From the Principals desk . . .

District Swimming Carnival
Stunning success
Congratulations to the students, staff and parents who supported our district swimming carnival last Friday. It is marvellous to be able to share the result: Colo Vale came a stunning second place in the overall tally! Our fantastic result was ably led by Lauren winning the Senior Girl Championship and Elise winning the Junior Girls Championship with Declan being successful as the Junior Boys Runner-up Champion. The junior girls relay won their final by 35 metres! Wow! This year we have the largest contingent within living memory, representing our school at the Regional Carnival. We wish them every success!

Parent Invitation - Welcome Morning Tea
Friday 1st March at 9am
I am delighted with the P&C to invite our parents of our Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 students to this Morning Tea. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents, chat to the P&C, and enjoy our students performing. I look forward to catching up or perhaps meeting you for the first time. Families and toddlers are most welcome.

P & C Continue to support School National Student Welfare Program
On 11 February, the P&C agreed to support the continuation of this program within our school. Last year, the school and the P&C discussed and approved the concept of the additional student welfare worker. I successfully applied for this Federal grant worth $60,000. The school and community agreed to employ a student welfare worker rather than a school chaplain. This is a voluntary program. If you do NOT want your child to participate in the program, you are welcome to ‘opt out’ by completing the note that was sent home on Tuesday and returning it to school. This great resource is part of our innovative student welfare program designed to support the needs of our school for 2012, 2013 and 2014. The ‘opting out’ note, will also be available on the school website.

P & C - AGM Monday 4th March 2013
Parents and their guests are invited and encouraged to be part of our Colo Vale P&C. If you are new or perhaps your situation has changed and you have some more time, I encourage you to join our friendly parent leadership team. Our P&C, continue to actively contribute to our school’s decision making and provide services for our children and parents. Their financial support has provided many new facilities and initiatives.

School Leadership - Community of Schools Initiative.
Yesterday, our senior students and school leaders participated in a leadership initiative at Wombaroo, with students from our local schools. 5/6S and 5/6P engaged with other students across the Southern Highlands to explore leadership in a wilderness perspective. This is the second year that we have run this program. I look forward to sharing the student reports from this event. This was also financially supported from the Drought Relief Fund to maximise our student participation.

Moss Vale Show - 8 - 10 march 2013 Free Student Tickets
The Moss Vale Show has kindly provided every student with a free student ticket. These will be distributed today. Parents and students are also invited to contribute items for display and competition.

Special Thanks to Mrs Laval & Mr Stanger.
I would like to formally acknowledge the leadership and initiatives that our relieving principals have fulfilled in my absence. They continued to initiate the aspirations of our school and community. It is a pleasure to be back and together with our school community, move our school forward.
Moss Vale Buskers Competition – 9th March 2013 - $1,000 prize money!
Join the gig, entertain others and earn some money! There’s prize money of $1,000 plus cash from busking. There’ll be a heap of people in town (Moss Vale Show), so should be a great scene. If you’ve got a CD, make sure to sell a few.
- When? Saturday 9th March 10am - 2pm
- Where? Moss Vale CBD
- How? Entry forms essential secretary@mossvalechamber.org.au

This is part of Bush Week. It’s being organised by the Moss Vale Chamber of Commerce in consultation with the Moss Vale and District Show Society. Starts at 10am and goes till 2pm when the parade through town to the Showgrounds will start (80 floats and entries including five bands)

Fill out the entry form and send it to Moss Vale Chamber of Commerce:
PO Box 217, Moss Vale 2577 or email to secretary@mossvalechamber.org.au Entry fee is $5 or free if you’re under 18

New SMS Mobile Phone Communication
Congratulations to the P&C for financially supporting our school SMS phone initiative. Phone coverage improvements have now made this a feasible option to provide this additional service to our school community. Special messages, emergency situations, event reminders and the like will now be texted directly to the first priority contact identified. This will occur as necessary. This service is a fantastic initiative to add to our communication plan. Please ensure that the school has your current priority mobile phone number. However, it needs to be recognised that of course some phones may experience reception difficulties. Parents are encouraged to continue to read the newsletter weekly.
The SMS service is also part of our Bushfire Communication plan. A letter detailing this information was sent home previously. This system is now operational. It also will provide us with the ability to bulk e-mail to parents as well.

