



STARS – Moruya Newsletter

Term 1 – 2025

M.H.S Welcomes STARS

STARS began at Moruya High School start of Term 1, 2025. STARS Foundation is very grateful for the beautiful space provided by Moruya High School which was allocated for our girls to call their own on gorgeous Yuin country.

As the 7th STARS Foundation program to be established in New South Wales we are proud to have the opportunity to build relationships with our First Nations girls from Years 7 to 12 and we look forward to watching them succeed.

Program Coordinator Trish Whitburn and Mentor Taneisha Roberts are so excited to be guiding our First Nations young women at Moruya High School alongside AEO Aunty Lisa Rowley who was a driving force behind STARS coming to Moruya High School.

The girls have been enthusiastic to engage in the program and numbers are growing rapidly. STARS Staff Trish and Taneisha have enjoyed getting to know the girls in these early stages.

A big thank you to Moruya High School Principal Mark English and Deputy Principal's Glenn Grimmond and Rhonda Mason, all MHS staff and CLONTARF staff who have been exceptionally supportive of the STARS program as we navigate our way through this new territory.

Pictured below: Mentor Taneisha and Coordinator Aunty Trish



STARS arrive at Moruya High School

On Friday 31st January 2025 Moruya High School and STARS Foundation began their journey together.

STARS staff would like to acknowledge the staff of Moruya High School who have been supportive and welcoming from day one.

STARS looks forward to a long positive working relationship at Moruya High School.

STARS Staff:

Regional Manager – Natalie Pangquee – located at Albury NSW

Program Coordinator – Trish Whitburn – 0400 716 225

Program Mentor – Taneisha Roberts – 02 4474 2155

Pictured below Left to Right:

Back Row: Aunty Lisa, Tiarnah, Chloe,

Middle Row: Aunty Trish, Lateesha, Annalyse, Allirah, Skyla, Rhiarla, Aunty Natalie

Front Row: Kaitlan, Nyree, Cleo and Elyse.



STARS Contact Time



An important part of our time with STARS students is connecting with our girls. A part of our program includes Contact Time with each student. Once a week, time is allocated to each year group to spend time in STARS room. During the one hour per week gives us time to build relationships and participate in activities that build on their cultural knowledge, participate in community-based activities, among lots of other opportunities.

Each term the allocated time to each year group will change so that STARS contact time is not impacting the same subject.

Our young women have enjoyed building relationships with STARS staff and amongst themselves in a positive and friendly space.

Over the course of the year, we will be doing some amazing activities with the girls. The broad range will keep the girls engaged and immersed while learning about each other.

This term we have been creating a large canvas each explaining their own personal or family story. Each canvas will be displayed in the STARS room for the remainder of the year.

Pictured: Shonquay concentrating on understanding Aboriginal symbols and creating a beautiful artwork telling her own story.



Dance Workshop - Narooma

STARS attended dance workshop presented by Bangarra Dance Theatre.

On Tuesday 25th March small group of 10 STARS girls travelled to Narooma High School to participate in Aboriginal dance workshop directed by Bangarra Dance Theatre instructors.

This was our first official STARS excursion and our Year 7 and 8 students were very excited for the amazing opportunity. We travelled from Moruya to Narooma, upon arrival we checked in with many other high school students from around the region.

Our young women felt privileged to be part of the event and were especially thrilled to be formally trained and guided by the incredible, world-renowned dancers of Bangarra Dance Theatre. They had a chance to learn a range of dance both traditional and contemporary. Our STARS girls enjoyed the whole day of dancing and found the experience both fun and exhausting. Congratulations to Tiarnah who has been selected to audition for Bangarra Dance Theatre community dance troupe. Tiarnah was one of only three students selected on the day.

CONNECTING WITH MHS SENIORS

Term 1 has presented our STARS with many opportunities to engage with each other and the program.

STARS goal is to support all our First Nations students to complete their education and support them into their next pathways in life.

We have 2 Year 11 students who are thinking about their next steps beyond school. An important arm of STARS is the transition support. Transition from school to work or higher education can be a difficult journey to make. STARS is here to support our girls to navigate the next stage following Year 12 graduation.

We look forward to supporting and seeing our Year 11 students Chloe and Chontae achieve success of completing Year 12 and moving into the next steps of life.

Pictured below: Chloe



STARS 100 Club

Congratulations to our amazing STARS who have maintained 100% school attendance this term:

Elyse B

Cleo H-D

Allirah P

Nyree R

Tiahli B

Chloe P

Congratulations to Year 7 who had the highest year group attendance with average of 90%.

As a reward all Year 7 and 100% attendance students will have a pizza lunch, Friday week 1, Term 2.



Everyday Acheivements

Everyday our STARS display our values of Respect, Honesty, Commitment and Pride.

We are proud to say that 23 First Nations young women have registered with the STARS program this term. We look forward to supporting them throughout the school year to improve attendance, behaviour and build strong, resilient, respectful young ladies.

Each day our STARS girls are working towards earning their STARS shirts. The shirt is an incentive for the girls to actively build on the STARS values and proudly show they are STARS who shine bright.

The Future is in our STARS.....

Pictured Above: Our STARS Lorelai and Ellie working on their canvas story.

Pictured Left: Rihanna working hard during contact time.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Term 2, Monday to Thursday, we will be offering a bus pick up and drop off to ensure our STARS girls get to and from school safely and on time. If your daughter would like to be picked up by the STARS bus, we will be running from Batemans Bay to Moruya 7:30 to 8:45am. They must add their name to the bus list in the STARS room to be transported.

Moruya Rock Stars Shine at BoxFit



Everything STARS does is created under the pillars of Education, Training and Employment, Wellbeing, Healthy Lifestyles, Culture, Community and Leadership.

Under the pillar of Healthy Lifestyles our STARS students have been participating in BoxFit lead by the incredible Mrs Deborah Norris.

The girls have been enjoying this fun and engaging way to keep fit and active.

For Term 2, STARS looks forward to everyone joining in on Friday mornings at 7:15am for fun workouts with Clontarf staff and students.

Our Moruya BoxFit Rock STARS are:

Allirah, Cleo, Nyree, Kaitlan, Elyse, Annalyse and Madison.

Pictured below: Superstar BoxFiter Cleo.

