

The Vacy Voice

The newsletter of Vacy Public School

GOSTWYCK Wins Swim Carnival

After a magnificent day's competition, Gostwyck came out winners of the swimming carnival for 2011. The two teams were evenly matched over the day, as was evidenced by the closeness of the whole team relays at the end of competition, but Gostwyck got more swimmers into the placings that mattered and took out the trophy for champion team.

Our champion swimmers for the day were:

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|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Junior Boy: | Jasper Lloyd |
| Junior Girl: | Zoe Butler |
| 11 Years Boy: | Lleyton Lloyd |
| 11 Years Girl: | Brooke Cowley |
| Senior Boy: | Noah Wysel |
| Senior Girl: | Tia Tanner and Shelby-Lee Wintle |

Our team for the zone swimming championships at Maitland Pool on March 2 will be Tia Tanner (freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke), Alice Washbourne (freestyle, backstroke), Jarrod Hughes (freestyle), Shelby-Lee Wintle (freestyle), Tom Priestley (freestyle), Zoe Butler (freestyle) and Jasper Lloyd (freestyle). These students have met the qualifying standards for their events and progress to the next level. A special mention as well to Lillie Geddes who came up as our sole Year 2 entrant and enjoyed a great day at the pool.

I must make mention of the wonderful atmosphere created by so many cheering and supportive students on the day. I must thank Mrs. Hope for all of her work in putting the carnival together (sorry about breaking the starting system). We also had great help from our parents attending and the day could not have progressed more smoothly. It was a credit to our staff, students and parents and provides a great format for the future. Congratulations to all of our swimmers – it was a terrific event for our school.



From the principal...

This week we look like having the handover of our new building, a facility that has already added a new dimension to our school. Over the past week, we have noticed just how much room we now have. On Monday we had four classes housed inside four full-sized classrooms and also had our new counsellor in our new special projects room (the old library) and guitar lessons (in our new library). We are awaiting the delivery of our shelving for the new library and have also applied for some additional furniture to support a technology centre. Our facilities development is continuing and further improvement is not far away.

One of the great things about our start to the year has been the way our senior students have taken on their leadership roles because it really does set the tone for the school. Their efforts yesterday at our swim carnival were sensational and the whole meet was held with a wonderful atmosphere of sportsmanship and support. They have been prepared in their fitness responsibilities and are looking out for each other in their roles. Well done to them all on a great start to the year.

I took a very small meeting of the P&C for a tour of all of our new facilities this morning. It would have been nice to have been able to show our new facilities to a few more people as we are inhabiting what is almost a new school. Our next meeting of the P&C is an evening meeting on Wednesday March 23 at 7:30pm so we might be able to have a few more people here. The P&C offers a great opportunity to discuss school policy and happenings and it is great for me to be able to discuss these things with parents as well. Please consider coming along to the next meeting if you can.

Regards,

Kevin Greaves (principal)

Dates To Remember

Feb 16	P&C meeting 9:15am
Feb 18	K-2 water activity day (postponed from Tuesday)
Feb 21	Kindergarten language screening
Feb 22	Drum lessons start
Mar 2	Zone swimming carnival
Mar 23	P&C meeting 7:30pm
Mar 28	Young Leaders' Conference – Year 6
Mar 31	Mrs. Fonti away for rest of term.

- At this stage that is all we have planned but watch this space as it will fill up very quickly. Additional activities may be announced through class news items each week. We will endeavour to keep all upcoming activities listed on our website at www.vacy-p.schools.nsw.edu.au, along with permission notes for all activities that require them – just follow the pathway to the calendar for upcoming events.

Student Term Dates 2011 (dates on which students attend, excluding staff development days)

Term 1	Monday January 31 to Friday April 8
Term 2	Thursday April 28 to Friday July 1
Term 3	Tuesday July 19 to Friday September 23
Term 4	Monday October 10 to Friday December 16

- Teaching and administrative staff will also attend five development days outside of the dates listed that are designated “pupil-free”.

Class News

Kinder/Year 1

Due to wet weather the K-2 Water Sports will be on this Friday.

Kindergarten sounds this week are “t” and “l”. Kinder sight words are “the”, “boy” and “girl”.

Year 1 will bring home their Jolly Phonics lists to practise at home and a new sight word program this week (instructions are on the front cover). Children may change Jolly Phonic lists on their news day. Readers will be coming home soon.

Year 2

Water play games will be held this Friday. Please check our original note for what to bring.