All about apostrophes
Not knowing where to place apostrophes can haunt people their entire lives. Here’s an easy guide to help your child understand what they mean, how to use them and get them right, now. Find out more:

When older kid struggle with reading
Should you let your reluctant teen reader choose magazines over books? If your child is still struggling to read and write, and they’re heading into high school, there are ways to get them on the right page.
Find out more:

Avoiding Injuries
Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain? Experts discuss and give tips on what to watch out for. Find out more:

Colo Vale Public School featured in the Southern Highlands News
We love to share our good news with the greater community! Check out the Colo Vale stories featuring our fantastic band initiative. Mrs Donaldson’s hard work included actively pursuing significant sponsorship that has provided a much needed financial boost to our school band project.

Jenny Quist Principal
**Uniform Shop Roster**
A reminder that the Uniform shop is open on Tuesdays 2.15pm - 2.50pm and Fridays 8.30am - 9.00am

- Friday 1/3  Kerrie Easter
- Tuesday 5/3  Amy Green
- Friday 8/3  Jennine Hernandez
- Tuesday 12/3  Kylie Hill
- Friday 15/3  Cheryl Sharp

**Uniform Shop News. . . .**
The following items are now in stock:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Polo Fleece jackets</th>
<th>Polo Fleece jackets</th>
<th>Polo Fleece jackets</th>
<th>Jumper</th>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Medium</td>
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<td>XL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Size 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>XL</td>
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**CLEARANCE STOCK**
Girls shorts and pants  $5.00
(not all sizes are available)

*Chris Price*
Uniform shop co-ordinator

**Canteen Roster**
If you can help out please let the school office know your details.
If you have to swap your day please call **KYLIE** on 48895012 OR 0403 194 763

- Friday 1/3  Sarah Bell
  Cheryl Sharp
- Wednesday 6/3  Sharon Griffin
  Kylie Wyeth
- Friday 8/3  Lisbeth Henry
  Amy Green
  Jenny Miler

**Come Play Hockey**
Mittagong Hockey Club
Junior Registration Day

Mittagong Market Place
Saturday 9 March 2013
9.30am - 3.00pm

*Boys and Girls*
*Ages 5 - 14*

Contact: Denise
0404 877 008
jondee@westnet.com.au

**Diary Dates . . .**

- March
  - 7 March  Regional Swimming Carnival
  - 20 March  School Photos
  - 29 March  Public Holiday

**PERMISSION NOTES AND MONEY DUE**

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>DATE DUE</th>
<th>COST</th>
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<td>Textbook - Targeting Handwriting K to Year 6</td>
<td>asap</td>
<td>$14.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS - Competitions Years 3 - 6</td>
<td>5/4/13</td>
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</table>
P & C AGM
will be held on Monday 4th March 2013
7.30pm in the Staffroom.

COLO VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL
P & C ASSOCIATION
91 Wattle Street, COLO VALE NSW 2575
Ph: (02) 48894250  Fax: (02) 48894285

The next P&C Meeting is Monday 4th March 2013 at 7.30pm and will be held in the Staff Room. This meeting will be our AGM and all positions will be declared vacant.

Positions available will be President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Uniform Shop Co-ordinator, Canteen Co-ordinator, Canteen Secretary and Fundraising Co-ordinator – the roles of these positions are as follows.

PRESIDENT – The President is responsible for the functioning of the P&C Association and ensures that the P&C takes part in decision making processes in the school as well as ensuring fair participation of all members.

The President supports Volunteers. The President Chairs Meetings, attends Orientations Days and End of Year assemblies.

