

Times @ VC

Term 2, 2025

Macleay Vocational College Newsletter



MVC COMMUNITY SPIRIT AFTER THE KEMPSEY FLOODS



I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate a group of students who demonstrated outstanding maturity, initiative, and community spirit on Friday 30th May.

In response to a call for help from the Kempsey Cannonballs Rugby Club, these students volunteered to assist with a much-needed clean-up of the clubhouse. Without complaint or hesitation, they rolled up their sleeves and got to work — cleaning out the changerooms, storeroom, canteen, and removing damaged furniture and old stock. The next jobs involved hosing, sweeping, mopping floors, and then re-installing freezers to help the club prepare for the weekend's games.

The club manager was thrilled to see the students involved and deeply appreciated their efforts. Maurice and I had asked several students to assist, but it was this group who showed true grit and a willingness to get stuck in and support their community.

When you see them around, I encourage you to offer a positive affirmation for their efforts.

Thank you Hunter, Lilly, Zander, Rico, Lachlan, and Arlen. **Sav**



School returns: Monday 21st July, 2025

Enjoy your break everyone!

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MAY 2025 KEMPSEY FLOOD

At the end of May flooding waters came over the Kempsey levy banks and went under Coles and through some shops in the middle of town. The Kempsey bridge was closed and the netball courts were completely under with only the goal rings showing out of the water. Even the train bridge was nearly underwater! MVC had to close down for a week because staff and students couldn't get to the school. The power was out too so the food in the canteen was not suitable for eating.



After the water went down, everyone started the cleanup. There was rubbish everywhere and dirt from the mud. All of the stuff in the shops was damaged so was piled up outside on the pathway. **Zach**



Lachlan interviewed some of our staff and students about how the floods affected them and their families. Below are some of the comments:



Pigeon was flooded in and couldn't come to town. Water was rushing down the hill near his house and carrying huge rocks that he had to try and stop wrecking his house. He had to work really hard in the heavy rain to direct the water away from his house.

Farley's family dairy farm is on the river and was very flooded. The house is built up very high but things that were in the sheds had to be cleaned out after the water went through them. He had to have a couple days off work to help with the clean up at the farm.



Desi had her own flood in the College canteen just before the town flooded, when a hose broke in the dishwasher. She had to 'paddle' through ankle deep water to turn off the machine.

A number of staff and students were stuck in Crescent Head or South West Rocks for days.

Bianca was stuck between flooded roads so she couldn't get to Crescent Head or Kempsey.

Lilly was working lots at Foodworks in Crescent Head and they were getting food flown in by helicopters. She said people were coming in all the time asking for things that the supermarket had run out of.

Israel was posting updates on the Macleay Valley Floodwatch page on Facebook about the flooded Corduroy.



MAY 2025 KEMPSEY FLOOD



Gavin was on the ABC news. He took a reporter in his boat and managed to avoid the fence posts that were underwater which made them hard to see. He put in a lot of time and effort with help from **Trent** and **Jake**, to move cattle to high ground before the flood waters came over the levy banks and then had to move them back after the water went down.

They also found time to help fellow farmers with the flood emergency that was gripping Kempsey and the broader Macleay Valley, helping out with the Rural Connect Ag (RCA) Kempsey Hay Drop. Gavin, remaining positive, could see a silver lining in the dark clouds.



“Nothing like farming on water and as they say, you can make money from mud but not much from dust,” exclaimed Gavin.



Lea-Ann was gaining valuable work experience helping with the fodder drop for Kevin Wisemantle. He was co-ordinating emergency fodder drops to the local farmers. **Well done MVC Mud Army!**

CANTEEN TIMES

MVC's canteen chef Desi is the person who keeps us well fed and working through the day has had a busy term satisfying our hungry stomachs.

Desi would like to thank all the students and staff who have stepped in and stepped up to lend a hand in the canteen this term.

Desi said to our roving reporter, “So many staff and students have offered to help in so many ways—from sweeping, cleaning, serving, unpacking boxes and stocking the shelves.”

Regular students who have displayed their helpfulness included: Aaliyah, Miranda, Josh, Atticus, CJ, Cailin and Jesse (sorry if we missed anyone). Also numerous staff have stepped in but a special thanks goes to Nicole who often fills in if Desi is away, sick or injured.

