Dear Parents

Our Commitment; Excellence, Innovation, Community
A special thank you to our wonderful parents who supported our Musicale evening last night by; driving, attending rehearsals, getting costumes and hair ready, dropping off and picking up, thanking teachers, supporting and encouraging and finally clapping and cheering our wonderful performers last night. Schools work best when parents and staff work together in partnership to provide a quality education for students. Mona Vale does this so well. Thank you.

Public Speaking Excellence
Congratulations Jaime Bell 6B who won her final of the Multi-Cultural Perspectives Speaking competition. Jaime will attend the State finals to be held at the ABC studios for the State final.

Dance Sport Innovation
A new program to support positive social interactions among our senior students has been introduced this term. Dance Sport is a Department recognized social skills and dance program aimed at fostering positive healthy relationships between senior primary students through a structured dance program. Dance Sport encourages appropriate social interaction, respect and responsibility while learning a new skill. The program is widely used by schools across Sydney and will conclude with a team from Mona Vale participating in the Dance Sport Challenge at the Sydney Sports Centre. Our Dance instructor, Gordon Gilkes was Dawn Frazer’s partner in the Dancing with the Stars series and has already made tremendous gains with our students, particularly the boys. We are trialing this program to determine if it has a place in our Social Skills program and from student and staff feedback it appears to be a fantastic success.

Gordon Gilkes and students from 5S & 5E
**Musicale Community**

Our 2013 Musical was a wonderful success with 400 students participating in an evening of music, dance, band and instrumental performances. Last year we reviewed our Performance program at Mona Vale with a view to enhance the profile of the Performing Arts across the school. This year we employed Mrs Jacqui Shaw to support our music program and Chair the Creative Arts committee at the school. Last night showcased the wonderful talent we have at Mona Vale, both students in their performances and staff in guiding, nurturing and organising the evening. Our matinee performance was watched by residents from Mona Vale House, an aged care facility, who had a wonderful time and expressed their gratitude to us for the opportunity to see the show. A special thanks to Mrs Jacqui Shaw and her dedicated team of staff who have worked tirelessly to make the evening a success for students. Mona Vale should be proud of the quality of the evening and the collaboration of all involved to make the evening such a success.

**Science @ Mona Vale Partnerships**

Astrophysicist Professor Mark Wardel from Macquarie University wowed our students with a presentation on the Planets and Black Holes as a part of our focus on Science. Professor Wardel’s visit was organised as part of our partnership with Macquarie University and we are currently arranging a night visit to the planetarium at the University. A more detailed account of Professors Wardel’s visit is in this Mona Vale Mail.

**Building Program**

I have asked for quotes to build a BBQ with roof near our canteen to cater for the many events we hold that require this facility. Currently we are using portable BBQ’s that are housed in our Hall storerooms with our Hall chairs stacked outside, not an ideal solution. I hope to have this project completed by the end of the year.

**Staff News**

Mrs Leesa Martin will be on leave for the last four weeks of this term and in her absence Mrs Simone Rizzuto will relieve as Deputy Principal and Ms Sarah Morgan will relieve as Assistant Principal.

**Mona Vale Centenary Books**

We have some Centenary Books still available, were $25 now selling for $10. Great father’s Day present. Available at the office.

**Kids Matter at Mona Vale**

Our feelings are very important and are always changing. Learning how to manage and recognise feelings is an important part of a child’s social and emotional development. Often it can be difficult for children to manage their feelings without adult support.

All K-2 classes at Mona Vale will soon be given a ‘feelings’ poster. This will be displayed in the classrooms to teach students how to talk about, identify, express and manage their feelings.

Please refer to the strategies provided, which outlines how parents/caregivers can help children learn to manage their feelings.

**Greg Jones BA Macq MA Ed Macq**

Principal
MAGICAL MUSICALE!

What a wonderful showcase of extraordinary talent we were all treated to last night at this year’s Mona Vale Musicale! It was truly delightful to witness close to 400 students engaged in the creative and performing arts with smiles from ear to ear! What an excellent example of quality public education at its best. I would like to thank Mrs Jacqui Shaw and her team of incredibly talented teachers and helpers who worked tirelessly to pull it all together in such spectacular fashion. Congratulations everyone and especially to our beautiful students who entertained us so well. I was so proud of you all.

CYBER SAFETY TALK

As Deputy Principal I am often asked for advice regarding cyber safety and how to ensure our children are using the internet and social media sites appropriately. To help us all improve our knowledge and skills in this area I have organised a Cyber Safety Parent Information evening for our community on Wednesday 16th October at 7pm. The workshop will be conducted by renowned cyber safety advocate Leonie Smith and will cover:

- Updates on the latest in apps and platforms
- Safe search settings
- Dangerous apps and blogging sites
- What is cyber bullying?
- Common traps for young people
- Q & A discussion on communication strategies

A flyer containing further information regarding confirming your spot at this very important event will be sent home in coming weeks so please look out for this information.

This parent course will be run in conjunction with student workshops for Years 3-6 conducted by Robyn Jennings, Youth Liaison Officer from the NSW Police Force. I strongly encourage all parents to attend this free, invaluable event and look forward to seeing many of you there.

Leesa Martin B.Ed, Dip Teach UTS
Deputy Principal
### Week 6

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<td>Monday 19th August</td>
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<td>Tuesday 20th August</td>
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<td>Wednesday 21st August</td>
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<td>Thursday 22nd August</td>
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### Week 7

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| Tuesday 27th August | Zone Athletics Carnival  
                      | Festival of Instrumental Music - Recorder |
| Wednesday 28th August | Mind Marathon –GATS students at East Hill Boys High School  
                      | Year 5 dance Sport |
| Thursday 29th August|                                |
| Friday 30th August | Father’s Day Breakfast                                      |

## 2013 Term Dates

**Last Day of Term 3:** Friday 20th September

**Term 4**

Staff and Students return **Tuesday 8th October 2013**

Last day for students **Wednesday 18th December 2013**
Term 3 Accounts & Permission notes
Term 3 accounts are now overdue. Reminders have been sent home. Should you be experiencing any financial difficulty please contact myself or Mr Jones.