VICE PRESIDENT – The Vice Presidents role is to assist the President and Chair Meetings when the President is unavailable.

SECRETARY – The Secretary is required to take minutes of each meeting and distribute minutes to members for adoption at the following meeting.

TREASURER – The Treasurer receives and deposits money, maintains records, writes cheques and presents accounts. The Treasurer presents a report in the form of an income and expenditure statement together with a reconciled bank statement for each P&C Meeting.

UNIFORM SHOP CO-ORDINATOR – The Uniform Shop Co-ordinator is responsible for ensuring there is adequate stock available for purchase and to prepare a roster of volunteers.

CANTEEN CO-ORDINATOR – The Canteen Co-ordinator is responsible for ensuring there is adequate food and drinks in the Canteen and be aware of meeting the healthy canteen guidelines.

CANTEEN SECRETARY – The Canteen Secretary is responsible for the roster of volunteers and is required to take minutes of each canteen meeting.

FUNDRAISING CO-ORDINATOR – The Fundraising Co-ordinator is responsible for co-ordinating fundraising activities such as Mothers Day/ Fathers Day Stalls etc.

If you would like more information on any of these positions, please do not hesitate to give Stacy a call on 0419 402812.
From the Sports Desk . . .

The District Swimming Carnival took place last Friday at Mittagong Swimming Pool. Colo Vale sent a team of 25 swimmers, accompanied by Mrs Provino. This was our most successful team for many years, and we scored 61 points to come SECOND! A terrific effort. Highlights include:

Declan Price: 3rd in the open 100m freestyle; 2nd in the Jnr 50m backstroke; 2nd in the 10yrs 50m freestyle; 3rd in the Jnr 50m butterfly; and 2nd as part of the Jnr 4x50m relay team.

Lauren Balla: 2nd in the open 100m freestyle; 2nd in the Snr 50m breast-stroke, 2nd in the Snr 50m backstroke; 1st in the 12yrs 50m freestyle; 2nd in the Snr 4x50m Individual Medley; 1st in the Snr 50m butterfly; 3rd as part of the Snr 4x50m relay team, and Overall Snr Girls Champion.

Elise Balla: 1st in the Jnr 50m breast-stroke; 1st in the Jnr 50m backstroke; 1st in the 10yrs 50m freestyle; 1st in the Jnr 4x50m Individual Medley; 1st in the Jnr 50m butterfly; 1st as part of the Jnr 4x50m relay team; and Overall Jnr Girls Champion.

Louise Wyeth: 3rd in the Snr 50m breast-stroke; 3rd in the Snr 50m backstroke; 2nd in the 12yrs 50m freestyle; 3rd in the Snr 50m butterfly; and 3rd as part of the Snr 4x50m relay team.

Jade Alexander: 2nd in the Jnr 50m backstroke; 3rd in the 10yrs 50m freestyle; and 1st as part of the Jnr 4x50m relay team.

Thomas Sargood: 1st in the 8yrs 50m freestyle.

Jack Hatcher: 3rd in the 8yrs 50m freestyle.

Bianca Wyeth: 1st in the 8yrs 50m freestyle.

Saxon Carruthers, Mathew Simpson and Josiah Smiltnieks: 2nd as part of the Jnr 4x50m relay team.

Annalise Price and Lauren Cameron: 1st as part of the Jnr 4x50m relay team.

Melissa Legg and Tara Gray: 3rd as part of the Snr 4x50m relay team.

All swimmers who came first or second in any of their events are in the district team to compete at the Regional Swimming Championships in Dapto on Tuesday 5th March 2013. GOOD LUCK

Congratulations to Lauren Balla, who, a day before her swimming heroics, travelled to Goulburn to try out for the zone basketball team. She was successful and now travels with the team to compete at the Regional trials in Wollongong on 5th April. Good luck Lauren.

