

FAREWELL TO OUR 1960s SCHOOL HALL



Our 1960s hall building...

Also known over these years as:

*Visual Education Room &
Library*

Assembly Hall

visual Aide Room & Library

Arts & Crafts Room

*Mothers' Club
meeting room*

Library & Hall

General
Purpose
Building

Before and After Care Room

1954

PVSPS opened on 2nd February with 196 students

A two-roomed shack was still on the school grounds when PVSPS opened (occupant refused to move)

After the resident was relocated, a fire destroyed the shack - how mysterious!



1958

School Committee adopted recommendations to build hall

Fundraising via waste paper drives and bottle collection

A 'monster' meeting of parents was called to rally support

School Committee issued a circular, proposing to create a co-operative and borrow funds from families – this didn't go ahead

OUR SCHOOL . . .
PASCOE VALE SOUTH
No. 4704
ALWAYS OUR BEST.

Vol. 1—No. 4. JUNE, 1958

School Committee News

After a full investigation by a sub-committee the school committee has adopted a recommendation that an Arts and Crafts room 85' x 35' be built. It will house the school library, act as an assembly hall and as a hall for school and parents functions normally conducted by the various school bodies.

Vol. 1—No. 9 NOVEMBER, 1958

School Committee News

The School Committee was perturbed by the lack of interest in the circular re the proposed Arts and Crafts Room. From the total 365 families, only 30 replies have been received to date. Please reply as soon as possible so that we may be able to assess the attitude to the project.

**This
Is
Important**

PARENTS !

A large number of the circulars recently sent out in reference to the proposed Arts and Crafts Room have not as yet been returned.

We require your reply most urgently.

There is one matter we would like to impress on you. Although we desire your reply immediately, any promised loan would NOT be required until some time next year.

Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Vol. 1—No. 5 JULY, 1958

**PARENTS! WE WANT YOUR
CO-OPERATION!**

Recently the School Committee recommended that an Arts and Crafts Room be built. This building will be quite a large one and will also act as a library and assembly hall.

Before we can achieve this, a considerable amount of money has to be raised. We realize that the parents at our school have been more than generous in the past and have answered every call made on them. Therefore, it is our aim to seek ways of raising funds which will not be a drain on the limited resources of the average parent.

We intend to concentrate mainly on our waste paper drives at regular intervals with an occasional bottle drive.

However, it is the intention of the Committee to call a monster meeting of parents on Wednesday, July 9th at 8 p.m. It is really important that you attend this meeting as we want all the support and ideas of all the parents in this matter. So come and see what we have in mind and we are sure you will agree with the importance of the project.

Parents' Association News

We require that you save all your waste paper, rags, bags and bottles for us. If your neighbour has no children at the school, ask her to save her waste too. It will be greatly appreciated and will be collected regularly.

Since February we have collected a very useful amount of waste but much more is needed, mainly towards the construction of the new Arts and Crafts Room.

1960-1961

1960

Local fundraising reached £1900

Minister of Education agreed to subsidise £1 for £1 so long as the hall would be used 'for the advantage of school children'

Cost of completion was estimated £4,200 (or roughly \$151,000 in today's money)

1961

School Committee announced that construction would soon commence

Vol. 2—No. 8

AUGUST, 1960

School Committee News ARTS & CRAFTS ROOM

Undoubtedly all parents have been interested in the progress of the proposed Arts & Crafts Room. This structure could soon be a reality as we now have £1900 in the combined accounts of the school committee and have just completed successful negotiation with the Minister of Education who has offered to subsidise the building on a £1 for £1 basis providing he is satisfied that it will be used for the advantage of school children.

After several plans it has been decided that the building will be 62 ft. 6 in. x 40 ft. and will cost £3,200 to the lock-up stage. The cost of completion has been estimated at £1,000 — totally in all £4,200.

This building will house the library, the projection equipment and be set up so that it may be used for school activities in general and be of assistance to the Mothers' Club as a meeting place and a hall to run school functions. Besides being an asset to the Education Department we feel the parents will be proud to see the building that we have all worked for.

