

The Vacy Voice

The newsletter of Vacy Public School

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Vacy Public School

"Friendship And Learning"

786 Gresford Rd, Vacy
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Our school motto, "Friendship And Learning", epitomises our goals for our school. We provide an outstanding learning environment and climate that is supportive of all students and encourages the development of leadership skills within all students.

CALENDAR

- Year 6 Graduation Dinner
3 December 2010
- Presentation Night
6 December 2010
- Christmas Day
25 December 2010

[more events](#)

LATEST NEWS

[Newsletter Term 4 Week 5 \(PDF 200 KB\)](#)

Selective high schools 2012

Applications are now being accepted for placement at a selective high school in 2012. If you would...

Twitter with us!

A new Twitter account (twitter.com/vacyps) is now providing our school community with a new way to...

Whooping cough alert

NSW Health is warning parents to be on the alert for whooping cough following an increase in the...

Our Web Site Is Active At <http://www.vacy-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Last week I (finally) activated our school website, a collaborative web presence using school news and Departmental contributions. Located at the address above, it will highlight past school achievements and upcoming events. We will add to it as time passes to include more and more local content, especially in relation to school programs and policies. Our weekly newsletter will be listed on the first page and events listed in the calendar will have permission notes attached to them where necessary, eliminating the need for chasing them around. The website will continually change and will become, we hope, the main source of information for our parents and the community. There is a lot of good information there for the new year so happy reading!

Also Follow Us On Twitter At <http://twitter.com/vacyps>

By going to twitter.com and registering, you can follow daily happenings and reminders on our Twitter account by following us. If you register and follow no-one but us, the only tweets you get (by way of text message) are from our school. People who do follow us learnt about the new website last week so it is worth doing. Our aim is that by using the two communication mediums we have a web presence that is both informative and immediate. Give it a go - you can always deregister later if it does not do what you want.

From the principal...

After a bit of time away, I come back into the school with “fresh eyes” to have a look at how we are rolling along. One thing that really stands out at the minute is the state of our grounds and new building. The BER work will bring great benefits to our school and will be a terrific new resource - I hope it will be complete before year’s end to ensure we can be fully moved in, rather than having to do it at the start of next year. At present though, the works surrounding the site are a scar on our environment:

- We have been through the tree removal and have the big, blue fence;
- There are mounds of soil from the excavation at the rear of the COLA, waiting to be spread over our new eating area;
- Our temporary toilets are becoming more and more permanent and I just wish they would go;
- The undercover walkways will soon be wired up for lighting and connected to the new building;
- We are awaiting completion of some drainage works; and
- Our classes are still in the temporary formation we thought would last six months.



Coming back next year will, we hope, be like coming back to a brand new school. We hope everything will be open, most things will be new and starting school for the year will be like a terrific adventure and very exciting for students and staff alike. For the present though, we do continue to work around difficulties and to view the construction in a positive light as we hope it nears completion.

I am looking forward as well to the laying of the new court surface. Again it is still to come but what a difference it will make. With everything happening at school and even more going on behind the scenes, it promises to be a big end to the year for our students and an even bigger one for our staff.

It is with much sadness that I announce today that Mr. Lascelles will be finishing his “temporary” roles at the school that he has held over the past eight years. His recent health problems, including cancer, septicaemia and finally a stroke, have forced his hand and he will step back from teaching to concentrate on his farming and family. Mr. Lascelles has been a tremendous resource for me as a principal through his experiences before he came to our school, he has been a wonderful colleague to all of us and a very-much loved teacher and member of our school community. It will not be the last we see of him but it will be the last in a class role. On behalf of our staff, I would like to say that I am just so happy that his health has improved as it has and wish to thank him for his contribution to our school. Teachers like Peter are not teachers in name alone - his example to others through his professionalism, his humour, his caring, his knowledge and his friendship is something we at Vacy Public will treasure. If you see him over the next few weeks, and you will, please be sure to let him know how valued he is here at Vacy.