Finally, well done Matthew Stamoulos and Blake Hunter, who made the zone Aussie Rules team, and will compete at the Regional AFL trials in Nowra on Tuesday 19th March. GOOD LUCK Matt and Blake.

Mr Berry

School Photo Envelopes

Every child must have their own envelope. This has been the request from the Photographer, although you may pay for all family members in one envelope, provided you clearly mark each individual envelope and indicate which envelope has the full payment.

If you would like a Family photo, please collect an envelope from the office.

Please return to the Banksia Box no later than the Tuesday 19th March 2013.
FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

This is a good time to promote fire safety and prevention within the school community, to this end, the NSW Rural Fire Service has provided us with the following information:

1. INSTALL AND MAINTAIN SMOKE ALARMS
Smoke alarms alert you to the presents of a fire in time for you to escape the building. Install smoke alarms throughout your house paying particular emphasis to bedrooms. Test smoke alarms weekly and replace flat batteries. Replace all batteries at least once a year. Smoke alarms can be purchased from hardware stores state wide and are relatively inexpensive. Smoke alarms are mandatory for all houses from May 2006.

2. PLAN AND PRACTISE YOUR ESCAPE
With your family, plan two ways out of every room. In the event of fire, one exit may be blocked by smoke or flames. Ensure locks on windows and doors are easily opened in the event of fire; choose a meeting place outside where everyone will gather. Practise your family fire plan at least once a year. Make a game of it with your children, then it will become familiar to them.

3. PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR BUSH FIRES
Good housekeeping practices may save your family and home from approaching bush fires. Clear gutters and fence lines of twigs and leaf litter. Fit metal screens to windows and doors. Keep grass short and green. Ensure hoses reach all corners of the house. If bush fires approach, take hoses and plastic tap fittings inside until the main fire front has passed. The greatest risk to your home is from ember attack which can continue up to twelve hours after the main front had passes. Close in eaves and under the house. Be vigilant, keep checking roof spaces and vulnerable areas inside and out for spot fires. If you decide to relocate – have a plan. Don’t leave late, as fatalities occur when people become trapped in their vehicle or on foot when they have left too late and the fire is already upon them.

4. PERSONAL SAFETY
Even young children should learn to STOP, DROP, COVER AND ROLL if their clothing catches fire. Do not run, drop to the ground, protect face and lungs by covering your mouth and nose with your hands and roll over to smother the flames. Small children should also know to crawl low under smoke. The cleanest air will be several inches from the ground. Crawl to the nearest safe exit. If bush fire threatens your home, ensure the whole family is suitable dressed in sturdy clothing made from wool or cotton, NOT SYNTHETICS. Cover all exposed skin to protect from radiant heat.

5. KITCHEN SAFETY
Ensure pan handles are pointing inwards, and preferably at the back of the stove top, do not over fill or overheat chip pans. Make sure they are well supervised. Keep children away from the kitchen whenever possible. Store irons safely, keep away from children and never leave them unattended. Keep matches and lighters away form children and stored in an inaccessible cupboard. Teach children that they are tools for adults, not toys for children. Remember, by planning ahead there is much we can do to prevent fires. If a fire starts in your home get out of the building and call the fire brigade from your neighbours house. Never return to a burning building. If you fear someone is trapped, notify firefighters on their arrival. If bush fire approaches your home stay inside until the fire has passed. If you intend to evacuate do so early. Do not evacuate at the last minute. This is when lives are lost.

Inspector
David Bartlett
District Services Officer | Southern Highlands Team
GDipBA, BAppSc ParksRecHerit, Cert III Hort, JP
NSW Rural Fire Service
Wingecarribee Office | Cnr Priestley & Etheridge Sts | Mittagong NSW 2575
PO Box 337 | Mittagong NSW 2575
p 02 4868 5500 | f 02 4871 3756 | m 0437 970 881 | e david.bartlett@rfs.nsw.gov.au
Team email | southern.highlands@rfs.nsw.gov.au | Website | NSW Rural Fire Service