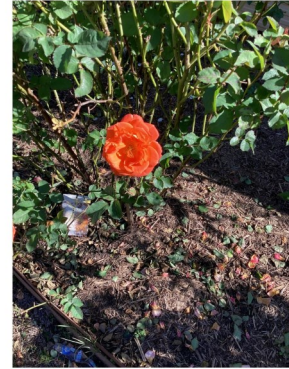


The College thanks all those who have shown leadership in assisting with the smooth daily operations of the canteen.

“It has been really, really appreciated. Love from Desi.”



STAGE 5 PHOTOGRAPHIC AND DIGITAL MEDIA LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPY



DORRIGO RAINFOREST EXCURSION

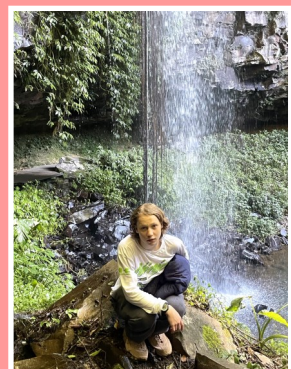


We recently went with our LAT group to Dorrigo Rainforest which is elevated 762 metres above sea level. Here the air is clear and because of the elevation it is much thinner. The thin air made it difficult for some of our students who are vapers, with one student needing to be piggy-backed up the final hill by myself.



We went to Crystal Showers Falls which was beautiful as shown in these pictures. The national park has 30 different types of mammals, 128 kinds of birds, 44 species of amphibians and reptiles, and there are several protected plants and animals in the park, including the Satin Bowerbird, the Australian Brush Turkey, the Superb Lyrebird, the Common Ringtail possum and the Wompoo Fruit-dove.

It was unfortunate that we weren't able to complete the full trek but I would highly recommend our VC trekking to anyone who is interested. There will be more river trekking with Brad next term and all are welcome. **Atticus**



PRIMARY INDUSTRIES COMPETITIONS

At **Wingham Beef Week** it started raining in my age group and my steer decided to lie down in the ring. Even with that happening, the judge called me over and moved me into the finals, which I won, becoming the 17yrs Champion Parader. Then I went into the final championship for all ages up to 25yrs (480 competitors) and I became the Reserve Champion overall. **Hunter**

"We were all very proud of his success," announced Gavin.

We went to the **Royal Easter Show** in Sydney for a week. Hunter led the College's steer in the Hoof and Hook Competition but it didn't do very well. We washed and prepared animals for judging and some of us learnt how to clip the steers. We were interviewed about the College by an ABC reporter.

We stayed in a scout hall for the week and went tenpin bowling and to laser tag one night, except for Hunter who was working at the showground looking after cattle.

Lea-Ann, Caitlin and Hunter

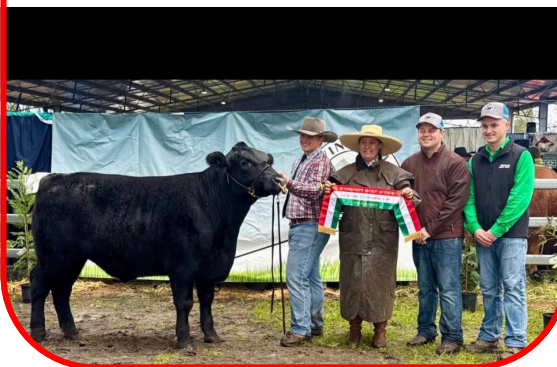


Wingham Beef Week
2h · 🌐

🏆 Reserve Champion Parader 2025

Congratulations to our 17 years Champion Hunter Scrivener from **Macleay Vocational College** on taking out Reserve Champion of our 2025 Junior Paraders competition!

#winghambeefweek #wbw2025 #YouthInAg #youthinagriculture



MVC STUDENTS CONSULTED FOR LOCAL FIVE YEAR PLAN

Kate Munro from Luminosity Youth Development Solutions led a discussion with our students to get their thoughts and ideas on improving the wellbeing of Kempsey youth.

The Kempsey Local Drug Action Team is developing a five year action plan and are keen to hear what the youth of the area think should be the priorities of the plan.

Kate is a consultant for the local team and asked students from all the local schools what they thought was working well and not so well in tackling drug and alcohol abuse in the Macleay Valley.