Regards,

Kevin Greaves (principal)

Dates To Remember

November

17	Second Kinder 2011 Orientation 9:30am-11:00am
17	Maitland principals' meetings - Mr. Greaves away
19	Jack Newton golf clinics - all classes
22	Third Kinder 2011 Orientation 9:30am-11:30am
23	Kinder graduation photos
24	Professional Development - Mr. Greaves away
25-26	2011 captains' candidacy speeches and elections
26	Jack Newton golf clinics - all classes
29	Anglican bishop visit (changed scripture timetable)
30	End of year financial rollover

December

2	Announcement of 2011 school captains to students
3	Jack Newton golf clinics - all classes
3	Year 6 Graduation Dinner
6	Vacy PS Presentation Night
10	Jack Newton golf clinics - all classes
10	NNSW soccer clinics - all classes
13	Bike safety day
14	Talent show
15	Class parties
15	Last Day Of Term 4 - Ringing Of The Bell ceremony (Year 6)
16-17	Staff Development Days - no students at school - have a happy holiday!

Class News

Kindergarten

Last Thursday Kindergarten students had a wonderful day at the Reptile Park. We were able to pat and cuddle many Australian animals'. Mackenzie pierce was a very brave snake handler. Thank you all parents who helped on the excursion. Tomorrow we welcome Kindergarten 2011 to our classroom for their second orientation session.

Year 1-2

What a fantastic day we had on our excursion last week. The shows were very hands on and we all got to touch a variety of lizards and snakes. The children were all very well behaved and I was very proud of them all. There are some lovely photos on our school website so if you have a chance check them out. Due to the excursion and assessments the children will have the same word list for spelling this week.

Year 2-3-4

This week 2/3/4 will be looking at some Aboriginal Dreamtime stories, as we learn about People and their Beliefs. We are continuing with our Assessments and have already completed Mathematics, Handwriting, Reading and Spelling! The children will also be making some Moroccan Hand Designs, during Art and Craft.

A huge thank you to the children who have already presented their projects. They have all made an outstanding effort. Our classroom is filling up with wobble boards, guitars, violins, didgeridoos and bongos!

Year 4-5-6

Congratulations to all of my Year 4 boys who attended the Reptile Park excursion last week. I was glad to see you all back safely and to hear that your behaviour was exceptional.

Year 5 nomination forms for school and sports captain were due back Monday. They will now go to the staff who will cast their judgement and finalise a short list of a maximum of four boys and four girls to make speeches for election. All nominating children remain eligible for election for sport captain.

Year 6 graduation dinner invitations will go home this week.

Kinder Orientation Program

It was great to welcome most of our new Kinders to the school for their first orientation last Tuesday. They were very excited and took to school life very quickly and will be looking forward to their next session tomorrow. Hopefully, when all the permissions are organised, we will be able to have a photo of them in the newsletter soon.

Remembrance Day

Our Year 5 students led a very solemn Remembrance Day service last Wednesday (Thursday being our excursion) and did very well in their first student leader activity. It gave our children the chance to see them in action as leaders and to begin to see what sort of student leader they might be, with elections coming up. Congratulations to all of them on their efforts and well done to our entire student body for their recognition of such an important event.

K-4 Excursion To Gosford

Last Thursday K-4 travelled to Gosford to visit the Australian Reptile Park and what a terrific excursion it was! I could not believe how active all of the animals were and also how close our students were able to get to them. From nursing wombats to cuddling lizards to wearing snakes as neckties, our students had the opportunity to see some Australian wildlife in a new way and from a new perspective. The weather was wonderful and the children excited and enthusiastic so it had to be a good day. Many thanks to our staff for putting it all together and to the parents who came along or assisted on the day.



Vacy Playgroup

Last week the Vacy playgroup were awarded a certificate for being the oldest playgroup in NSW. What a terrific achievement and it is great to see them still going strong.

Dungog Shire Community Centre

Want to keep up with family and friends? Want to see family and friends interstate or overseas? Want to see all your family and friends Christmas photos? Dungog Shire Community Centre will be running information sessions on instant messaging and video conferencing on the 3rd December and Facebook on 10th with follow up one on one sessions on the 17th. Book on 4992 1133 numbers limited!

Book Club

Book club closes on Friday 19th November. **No** late orders will be accepted.

Canteen

Thursday November 18

Robyn Thompson & Emma Key
No Special available

Monday November 22

Bek Bennett & Bin Geddes
Recess - Chocolate Crackles