

TERM 3, 2025:

WRAP-UP

MOB
ACADEMY



WHEN I THINK ABOUT TERM 3, THE WORD THAT COMES TO MIND IS CONNECTION.

We've seen it in so many ways, boys calling loved ones as part of our R U OK? Day challenge, fathers and father-figures spending the morning fishing with their sons, alumni returning to share their journeys, and staff being recognised for the role they play every single day.

It's also been a term where our boys have been tested, out on the water in MOB Adventure, on the court and field representing Spartans and the Academy, and in MOB Success as they've faced big conversations about relationships and life beyond school. What's clear is that growth isn't just happening in one space, it's happening everywhere across the Academy.

This newsletter gives you a snapshot of what that's looked like over the past ten weeks.

Cliff Powys, Academy Manager

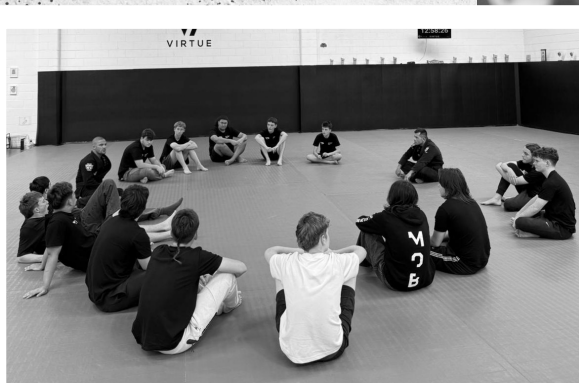
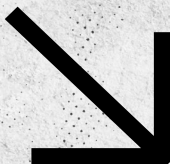


MOB METRICS

Money, Maths & Real Life

Year 11s spent this term working through financial literacy - tackling payslips, tax, loans, and budgeting. These lessons are about more than numbers; they're about building confidence to step into adult life prepared. Year 12s applied their learning to the real world, creating their own money-related case studies. Connecting maths to jobs and savings gave the boys a chance to see how decisions today shape opportunities tomorrow.





MOB SUCCESS

Respect, Relationships & Citizenship

Year 11 explored healthy relationships and work contexts this term, asking honest questions like: Who am I when pressure hits? and How do I treat the people I care about? These conversations about empathy, negotiation and respect aren't easy, but they're the ones that shape how our boys show up for others. Year 12s focused on legal and digital citizenship. From police interactions and driving laws to online safety and digital balance, they built practical knowledge for the world beyond school.

MOB ADVENTURE

From Courts to Kayaks

Our Year 11s stepped into different sporting communities this term, from tennis and lawn bowls to giving Brazilian Jiu Jitsu a go. Each week was about testing themselves, meeting new people, and showing discipline and respect. Year 12s hit the water at the Broadwater, kayaking and learning skills in teamwork and safety. The lads pushed themselves and found out they had more in the tank than they thought!

MOB LIFE

Foundations for the Future

Year 11 MOB Life focused on self-awareness, vision setting and a growth mindset. A scavenger hunt got the boys thinking about their future goals, while guest speakers brought lived experience and practical wisdom. For Year 12, the focus was on purpose-driven living, legacy, and connection. With graduation on the horizon, these sessions gave the boys a chance to reflect on the kind of men they want to be after MOB.

Values Program

At MOB, improvement matters just as much as achievement. Through the MOB Values Program, boys earn tokens for showing effort, respect and resilience. Those tokens turn into turns on the Claw Machine, which has quickly become a school favourite. More than prizes, it's about showing our boys that when they show up and give their best, it gets noticed.





SPORTS

On the Courts & the Field:

RUGBY LEAGUE: This term our Spartans competed in the Community Cup powered by MOB, a flagship comp built on camaraderie, respect and sportsmanship. The boys represented proudly and came away with a well-earned win.

BASKETBALL: From the Gold Coast High School season to our annual Alumni Game and a student-led 3v3 tournament, basketball has been huge this term. The boys built team spirit, applied strategy, and represented MOB in the community.

FUTSAL: Six boys trialled for the South Coast 15-16 Years team. Jayden R made the squad, Harry W was named shadow, and teacher Alistair coached at the QLD State Champs. The squad also competed in the Football Queensland School Championships.



PATHWAYS

Partnerships in Action

WOOLWORTHS

This term we've seen the power of schools, employers and community working together. Since connecting at our Murra Pathways event, Woolworths has given 26 of our boys the chance to interview, and 14 now have jobs across local stores. For many, it's their first step into the workforce – building confidence, independence, and a vision for what's next.

MARINE TASTER COURSE

In partnership with TAFE QLD and Boating Industry Australia, a group of boys completed a Marine Taster Course this term. From handling boats to learning industry basics, it gave them a real look at career pathways on the water.

TRADE TASTERS

With Hutchinson Builders, our boys got hands-on experience in plastering, painting, and carpentry. Programs like this help the lads explore what's out there, build practical skills, and imagine themselves in a trade career.



MOB CULTURE CLUB

Confidence Through Connection

Culture is connection, to ourselves, to our mates, and to the community we're part of. This term our boys have been learning Māori songs, haka, and language, as well as sharing their own food, stories and traditions. When they connect with their own culture and respect someone else's, they carry themselves with strength and confidence. That's MOB Culture Club: connected, proud, together.

WELLBEING

Checking In Matters

On September 11, our community marked R U OK? Day, inspired by She Is Not Your Rehab. For many, making that phone call felt awkward or funny, but every single check-in reminded someone that they are valued, loved, and not alone.