The next step is that Kate takes the suggestions and ideas to the KLDAT to inform them as they develop their five year action plan.



ATTICUS REPRESENTS MVC ON ANZAC DAY

I had no sleep the night before the event so was dead tired but it was good to march to remember the sacrifice of Australian soldiers throughout our history.

We started in the carpark of the service station near the netball courts and we marched with everyone down Belgrave St and across the bridge keeping our heads held high for the ANZAC Day commemoration.

Everyone gathered at The Cenotaph to stand for the Last Post and to hear the stories of the wars. Then we took it in turns to lay wreaths at the base of The Cenotaph.

Megan, Sally, Kris, Patrick and Brooke marched with me. It was a shame that I was the only student to represent the College but as the school's captain I was happy to participate.



MVC STUDENTS HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF KEMPSEY

On Monday, May 12th, our outstanding student leaders, Lilly and Atticus, were given a unique opportunity to represent Macleay Vocational College at Kempsey Shire Council. Brooke accompanied our students, as they joined with student leaders from Kempsey High, Melville High, Kempsey Adventist School and St Paul's College to meet with Kempsey Mayor Kinne Ring and councillors for a youth-led workshop on the Community Strategic Plan.

The workshop centred on three key questions: *Where are we now? Where would we like to be? And how do we get there?* These discussions aimed to give young people a voice in shaping the future of the Kempsey community.

Lilly and Atticus worked closely with Councillor Annette Lawrence, sharing their ideas and concerns on behalf of their peers. Some of their key suggestions included improving local roads and pathways to increase safety, installing more street lighting and CCTV, allocating subsidised housing for students and apprentices, and developing a 24-hour Community Recreational Hub to provide safe and inclusive spaces for young people.

Their thoughtful contributions and leadership truly reflected the values of our school. Lilly and Atticus engaged meaningfully with councillors and peers, demonstrating passion, confidence and a genuine commitment to their community.

The event concluded with a pizza lunch, generously provided by Kempsey Shire Council—much to Atticus' delight! "Then we went to Tumblegum which was delicious!" proclaimed Lilly and Atticus.

We are incredibly proud of Lilly and Atticus for representing MVC with such pride and enthusiasm, and for helping to build stronger partnerships within our wider community.

Brooke



LAT GROUP ACTIVITY DAY—ESCAPING THE ROOM

As part of the LAT Group activities, students enjoyed an engaging and rewarding activity day at the Port Macquarie Façade Escape Room.

The experience challenged students to work collaboratively as they navigated their way through a variety of themed escape rooms.

Each room required strong teamwork, analytical thinking, communication, and critical problem-solving skills, giving students a hands-on opportunity to develop these key competencies



in a fun and immersive setting.

After completing the challenges of the escape room, students enjoyed a relaxed lunch by the water, taking in the beautiful Port Macquarie scenery before heading back to school.

Throughout the day, students represented the school with pride and maturity.

Sav

LOVE BITES

During Week One this term, MVC ran the Love Bites course for all of the College students to engage in. Mel and Chanelle organised the days and were the facilitators of the course. "It was great to see the whole College involved and participation was good. The students were able to gain valuable insights and useful tips for the present and future relationships."

On both days there were separate groups for Stage 5 and Stage 6. Day One began with a broad overview, outlining the key ideas that focused on healthy relationships and the very important nature of consent in relationships. The following day involved the art component of the Love Bites course where students involved were able to creatively message (in poster format) the key ideas such as consent, and positive and healthy interactions in a relationship.



"I found it educational and I learnt the steps involved in being a great partner to someone in the future," explained Josh, a Stage 5 student.



Josh also completed the poster (with Atticus, Quade and Raz) titled "Cup of Consent" which represents the idea of consent in an illustrative way.

TERM 1 COMMUNITY BARBECUE



YEAR 11 WRITING TASK: FICTIONAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY

I have been playing touch football since I was little and I love it.

I remember my grandmother would clear the backyard to teach me how to get better. I then played for a Kempsey touch footy team that I enjoyed every little bit of. My family were on the sideline, cheering me on every time I had a run or scored.

Not long after that I made it to be an Australian Representative. I was so stoked! My family was very proud of how far I had come. My goal was only to make my dad proud of me from up above.

I thank everyone who walked with me on this amazing journey.