Vol. 3—No. 8

SEPTEMBER, 1961

To encourage their civic pride, the school children will be associated with the planting of trees in these streets. The second announcement was that after a long period of hard work, frustrations and delays, our School Committee was very pleased to be able to announce that work was expected to begin on the new building before the end of the year. Parents and children will then be delighted to see a growing realization of their dreams of a Visual Education Room and Library.

£4,200 in 1960



£81,666.77 in 2021

1962

The hall was completed and now officially opened

Head Teacher reflected: *"It has been said that self-help is bonny, and the members of our community have shown, to a fine degree, the capacity to help themselves, to group together, and to pursue an admirable objective to a successful conclusion"*

Vol. 4—No. 7 SEPTEMBER, 1962

PASCOE VALE SOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

extend an invitation to Parents to attend the opening of the

Visual Aid Room and Library

by the

Hon. Mr. J. S. BLOOMFIELD, M.L.A.
(Minister of Education)

On FRIDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER at 2.30 p.m.

★

Chairman:
Cr. J. M. Walton, M.L.C.
Secretary: Mr. A. Davis

THIS GENERAL PURPOSE BUILDING WAS ERECTED FOR STUDENTS OF THE PASCOE VALE SOUTH STATE SCHOOL BY THE PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, AND WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, THE HON. J. S. BLOOMFIELD, M.L.A., ON THE 28TH, SEPTEMBER, 1962.

NEWS FROM SCHOOL

OUR NEW HALL

On September 28th the Victorian Minister of Education, Mr. John Bloomfield, M.L.C. will perform the official opening ceremony of our magnificent new general purpose hall. To those of us who have the interest of our school at heart this will be a very proud moment indeed. To the members of the various bodies associated with the school it is more than a great achievement, it is the successful culmination of a tremendous effort, which several times seemed an impossibility.

To the parents and children of the school who have been of such wonderful assistance we give our heartfelt thanks. We also are indebted to the teachers for their readiness at all times to give us their complete support. It may be of interest to trace briefly the history of the building. The idea of having our own general purpose building was first introduced by the Parents' Association in 1957. At first it received a mild reception. After much discussion between the various bodies the scheme was adopted. Finance naturally was our big problem. Originally the intention was to form a co-operative and borrow by debenture from the parents. This idea was eventually scrapped and it was decided that the building would have to be built when funds were available.

A deputation met the Minister who agreed that the Department would subsidize to the extent of £1 for £1. Main sources of revenue have been the Annual Children's Ball and the Bazaar. Over the years card parties, picture nights, bottle and paper drives have helped to swell the funds.

Finally we reached the stage where we could go ahead with plans, etc., with our portion of the cost guaranteed. The result is that now we have our fine building.

We would, however, point out that at no stage were the educational needs of the children neglected. Our first aim has always been to give priority to educational aids and sporting equipment. The fact that we have been able to do this and still raise the sum of approxi-

mately £3,300 reflects great credit not only on the generosity of the parents but also of the surrounding community.

On behalf of the school organizations we must say thank you and trust that this grand building will prove of great benefit to our children and eventually to the community as a whole.

The Head Teacher Says

The opening of our recently completed General Purpose Building by the Hon. J. S. Bloomfield, M.L.A., Minister of Education, will mark an important step in the history of our school community.

The story of the work done to obtain this building is told in another column. As Head Teacher and on behalf of the children, I would like to thank all concerned for what they have done for our youngsters. In their homes the children have gained some slight knowledge of the great effort that has been put into the project. In their class-rooms they have been given a wider concept of the concerted effort that has been made by such a large number of people for so many years. The concern and drive of the parent groups—School Committee, Mothers' Club and Parents' Association have been discussed from time to time. Senior grades have considered the work of the government departments concerned and in some cases the representatives of those departments have become known to them and their duties discussed by them. Financial assistance given by the government in the form of subsidies has also been discussed. In short the children have a good knowledge of what has been done by all concerned and a justifiable pride in the achievement of their folk. This I feel is a good foundation on which to build, in these youngsters, a strong sense of responsibility for the building and a sense of their obligation to the community. With the inculcation of these qualities, and with your continued assistance the impact of this great educational

asset will be increasingly felt as time goes by.

