsorship, Educational equipment for children in local schools.

In 2014 we raised the most amount of money ever on a bus trip & hope to better that result this year with your help.

Cost includes:
Coach Travel, Accommodation, Full Buffet Breakfast at the Holiday Inn Darling Harbour, Morning Tea and afternoon snack and wine both Saturday & Sunday.

Below are some of the outlets we have enjoyed in past trips - A full itinerary will be sent out to you as we make outlet bookings & customise this year’s trip.

- Bankstown/Point Shopping Centre
- Sportscraft/float
- Keaneen Autograph
- Kingsgrove shoes
- Surf Factory
- Manchester Warehouse
- Victoria’s Basement

Total Price - $260pp
For Part payment option – 3 transactions can be made – A non-refundable Deposit of $88 due by 31st May 2015 followed by 2 payments of $88
Payments due by 31st August 2015.

To jump on-board for an unforgettable weekend, please confirm your booking with Susan Monroy at property@australisatellite.com.au or Marine Baird at info@striveautism.org.au and deposit your payment details below to secure your booking.

All Money is to be paid by direct deposit to STRIVE. (Please put your name as reference).
Banking details: CBA 858: 042 855 A/C: 1025 853

We look forward to seeing you for another fun filled weekend of shopping!

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cessnock football – (soccer)

SUPPORTED BY CESSNOCK UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

The Special Olympics Cessnock Football Club is an opportunity for those with special needs, of all abilities and ages to have some fun and make some new friends in a relaxed environment. Special Olympics caters for those with intellectual disabilities, behavioural issues, and diagnoses like Autism Spectrum Disorders and Down syndrome, that make it hard to play in mainstream sports.

Enjoy the opportunity to develop fitness, skills and friendship within a friendly, patient and accepting environment. We have no formal games and an understanding of rules etc. is not needed, so there is no pressure whatsoever. Just a lot of fun for the kids and a break for the parents.

You’re more than welcome to come down and have a look at what we do and see our kids have some fun.

Where: Baddewy Park Soccer Field, Evans Street Cessnock

When: Monday Afternoons 4PM – 5PM during School Terms

Cost: Free with Special Olympics Registration

Contact: Troy Crookdale 04134 1766 or Claire Chaffey 0400 373 568 with any enquiries

www.facebook.com/HunterValleySpecialOlympicsFootballClub
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

• Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
• Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
• Give students time to greet their friends before class
• Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

• being sick, or having an infectious disease
• having an unavoidable medical appointment
• being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
• exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won’t go to school.
What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory, the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.