Anastacia

YEAR 11 WRITING TASK: FICTIONAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY

A Life Striving for Greatness

Just about as long as I can remember my dad and I would go to the footy field and practise kicking and passing just about every other afternoon. I would always watch the NRL games with Dad and I always knew I wanted to be on that screen.

I was born in Parramatta hospital on 27th September 1999. Based on me being born there you'd think I'd go for Parra but Dad was born in west Sydney so we always went for Penrith.

All through school my mates would say I was the best player on the field and we went into multiple state tournaments with school where I would almost always come out on top. This led to scouts noticing our team.

In my last year of high school my father moved away and my grandma passed. I found it very hard to train or to have any motivation. I thought I'd never make it to the big league.

Two years passed and I was working at Subway but was training again because, even with Dad across the country in Perth, he would call me everyday, which really helped motivate me.

I played under 20's for a local team but now I played rugby union instead of league and after a couple of years I was recruited to the Australian national team. My favourite part of my journey so far was winning the Rugby Championship against New Zealand.

The last thing I'd like to say is, no matter who you are, or where you're from, follow your dreams and aspirations.

Arlen



Year 12 students model their new hoodies.

Ameka and Baylin introduced their beautiful baby boys, Kayson and Bryson, who were born in January.



George, the visiting rooster, found a new home with Desi's hens.

HUNTER ON THE PATH FOR AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION



Congratulations to Hunter who has been selected for NSW Country Rugby Union Team, this is a significant milestone as not only is it recognition for his hard work and talent, it is a pathway to further representative opportunities and exposure to higher level of coaching and training.

Gavin



STAGE 5 STUDENTS TAKE ON A SCIENCE CHALLENGE



In Science we had a challenge to make a bridge from paddle-pop sticks and hot-glue that would support the weight of Tarrik.

People constructed some really strong bridges. I added extra sticks to make mine strong enough and it easily took my weight and passed the 'Tarrik test'.

Seth



FAREWELL MAURICE

We extend our sincere thanks and best wishes to Maurice Kelly, who concluded his time at the College last month. Maurice joined us as a Senior Wellbeing Officer and Drug & Alcohol Counsellor and was a valued member of both the College Executive Leadership team and the Wellbeing Team. As an Indigenous leader, Maurice brought important cultural knowledge, compassion, and care to his work, supporting the health and wellbeing of students and staff alike.

We thank Maurice for his meaningful contributions and wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.

Belinda

Maurice was great fun at College events like the *Amazing Race* and *Green and Gold Day*. He encouraged student participation, sportsmanship and community spirit.



THE ADVENTURES OF MVC WITH BRAD

Josh and I had to wake up at around 4:50am to walk to the College to catch the bus. Nobody was at College except for Chris. It was freezing at that time of the morning in winter. Brad arrived and we waited and waited but some people didn't show.

Eventually we jumped on the bus and headed out to pick up some students on our way north (8 students). It was a long drive and we met up with Dingo, the rafting guide so we could follow him to a camp site where we stopped to prepare.



I decided to have a swim in the freezing cold water. That definitely woke me up!! Everyone got into their wetsuits, life jackets, helmets and gloves. Then we sat on the rafts on the shore and learnt the commands that we had to listen to. The guides would give us those commands and it was very important that we

listened to them and did exactly what we were told or we would flip into the water. We had to make sure we always held the 'T' of the paddle so that it didn't hit any one in the face.

Zander and I were in the front of our raft, Brad and Josh were behind and Dingo, the guide was at the back using his paddle like a rudder to direct the raft. We all had to be in sync with our paddles so that we formed the 'motor'.

Dingo would give us instructions all the way with how to paddle together to turn or slow, or to duck down or to get into the raft or to quickly get up onto the sides again. He yelled instructions all the way. He made us go surfing on a rapid and the first time was successful but the second time we all fell out and Brad, Josh and Zander were trapped very briefly under the raft. I went over the front of the raft into the rapids. We all felt like we



were going to drown but we were actually fine and it is something I definitely recommend because it was so exciting.