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

AUSTIN AND ELIJAH - KEYS TO FREEDOM

Getting your licence is a huge milestone. For Austin and Elijah, it's opened the door to more independence, responsibility and opportunities.

Austin said he wouldn't have been able to get his P's without MOB's Driving Program. Now he's able to get himself to school, work and see his mates without relying on his dad.

For Elijah, it was about access. Without MOB's support, lessons would have been out of reach. With 18 hours of lessons and use of our car, he passed his test and now helps his family, dropping siblings to school, picking them up, even doing the grocery run.

FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER: COOPER

Cooper has started his Certificate III in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration with Peak AC Electrical and TAFE QLD. He's on the tools Thursdays and Fridays, picking up skills and experience while working toward his trade qualification.

It's a solid start to a career he's building step by step. Partnerships like this are what change lives. If your workplace can offer mentoring or hands-on experience, get in touch:

people@menofbusiness.com.au

DANIEL - REBUILDING WITH MOB

When Daniel first came to MOB, his school attendance was just 24%. Years of bullying had chipped away at his confidence and sense of direction.

Now he's juggling three days a week at MOB, a part-time job at Hungry Jack's, and multiple TAFE courses, all while keeping up regular gym sessions and working through his driving lessons.

His mum said it best: "I can honestly say I have never seen him have a smile like that since he started high school... Without MOB, I don't know where his education or mental health would be."

This is what rebuilding looks like and we're proud of you, brother.



YEAR 12 RITES OF PASSAGE CAMP

At MOB, we talk a lot about Building Better Men.

Not louder men or tougher men, but more grounded and self-aware men. Men who know who they are, what they stand for, and how to show up for others.

37 of our Year 12 leaders took part in something that gets right to the heart of that vision: Rites of Passage Camp. They were stripped of distractions, surrounded by brothers, and asked to look inward.

To reckon with where they've been.

To get honest about where they're headed.

Rites of Passage Camp isn't something we talk about lightly. It's not a holiday. It's not a school trip. It's a deliberate line in the sand - the kind you only step over when you're ready to leave some things behind.

For a few days, our boys were taken out of their routine and into reflection.

They were challenged physically, mentally and emotionally. Dared to face the things, they'd rather avoid. To name the moments they're proud of, and the ones they're not. To speak up. To sit in silence. To hold eye contact. To feel what it's like to be held by brotherhood, not judged by it.

It's not easy. It's not meant to be.

ROP asks more of them than almost anything else they'll do at MOB. It calls on strength, yes, but also surrender. It strips away ego and invites honesty in its place.

To honour what took place, we're sharing just a few glimpses. Fragments that speak to the spirit of Rites of Passage without giving it all away.

Some things need to be lived, not explained, and this story belongs first and foremost to the boys who lived it. For the young men still to come, the space remains sacred.

Part of the power of ROP is not knowing what's coming - only knowing that when it does, it will change you.

This is what growing into manhood looks like at MOB. This is how we Build Better Men.

Thank you to Arne Rubinstein for his guidance and for sharing the practices that continue to shape this work. His leadership in this space has been instrumental to what Rites of Passage at MOB has become.

PASS THE TORCH

In the last week of Term 3, our Academy came together for the first ever Pass the Torch MOB Milestone Event, a powerful moment that will be remembered for years to come.

This new tradition marks the handover of leadership from our Year 12s to our Year 11s. The MOB Torch, which has travelled with the Year 12s since their Rites of Passage Camp, was carried one last time as they passed on the responsibility to lead.

Both cohorts and staff set off from opposite ends of the coastline, meeting in the middle to walk the final stretch side by side before the official handover at Narrowneck.

The milestone wrapped up with a shared lunch at Macintosh Island, celebrating our Year 11s as they step into their new role as leaders of the Academy.

The MOB Torch is in good hands.



EVENTS & COMMUNITY

FATHER'S DAY CATCH UP - This term we celebrated Father's Day with a fishing catch-up, giving our young men and the father figures in their lives a chance to connect, share time and enjoy the morning together.

GOLD COAST FUNDRAISING BALL - This term we were honoured to receive a cheque for over \$32,500 raised at the annual Gold Coast Fundraising Ball. A huge thank you to the organisers, donors and community who made it possible – your support makes a lifelong difference for our boys.

STAFF WELLBEING - Our staff wellbeing reset this term was a Tai Chi and Qi Gong session with Marc from Fit Life Martial Arts and Phil from Embark Agency. It was a chance to pause, breathe, and reset together. Just like our boys, our staff benefit from slowing down, finding balance, and keeping themselves centred, because we know we can only give our best when we look after our own wellbeing too.

TERM 4 KEY DATES:

For the most up-to-date details, be sure to check the MOB App Calendar regularly.

WEEK 1

Monday 6 October

Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 7 October

First Day of Term 4

WEEK 6

Thursday 13 November

Year 12 Graduation and Last Day for Year 12

Thursday 13 November

Year 11 Student Free Day

WEEK 8

Thursday 27 November

Last Day Year 11

WEEK 9

Friday 5 December

Year 11 and Year 12 Reports released

Looking back at this newsletter, I'm proud of the variety of wins we've shared, big and small, in the classroom and in the community. It's a snapshot of what MOB is all about.

As we head into the break, I hope you can take some time to reset and enjoy the people and moments that matter most. We'll see you in Term 4, ready to build on everything we've created together this year.

Cliff Powys, Academy Manager