Already the building has been put to good and varied use. The presentation of the William Hamer Trophy on Education Day before a large number of parents and their children was one of these.

Vol. 4—No. 8

OCTOBER, 1962

The Head Teacher Says

The opening of our General Purpose Building by the Hon. J. S. Bloomfield on September 28th was a milestone in the history of our school and while there was evidence of justifiable pride in the achievement it was also obvious that there was, in all present, an earnest wish to push on with the development of this great educational asset. It was also noted by visitors that steps are being taken to push ahead with the improvement of the school playing areas and generally speaking there was a feeling that while the opening of this building marked the closing of one chapter it also marked the beginning of another.

The highly successful Bazaar, also reported elsewhere, is another instance of self help and a desire to serve our community. All concerned must feel great satisfaction with the result. May I on behalf of the children thank all concerned and congratulate them on the result?

It has been said that self-help is bonny, and the members of our school community have shown, to a fine degree, the capacity to help themselves, to group together, and to pursue an admirable objective to a successful conclusion.



1963

Fun fact...

Enrolments peaked the year after the hall was opened

PVSPS had 603 students!

1964-1965

1964

The hall heats up as four gas heaters are installed

1965

Not enough classrooms, so some lessons are held in the hall as a 'temporary arrangement'

This arrangement went longer than expected as a fire destroyed the Infant Block, 9 classrooms, staffroom & office in December so portables were needed

OUR SCHOOL . . .

PASCOE VALE SOUTH

No. 4704

ALWAYS OUR BEST.

Vol. 6—No. 7

SEPTEMBER, 1964

HEATING OF THE LIBRARY

The work of heating the library and hall has been finally accomplished by the installation of four "Ventatherm" heaters. These heaters, which consume gas, circulate hot air and are proving most effective.

The cost of the installation, in the neighbourhood of £500, will be met by the School Committee and the Education Department jointly. Funds for such works and for the provision of necessary equipment are raised through the efforts of the Mothers' Club as well as parents' monthly contributions.

As enrolment grew, the buildings were extended and by 1965 there was a total of seventeen classrooms. Fire totally destroyed the Infant Block in December 1965, necessitating the use of portable classrooms until September, 1966. The completion of the new brick Infant School complex improved existing facilities greatly.

Page 8, Essendon Access, Oct./Nov. 1978

Vol. 7—No. 1

MARCH, 1965

With the implementation of a new staffing schedule, introduced in 1963, we now have 17 assistants and it has been necessary to have a small class in the hall. This however is only a temporary arrangement as the extension of accommodation by the addition of two new classrooms should soon be completed.

2021

Since 1961, our hall has been enjoyed by

- 1000s of students, families and community members
- 100s of staff, including 12 principals