Updating information
We are currently getting ready for a major changeover of computer systems early next year. We are currently able to add additional information into our system for it to be rolled over when the new system comes into action. If you currently have any Court Orders, AVOs or other custody documents it would be appreciated if you could send a copy to the school or alternatively, please call me to check that we have the latest information on our file.

Please keep the school updated with any changes to your address, phone numbers and emergency contacts so we can keep our records up to date.

Student Medical Information
Thank you to all the parents who have returned their Student Medical Information forms. We are busy entering all the information. If we require further information we will return the form to you with the information that we require. The school is required to have a form for every student regardless of whether they have a medical condition or not.

Thanking you
Leonie Gallard
School Administration Manager
Have you enrolled?

Kindergarten placements at Mona Vale Public School are filling fast!

Orientation sessions start in October. If you would like to enrol your child for Kindergarten 2014, please phone Mona Vale Public School on 9999 3481

Waratah Street, Mona Vale, 2103
Dear Parents and Careers

Here is an interesting article in the Aussieeducator which deals with a range of points of view and research surrounding the value of homework. Please follow the link and take the time to read this article as it gives us all, students, parents and students, lots to think about and consider when it comes to homework and its value and place in education.

Homework Committee

Multicultural Perspectives Speaking Competition success at Mona Vale School.

During Terms 2 and 3, many of our students thoughtfully wrote and presented their ideas on multiculturalism using topics such as 'What Harmony Day means to me' and 'Multiculturalism in my Playground.' Two students from each class in Grades 3 to 6 had a speak-off in the hall to choose four representatives to compete against other students from our zone. Bella Hope-Parsons and Metysse Rogley from Stage Two and Zoe Bakker and Jaime Bell from Stage Three represented our school in the zone finals at Collaroy Plateau Public School.

Jaime and Zoe did brilliantly to take first and second place at the zone final and first place gave Jaime Bell the opportunity to speak along with students from all over Sydney North at the Regional Finals at the Lewisham Arts unit on Tuesday 6th August. Jaime won again! Congratulations, Jamie - what a brilliant effort! Jaime now goes to the state finals at a date to be decided, which will be recorded at the ABC studios. Good luck, Jamie!

Photo from left: Metysse Rogley, Jamie Bell, Zoe Bakker, Bella Hope-Parsons
As part of National Science Week, Professor Mark Wardle visited us from Macquarie University and gave Grades One to Six a wonderful presentation. His talk ranged from planets and their moons, space exploration, moon landing conspiracy theories and what we might expect to discover in our universe in the future! He answered many questions from our students such as:

Q 'How cold is it in space?' A 'It depends how close to a star you are!'

Q 'How do you discover new planets?' A: 'With amazing telescopes which allow you to see into other universes!'

Professor Wardle's knowledge and enthusiasm for astronomy left Mona Vale students alight with questions and ideas and we thank him for generously giving up his time to encourage our budding scientists!
Why feelings are important

"Let's go, let's go. Come on Dad!"

This is the family outing that everyone in the family has been waiting for. Seven-year-old Voula has been up since dawn jumping around excitedly.

When Voula gets wound up it can be difficult to keep things under control.

She doesn't seem to understand that her baby brother doesn't like her jumping around and poking at him, or that her Dad is a bit slower in the mornings and needs his space.

You don't want to dampen her enthusiasm, but you'd like her to be able to express it in ways that are less annoying to others!

Learning to manage feelings

Children's feelings are often intense. They can be quickly taken over by feelings of excitement, frustration, fear or joy.

When feelings take over children's behaviour, they can find it difficult to manage without adult support. This is why learning how to recognise and manage feelings is a very important part of children's social and emotional development.

Understanding that all sorts of feelings are normal, that they can be named, and that there are ways of handling them are the first things children need to learn about feelings. Understanding that feelings affect behaviour, and being able to recognise how this happens are important steps for learning to manage feelings.
The North Sydney Boys community invites you to Open Day. Join us to discover how we deliver excellence and innovation in boys’ education. Our students, parents and teachers look forward to welcoming you to the school and sharing with you what make North Sydney Boys so unique.

School Tours: 9:15am; 9:30am; 9:45am; and 11:15am
Principal’s Address and student presentations: 10:45am

Corner of Falcon and Miller Streets,
CROWS NEST
Phone: 9955 4748

Parking in the surrounding streets is limited to 2 hours. Public transport links to the school are very good; visit the transport website at 131500.com.au for timetable information.
FAMINE-BREAKING BBQ

You may have seen posters like this at school and in the community, advertising World Vision’s 40 Hour Famine

Various schools, churches and businesses have formed the Pittwater Famine Village to fight global hunger together. To donate or join the action go to http://pittwaterfaminevillage.com.au/

You have until September 20 to support the school team.

It’s on this weekend!

YOU ARE INVITED!

WHAT: end of famine BBQ (with live music, jumping castles)
WHEN: Sunday August 12-2pm
WHERE: Mona Vale Village Park (in the hall if wet)
WHY: celebrate finishing the famine, thank those involved, raise money
WHO: All welcome!

Gold coin donations for BBQ and $2/$5 for jumping castle

(NB: famine participants and sponsors receive a free sausage and a turn on the jumping castle – just show proof of involvement)