Midway we got out of the raft and we cliff jumped and got back into the raft at the bottom. The raft full of the girls decided it would be funny to ram into us right near a huge rock. At the very end we had steak and sausages and warm drinks over a fire. We had to carry the rafts back up to the trailers and help pack up. After we changed into warm clothes we started to head home by following the guides. I highly recommend the experience. **Atticus**



EMILY'S ADVISORY GROUP EXCURSION TO THE BIG BANANA

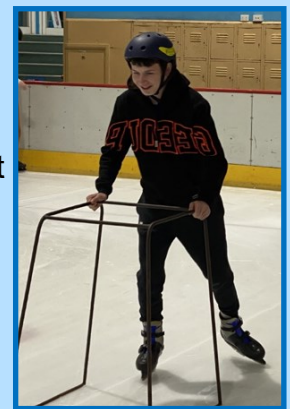
On a mild and overcast day in mid-June, Emily's Advisory Group took a day trip to the Big Banana in Coffs Harbour. The day was an opportunity for students and staff to have some fun and get to know each other a little better, while trying some new experiences.

After getting away from College slightly later than expected, we all voted to go to Coffs Central for a food-court lunch. With full bellies and a few interesting encounters on the way back to the bus, we arrived at the Big Banana and decided on which activities to do.



Bianca and Lilly explored the crystal shop first, while everyone else went to the bumper cars. The boys had a great time ramming into each other on the bumper cars and shooting lasers at each other, with plenty of laughs and a large competitive streak appearing in most of the drivers. The "laser guns" on the cars tallied a fairly even score around the group. (Israel won the first round, but there was an appeal from the other competitors.)

Next the majority of the group went ice skating. It was the first time on the ice for almost everyone. Liz had skated a fair bit with her family, so was quite comfortable gliding around the rink. Lilly B got the hang of it after a while, so she and Liz stayed the longest of all the students. Jorjah and Taitayah had a great session, but opted out a little early once they started getting wet socks through their skates. Despite some falls and injuries, Sylvester and Kiahn put in a good effort on the ice, as did Zander and James. James had skated before but found he couldn't quite get his groove back this visit. Next time, James! Throughout it all Emily glided around the ice with only a few wobbles!



While the ice skating was happening, Israel went on the Giant Slide with Bianca and Lilly. Bianca was terrified at first, cursing and freaking out the whole way up the ramp to the top of the slide. Despite this, and with some solid encouragement from Lilly (and a few harmless threats from Israel), Bianca went down the massive, scary, horrifying Giant Slide successfully, overcoming her fear. At the bottom Bianca was heard to say "Oh, that wasn't even that bad. I want to do it again, but this time I want to win!"



The last stop for everyone was a 4D cinema experience. The girls opted for a Dinosaur / Jurassic Park kind of video experience, while the boys went for a Wild West Mine Cart video. The 4D cinema had motorised seats that wobbled and shook in sync with the movie, air blowers and other effects, and 3D glasses and video footage, to make you feel like you were immersed in the film.



The day was a massive success, with plenty of laughs, great stories, and good food. A big thanks to Emily for organising the day, and College for treating the students and staff to a wonderful experience out and about! **Israel**

THANK YOU PHILLIP

We acknowledge Phillip Wilson's time with us as Principal during Term 1 this year and thank him for his contribution to our College. We wish Phillip all the best in his future endeavours. **Belinda**



VISTING ARTIST INSPIRES MVC STUDENTS

We were very fortunate to have Rachel Cross from the Dunghutti-Ngaku Aboriginal Art Gallery spend some time in the art rooms making art with our students.

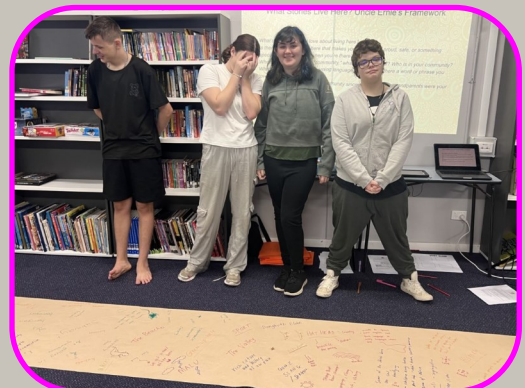
Thanks for organising the visit Monika.



SHARING DUNGHUTTI LIFE STORIES

The SharingStories Foundation (SSF) returned to MVC this term to work with our keen students as they recorded the life stories of our Dunghutti elders. The students not only learnt more film techniques and interviewing skills during the lessons, but also heard from Aunty Denise, Uncle Tully and Uncle Barry about their life journeys. They spoke about growing up on Dunghutti country, about their culture and the importance of respect, and about what life was like on 'the mission'. They also shared some information and stories relating to their spiritual beliefs like the Hairy Man, The Blue Light and the Black Shadow.