Some of the children have brought home their sight word program and their phonics word lists. Home readers will be sent home when the children have their folders and they have brought home their note regarding readers (this will go home later this week). Thanks to all who responded to the parent helper note – the roster will go home soon.

Year 3-4

This week 3/4 has spelling homework. They just need to copy their list words 3x this week. They can also cut list words out of magazines or newspapers and give into their homework books.

Sadly, I am only able to teach 3/4 for Terms 1 and 2 as I will be on maternity leave for Terms 3 and 4. Mr. Greaves and I will do our best to ensure the replacement teacher is available for both Terms 3 and 4 to ensure consistency for the class. Please come and see me if you have any questions or concerns.

Year 5-6

It is wonderful to see on Year 6 students already fulfilling the duties that they have been given. Special mention goes out to Noah Wysel who has been a great help to Mrs. Rogers. Congratulations to Taylor Hack for winning numerous ribbons at a horse show at the weekend.

School And Community News

“Maroon For A Day” Fundraising Day

Tomorrow we will be having a casual day and cake stall morning tea in support of the Department Of School Education’s fundraising for the victims of recent natural disasters across the country. We are asking students to bring in a gold coin donation for wearing casual clothes and also a plate of something suitable for sale for morning tea. We will be asking 50c for morning tea as well and hope we can raise a couple of hundred dollars for this great cause. Please support this effort tomorrow.

Voluntary School Contributions And Text Book Levies

Many thanks to those who have paid their textbook levy over the past week. Also thank you to those who have made a voluntary school contribution. A reminder that the text book levy is \$70 and is a compulsory payment. If you have any difficulties, please contact the school office to make alternate arrangements. The voluntary school contribution has been capped at \$50 again this year.

Paterson River Netball Club

Paterson River Netball Club still has a few vacancies in some of their teams. As a small club we are able to offer plenty of support for players. If you would like further information please contact Sue on 49385545.

Maitland Saints AFL

The Maitland Saints Junior AFL Club begins training this afternoon from 4:30pm to 6:00pm at Maitland Park, a temporary training venue whilst the club awaits development of their new home at Max McMahon Oval, Rutherford. Registrations are being sought for interested players, boys (aged 4 to 16) and girls (aged 4 to 14) interested in trying a new sport. Come along to training and see what all the fuss is about.

Student Exchanges

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is a not-for-profit secondary exchange organisation which is registered with education authorities in each State and Territory. You can find out more about our organisation by visiting www.studentexchange.org.au.

In June/July 2011 Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd will be receiving exchange students from Europe, the USA and South America. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend a local school for 2-10 months.

As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families who might be interested to host a student. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, backgrounds and ages. To this end, we would be grateful if you would place a notice in your newsletter/bulletin or mention it on your website. Please note that all our host families are interviewed in their homes and carefully checked for suitability.

You can download the newsletter notice here in [Word format](#), as a [JPG](#) or in [PDF format](#).

All students have at least basic levels of English, would attend a school in your local area and live the life of a local. Our group of students cover a wide variety of interests and hobbies ranging from playing musical instruments, drawing animations to horse riding. If you would like to provide your students, parents or language teachers with further information on our inbound students you can also download some student profiles in either [Word format](#) or as a [JPG](#). This is just a small sample of all the students who will be arriving. Our staff members will be happy to discuss which student might be best suited to a family.

Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience. It allows a family to experience a foreign culture first hand, be exposed to a new language and pass on a bit of our own culture. They might even make a friend for life!

If you have any questions about hosting an exchange student or would like to view profiles of students arriving from other countries, you can either respond to this email or call our office on 1300 135 331. No obligation.

Paterson Pre-school Fundraising Event

GET YOUR
PROFESSIONALLY PHOTOGRAPHED FRAMED FAMILY PORTRAIT
FOR ONLY \$15 (VALUED AT \$130)
WHERE: PATERSON PRE-SCHOOL
WHEN: SUNDAY MARCH 27
FULL DETAILS AND BOOKING INFORMATION WILL BE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

Bolwarra/Lorn Junior Soccer Club REGISTRATION DATES FOR 2011

(Bolwarra Sporting Complex, Victoria Rd. Bolwarra)

*Thursday 17th Feb. 5:00pm-6:30pm

*Saturday 19th Feb. 11:00am-12:30pm

*Thursday 3rd Mar. 5:00pm-6:30pm

*Saturday 5th Mar. 11:00am-12:30pm

All new players need to provide a copy of their [Birth Certificate](#).

Thank you
Glen Cross
0429 458 310