



VACY PS

NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 6 23rd August 2023

VACY PS VISION STATEMENT

At Vacy Public School, we continually work in partnership with our community to embed a strong sense of wellbeing and a love of learning in our students.

Together we strive to be recognised as an outstanding example of a rural school that offers innovative, high quality learning opportunities which are delivered by compassionate and diligent staff, that support student and community needs.

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Principal's Report



Our newsletters are back! Every five weeks, as requested by our parents, we will be sending out a link via Schoolbytes and Facebook for you to access our school newsletter. In the newsletter, we will be showcasing what has been happening around the school and informing you about important events and initiatives. Our students work will be highlighted and they'll be plenty of reminders about future events.

Presently, our staff are attending professional learning regarding the implementation of the new English and mathematics curriculums. Our K-2 teachers are already embedding the syllabus documents into their lessons as they became mandatory for them at the beginning of 2023 and our Year 3-6 teachers will begin their new journey in 2024. There are a lot of changes in the way we are being asked to teach our students with a real focus on explicit teaching and the use of learning intentions and success criteria. So, our students know exactly what they are learning, these learning intentions are displayed and referred to many times during our lessons. Continual feedback is given by students regarding their learning which drives future lesson planning. These processes are not new at Vacy School and our staff are finding the transition from the 'old to the new', an easy pathway to follow because of the extensive work they have done in the past to improve their teaching capacity.

Book Week this week, finds us celebrating the joy of reading with the theme being 'Read Grow Inspire'. Reading is not only a pleasurable thing to do, it can also expand our knowledge and it allows your mind to become more creative and receptive to the outside world. Encourage your child to read on a daily basis. This creates good habits that will help them in the future. We only develop a love for something if we do it regularly and become confident whilst doing it.

Major works will begin shortly with the repositioning of our septic system and the building of a roof and shade sail over our stage and artificial turf area. These projects will take place during the term and throughout the next school holidays and are a part of our school scheduled maintenance. The internal walls of our 1/2, Kinder and 4/5 rooms will be painted and the current pinboards upgraded. The carpet will also be replaced. Our P&C have also paid for a new electronic board for the front of our school. This will be installed by the end of 2024.

Our Year Six students, will shortly be working with Ms Nyree Wiseman, a high school art teacher and one of our previous parents at Vacy, to produce a piece of art for the outside of our building (4/5 room near the drive access to the oval). We thank Nyree for her involvement in this project and can't wait to see what she and the students create for our future students to enjoy.

Vacy School will welcome the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from the Dungog District Community of Schools on the 21st September for a cultural day. During the day we will be participating in a variety of activities together that help build connections with culture.

Our new Kindergarten parents have been invited to attend a parent information session on 20th September at 9:30am in the library, to begin the Kindergarten Transition Program for our 2024 Kindergarten students. If you know anyone in the community who is wanting to enrol their child for next year at Vacy School, please encourage them to do so as soon as possible so we can work on our structures and placements. A few changes will be occurring with our staffing for 2024 so the earlier we can plan the easier it will be to give you the information you always request about that is happening in the future.

In Term 4, the students and staff at Vacy School will be presenting a musical with the theme revolving around the music of The Beatles. Our 'Magical Mystery Tour' will be presented to the school community on 17th November during a matinee and evening performance. Every student will be involved and we are already practising for the event. Please make sure you put it on your calendar so you don't miss out. It is going to be a sensational event and we are all very excited.

Finally, at our next P & C meeting on 29th August, Mr Prior and I will be presenting a proposal to the community to discuss the change of our sporting house names. This will be a collaborative journey where staff, students and the wider community will be given the opportunity to express their views and come up with alternative solutions. As usual, the meeting will be face to face but an online Zoom option will be offered to our parents for them to join the discussion if they can't be here at school. Reminders will follow before the event takes place.

Kind regards,
Karen Fonti
Principal





***Friendship &
Learning***

Dates for your diary

**Thursday 24th August -
Book Week Parade &
Morning Tea 11.00am (bring
a plate to share)**

**Friday 25th August -
Canteen Special Burger
Day**

**Friday 1st September -
Fathers Day Breakfast
Please RSVP on
Schoolbytes by Mon 28/8**

**Monday 4th September -
Kindy excursion to Williams
Dairy**

**Tuesday 12th September -
Benhome Aged Care Visit
to VPS**

**Wednesday 20th
September - Parent Info
Session Kindy 2024
9.30am**



Kindergarten 2024

We invite you to our Vacy Public School Kindergarten orientation parent/carer information session.

Morning tea will be provided, we look forward to meeting you.

When: 20th of September 9.30am

Where: Kindergarten Classroom, Vacy PS.

RSVP before the 13th of September to
courtney.trudgett1@det.nsw.edu.au



Kindergarten orientation dates

Please note that your child must be enrolled for 2024 to attend orientation.

Wednesday the 18th of October

Wednesday the 1st of November

Wednesday the 15th of November



Bushfire danger period information for parents and carers

Factsheet

This factsheet provides information for parents and carers about arrangements for the bushfire danger period.

The NSW Department of Education has engaged external experts to conduct assessments of all NSW government schools, to identify schools at greater risk of impact from bushfires.

To support the health, safety and wellbeing of students and staff, the department, in consultation with NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS), will direct the school to temporarily cease operations on days when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating has been declared for your school's NSW fire area. Alternative learning arrangements will be put in place for these days.

Schools may be directed by the department to become non-operational at any time based on advice from emergency services and the State Emergency Operations Centre.



What is a Fire Danger Rating?

Fire Danger Ratings describe the potential level of danger should a fire start. The ratings are determined by a combination of factors including air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and drought.

For further information on the Australian Fire Danger Rating System, visit rfs.nsw.gov.au/news-and-media/fire-danger-ratings-are-changing-soon

Fire Danger Rating sign





When will I know if my child's school has been made non-operational?

At approximately 4:00pm each day the Fire Danger Rating is issued for the following day. This means that schools, including onsite preschools, will be notified after school hours that it will be non-operational the following day. Your school will notify you as soon as possible by the preferred method of communication.

Parents and carers are requested to:

- provide up-to-date home and after-hours contact details to your school
- stay up-to-date with news and local media through the bushfire danger period.



NSW School Updates app

Get the free NSW School Updates app to receive operational status updates for NSW public schools education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/nsw-school-updates-app



What education arrangements will be in place if the school is non-operational?

When non-operational, your school will advise of alternative learning arrangements, including any relocation or learning from home plans.



Learn more

Be prepared and ensure you have a bushfire survival plan in place. The NSW RFS has resources for all residents to plan and prepare for the bushfire season.

Consider whether your home is safe from bushfires and grassfires, and be prepared to relocate to a safer place well in advance. Find more information and resources from the NSW RFS rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare

We appreciate your cooperation during the bushfire season. For further information about Fire Danger Ratings and the bushfire danger period, please refer to NSW Rural Fire Service rfs.nsw.gov.au

The department's School Safety website education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/school-safety provides up to date information during bushfires and grassfire emergencies.

Please contact your school with any additional questions.



Need help?

Speak to your local WHS Advisor for support and advice, or contact the Incident Report and Support Hotline on **1800 811 523**.

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per **fortnight** = **4** weeks = Over **1** year missed

M

1 day per **week** = **8** weeks = Over **2.5** years missed

M

Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss days per year

5 mins per day



= 3 days



30 mins per day



= 18 days



Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.