THANK YOU
for 60-years of memories



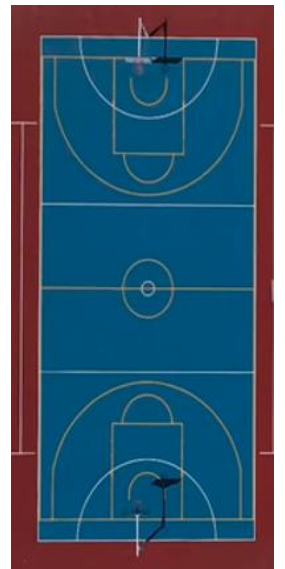
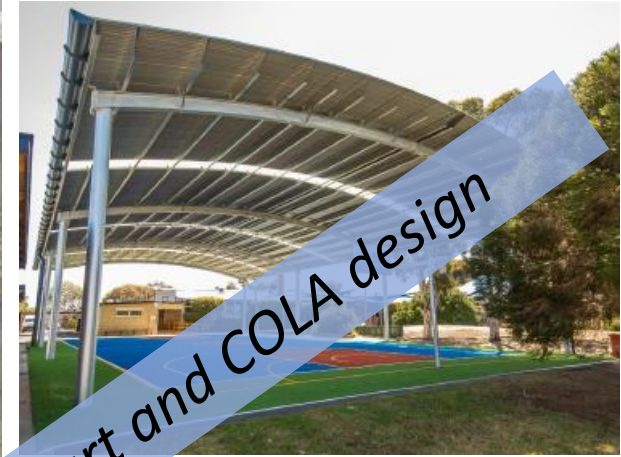
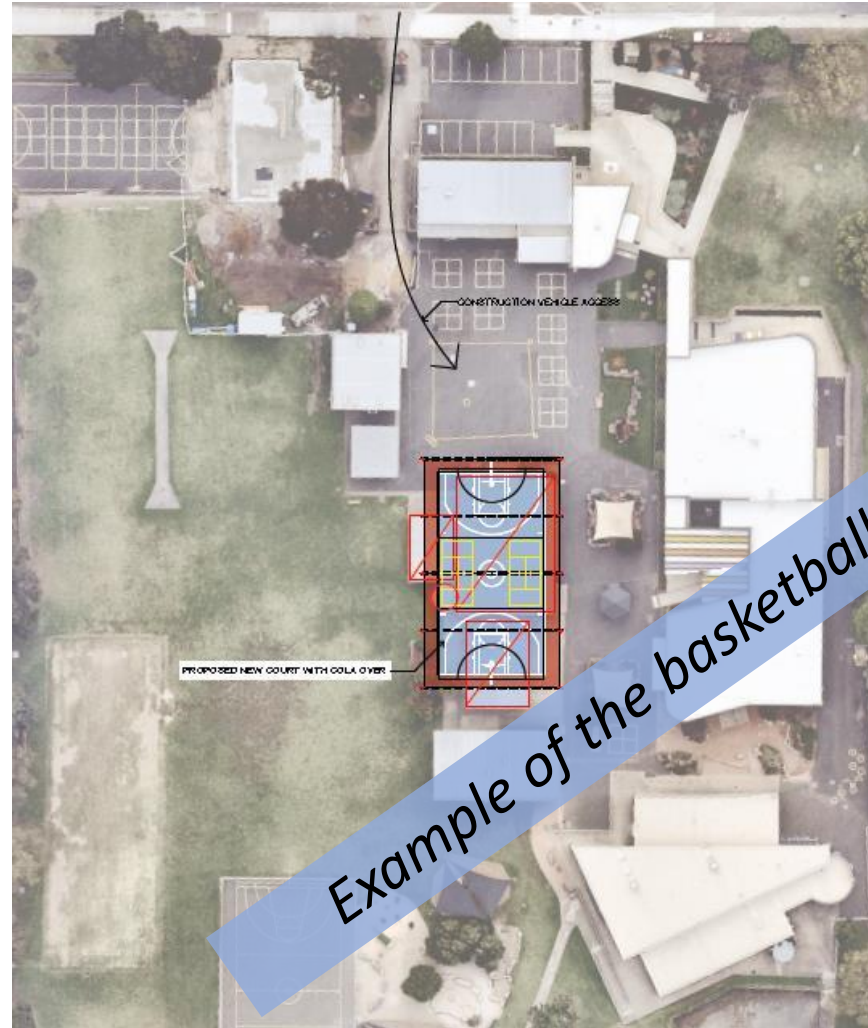
Visions for this space...

Once our old hall is demolished....

Our vision is to have the landscape open, (i.e. oval visible from the 2018 building), while also supporting our SunSmart philosophy of providing many shaded play areas for our students

A Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) with a ballcourt underneath is not only desirable for PE, the space would be used across all curriculum areas

In August 2021 the School Council submitted a grant application for Minor Capital Works Funding to help achieve our vision. Wish us luck!



Example of the basketball court and COLA design