Aunty Dee and the students created some drawings that will be used in animations that the SSF will create. They will also be using our recorded interviews with others that they are collecting from around Australia, in a documentary that they hope will be picked up by one of the networks such as the ABC or NITV, for wider broadcasting. These digital stories will also become classroom resources for school around the country. **Aunty Dee and Uncle Tully**



MESSAGE FROM THE COLLEGE BOARD: “YOU ARE DOING A FANTASTIC JOB, MEGAN”

With Phillip’s decision not to return to the College, the Board was faced with the difficult task of determining who would take on the Principal role.

Above all, the priority was to avoid further disruption to the College community. Megan had already shown strong leadership in her role as Assistant Principal, so it was a great relief when she agreed to step into the role of Acting Principal for the remainder of the year.

As a visitor, it’s refreshing to see the College’s vibrant energy return. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and capable staff, a wonderful group of students, and a wide range of exciting opportunities that make the College experience so rewarding.

On behalf of the Board, a heartfelt thank you to Megan for stepping up into the Principal role — you are doing a fantastic job! **Narelle**



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

The following students have earned at least ten merits this term:

Mikayla
Elizabeth
Bayah
Toby
Bella

Sylvester
Jesse
Angel
Dee-Jay
Quade

Paul
Mia
Collin
Lilly (yr12)



These students have reached the **80% attendance** target:

Angel
Bella
Collin
Dee-Jay
Emily
Lilly
Mikayla

MVC AND GINDA BARRI CELEBRATE WITH DALAIGUR PRESCHOOL

Dalaigur Preschool celebrated its 60th year of providing educational services to the families of the Macleay Valley. Uncle Barry’s mother and a group of like minded ladies started the preschool, especially for Dunghutti children but all were welcome. Now it is an award-winning service that is well respected in the NSW education community.

MVC took a group of students and preschoolers to be part of the celebrations. Together we decided to run sensory play stations at our stall. The girls researched and collaborated to decide on creating stations that used water, sand, paint, bubbles, fruit loops and hair spray.

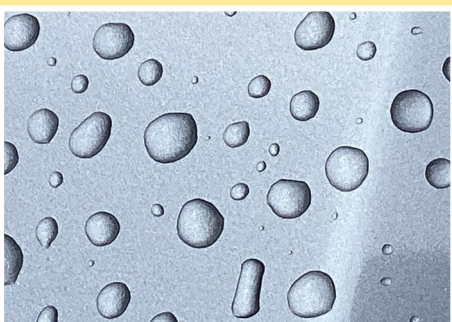


The girls represented VC with integrity and warmth. They assisted the younger students visiting the stall with a nurturing, positive and friendly attitude. We saw hundreds of kids throughout the day and the girls maintained their positivity and commitment to the stall. They should be incredibly proud of their achievements and the confidence required to step outside of their comfort zone.

Well done Dee-Jay, Avah and Jalahra. An extra special thank you to Ciara who also went above and beyond on the day to make the stall such a success. **Courtney**



ART GALLERY OF MVC



STAGE 6 SLR CLIMBING ADVENTURE



Bronwyn and Uncle Baz took SLR students to Treetops Adventure Park in Coffs Harbour. We got there and the Scottish instructor helped us get into our harnesses, helmets and gloves so that we could complete the training course on the ground. It was really important to have the clips on the wire ropes correctly so that we were safe and could move through the treetops course. We practiced using the equipment before we climbed the ladder to start the real work.

There are three levels – beginner, intermediate and advanced – and we worked our way through the levels. I'm scared of heights, especially when the platforms wobbled but when you're harnessed-up you feel safe, so that you can climb, and use the ropes and zip lines. I thought the zip lines were the best part because they were obstacle free.

We had a lot of fun and it was heaps better than sitting in class. I wholeheartedly recommend the experience to everyone. **Atticus**



WORK AND CAREERS

Ann and Auntie Dee gave Year 12 students the opportunity to explore career and training options at the Mid Coast Career Expo held at the Race Club at Port Macquarie.

We explored jobs and training options and were able to find information about course options at university, TAFE and with some of the bigger local businesses.



The challenge for our Year 12 students is to start identifying job and training options for 2026 when they are no longer at the College and fully in control of life and work choices. Now is the time to start planning for life and work after College.

The next career expo will be at the Kempsey Showground in week 9 of Term 3. Year 12 and 11 students are invited. Any Year 9 and Year 10 students who are interested in attending should see Ann early in Term 3. Many of the bigger local businesses who have employment opportunities will attend the expo to talk to interested students about jobs and traineeships.



Year 12 students have only ten weeks left to complete their work placements that are mandatory for vocational courses and Work Studies. Work placement is very valuable for local employers to have a look at prospective employees in their workplaces before they offer employment.

It has been great to see so many students creating resumes and applying for casual paid employment. Everyone looks forward to seeing our students out in the community gaining valuable work experience for their future.

TRAFFIC CONTROLLER COURSE

A number of students have asked about traffic controller courses. This course, Traffic Controller Skill (RIISS00054), is **NOT** offered at the College. It is a 2 day course that costs about \$450 and you need to be at least 17 years old to enrol. This course usually requires you to have a current White Card and may be available locally at private RTOs or in Port Macquarie. **See Ann for details.**



RAZ ON THE CATWALK

We're proud to share that, in early June, Raz was working as a model in the Macleay Valley Fashion Show at the Old Cheese Factory in Frederickton. He wore clothes by three different designers who

recreate fashion items from Op Shop clothes.

"I had a lot of fun doing the show," said Raz.

Check out Macleay Valley Fashion on Instagram for more images



EXVIN'S SUCCESS

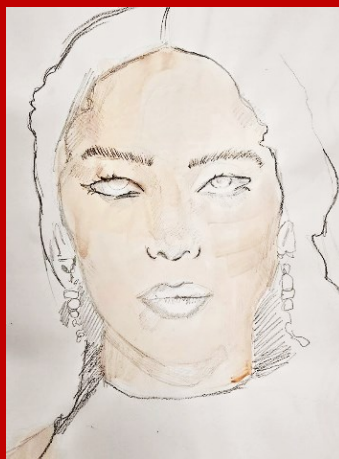
When Sav's LAT group went to Port Macquarie for the day, they were delighted to reconnect with former VC student, Exvin, who now works at the Facade Escape Room. It was a proud moment for staff and students alike to see Exvin thriving in her role and contributing to such an exciting local business.

Sav

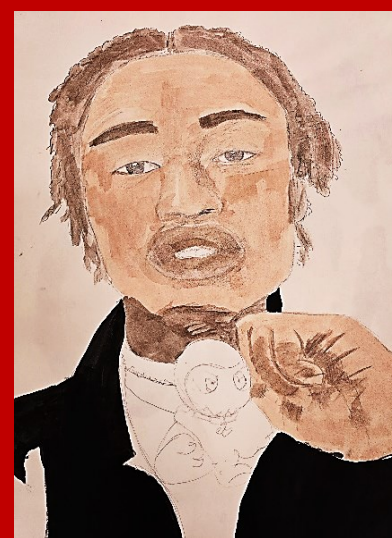
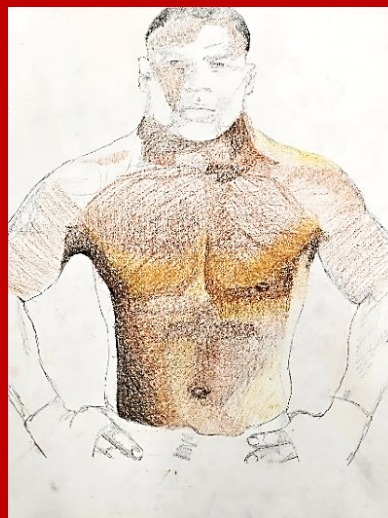
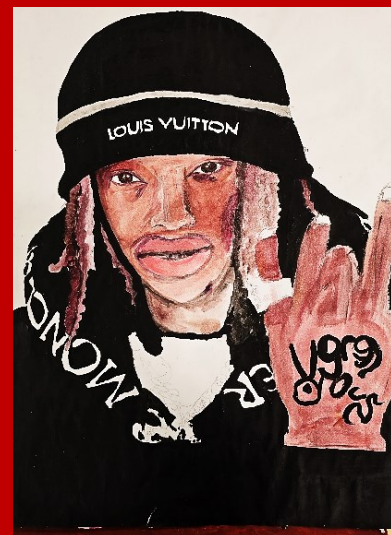
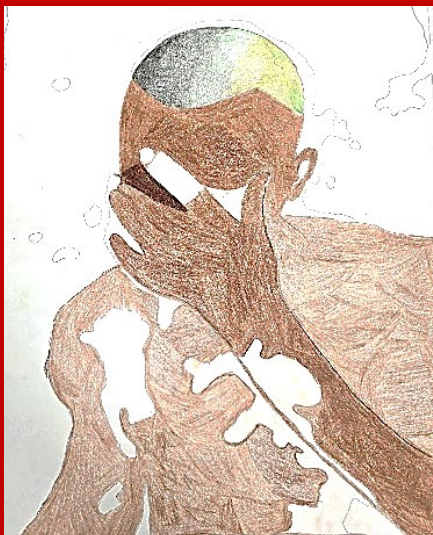


A RESOUNDING COMMENDATION FOR OUR PORTRAIT ARTISTS

Every student deserves immense credit for their determined and brave dive into the challenging world of portraiture. The thorough effort they poured into their work is truly something to be proud of. While we didn't fully complete the work, the learning curve and the journey through it was excellent, and their sheer application and the evident pride in their creations are nothing short of admirable. We have some incredible talent at MVC! **Monika**



**STAGE 5
PORTRAITURE**



RECONCILIATION WEEK: BRIDGING NOW TO NEXT

Throughout National Reconciliation Week students participated in a variety of practical activities. Lateasha taught them how to make damper and cook it in the coals of the fire and in a frying pan. Liam adventurously cooked a damper big enough for everyone while most others tried for single serves.

Simone gathered natural materials to make paints for the students to create artworks in the colours of the earth.

Our Stage 5 students composed individual Acknowledgements of Country during classes and we had a sausage sizzle lunch for our College community.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Today we are gathered on Dughutti land, the land of the praying mantis. The Dughutti lands run from the mountains, through the lands, the rivers and then to the seas. The traditional custodians are the Dughutti people, the people who helped this land grow. The elders of this land help encourage younger generations with their stories, passing on knowledge and wisdom from their past experiences. Living on Dughutti land is an honour and a blessing, having the chance to experience the culture and traditions that have been developed over the years. I respect the land of Dughutti people, and I am honoured to have had the chance to share this wish you. :-)

Bella



MVC STATE OF ORIGIN — STUDENTS VERSUS TEACHERS



It was fantastic to see so many students getting involved and enjoying themselves for the Students v Teachers State of Origin challenge. The games were not only competitive but also (let's be honest) quite therapeutic—especially when throwing a few dodgeballs around!

As for the results: **Dodgeball:** Teachers came out on top with a convincing 5–2 win. **Kickball:** The students held their nerve in a close one, just edging out the teachers 25–24 after an impressive second innings lead of 15 runs. Final result: **A die-hard draw...** and plenty of fun had by all!

Special thanks to Desi and Israel for lunch, and to Ben for organizing the day. **Sav**



NRL COUNTRY CUP BOYS



VC students took part in the NRL Country Cup, competing against other schools in the region in a day of action-packed rugby league. Macleay Vocational College joined forces with Kempsey High School to form a competitive team. Our players showed outstanding resilience, hard work and team spirit throughout the competition.

Representing MVC with pride were Jakyden, Zander, Bayah, Kiahn, and Sylvester. Each player gave their all on the field and upheld the values of respect and sportsmanship.

The students should be incredibly proud of their efforts and the way they represented the College in the true spirit of the game. **Sav**



WEEKLY WORKOUTS

Our girls have the opportunity every Monday morning to attend one of Kempsey's commercial gyms. The sessions last for about 40 minutes and the girls get to try different equipment and activities each session. If you're keen to give it a go, talk with Brian.



BEAUTIFYING MVC

Uncle Tully has continued to create colourful and inspiring artworks to encourage our students to learn and speak Dunghutti language. This term he has completed Marrungbu (thank you) and Wayikurr-marrung (welcome).

As well as these artworks he has been creating beautiful works that tell cultural stories. Marrungbu, Gadan Tully!

