

The Newsletter of Vacy Public School

786 Gresford Road, Vacy 2421

www.vacy-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Tuesday, 20 March 2012

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Principal: Mr Graeme Oke



"Friendship and Learning"

From the Principal

Last week we were notified that Mr. Oke would not be returning to Vacy School for the rest of Term One due to the unfortunate situation he and his family have been in regarding the recent floods in North Wagga. Now I am pleased to announce that Mr. Oke, due to a change in circumstances, will be returning to school next Monday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their professionalism and flexibility during the past weeks. I'd like to also make particular mention of the great work that Mr. Michael Inze has been doing with the Year 3 & 4 students in Mr. Oke's absence. We thank him for his efforts and I am sure we will be seeing him around our school in the future.

P & C AGM Meeting

Tonight is the Annual General Meeting of the Vacy School P & C Association. It will take place in the staffroom at 7 pm and as usual, everyone is welcome to attend. I am attending the meeting in Mr. Oke's absence and look forward to seeing as many of you there as can possibly make it. It is an excellence opportunity for you to be involved in decision making for the school and for you to voice your opinions and ideas regarding up and coming events

BER Opening Ceremony

Finally, on Wednesday 28 March at 12:30 pm, Senator Thistlewaite will be visiting the school to officially open the new classrooms that our Kindergarten and Year 1/2 students occupy. This project was paid for under the BER scheme that was brought in by the Federal Government a few years ago. Due to the delay in the installation of the Interactive White Boards, we have not been able to officially finalise the project until now.

Quote of the Week



"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."

— [Mahatma Gandhi](#)



Assembly Awards



Student of the Week

Kindergarten	Joe Roberti
1/2	Bronte Parish
3/4	Jorgia Watts
5/6	Tom Priestley

Class Awards

Kindergarten	River Rowles & Fox Nicholson
Year 1	Toby Carter
Year 2	Mackenzie Peirce
Year 3	Selena Schultz-Holt
Year 4	Tess Bennett
Year 5	Nalani Basham
Year 6	Harry Flynn

Library Award

Kacia Rowles

Dates to Remember

March 2012

- 20 P & C meeting - 7pm
- 23 Cross Country
- 26 Young Leaders - Year 6
- 28 BER Opening Ceremony

April 2012

- 5 Last Day of Term
- 5 Easter Raffle Drawn
- 23 Staff Development Day Student Free Day
- 24 Students return
- 25 Anzac Day
- 26 Zone Cross Country

Class News



Kindergarten

This week is speech week for Kindergarten. Last week a note regarding this assessment task was sent home. Students will be assessed for their efforts and this will be recorded in Semester One Reports.

This week Kindergarten will be learning about the letters "o" and "u", and the sound they make. Sight words to learn are "are", "up" and "down". Please continue to revise sounds and sight words at home. Students with home readers are asked to return and change readers on their news day. Please take time to look at the Reading Log text. It contains lots of useful information and tips for helping your child with home reading.

1/2

Thanks to everyone who has sent in magazines, the children have had lots of fun finding 3D shapes and healthy food in them.

This week we are hoping to practise for our cross country which will be run on Thursday. Of course it will be dependent on the weather. Please ensure children have suitable shoes so that they can participate in this activity. Don't forget to send in Easter egg donations for our raffle as the end of term is fast approaching!

3/4

Mr Oke will be away for the remainder of the week. Mr Inze will replace him on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with Miss Corrigan replacing Mr Oke on Friday.

5/6

A final reminder to all students that Friday is the due date for your projects. I am really looking forward to seeing the completed articles and hope that everyone has done their very best work.

Thank you to all of the Year Six students (and parents) for promptly handing in their high school forms and Young Leaders notes and money. It makes it so much easier for us to process everything when these things are handed in on time.

Finally, camp arrangements are being finalised and I am waiting on a final quote from the bus company. Notes will go home before the end of term giving families plenty of time to pay off the required amount before the due date in Term Four.

A Special Visit from an Aussie Hero

A huge thank you to Mr. and Mrs Richardson (uncle and great-uncle to Belinda and Lleyton Lloyd) for visiting our school last Wednesday to speak about Antarctica. Mr. Richardson a member of the RAAF was sent to Antarctica in 1958 to work there for a year. It was extremely interesting listening to him speak about his experiences in the region and the hardships he faced during his adventures.

The students have been studying the Antarctic region this term and enjoyed seeing the photos of Mr. Richardson, who is now 82 years old, doing his job amidst the adverse conditions. He was even able to show us an aerial photograph of the lake that is named after him. Thank you Mrs Lloyd for organising this special visit.

Canteen News



Roster

Thursday, 22 March	Russel Jessop & Tim Carter
Monday, 26 March	Karen Turner & Jo Magri

School News

Holiday dates

Please note the last day of first term is 5 April with school resuming on 24 April. Easter Public Holidays run from 6 to 9 April.

Friendships help learning

Research shows that if children are happy socially, they are more likely to be more engaged in their learning. Check out School A to Z (www.schoolatoz.com.au) and read about how this works and what you can do to help your child make friends: www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning.

Anzac Day

Please be aware that April 25 will be a Public Holiday due to Anzac Day. The annual Anzac March will take place on this day at Gresford. The March will start from Everett's Garage in Gresford at 10.30am and continue down Durham Road to the Cenotaph on Park Street. At the Cenotaph there will be a Commemoration service with wreath laying. In past years students from Vacy Public School have marched and attended the service. This year it would be wonderful if a large number of students could attend. Students attending will need to wear their full school uniform and meet at Everett's Garage at 10.00am

Cross Country

The Vacy Public School Cross Country will be held on Thursday 22 March 2012. This year students will follow the same course as last year and run around the oval and the school. Students aged 8 years and over are eligible to compete at the Zone Cross Country to be held at Tocal College on Thursday 26 April 2012. The Zone team will be announced before the end of term.

Drum lessons

Included with this weeks newsletter is a permission note for students who wish to continue with their drumming lessons. As advised last term the cost of the lessons are \$100.00 per term payable in advance.

If your child would like to continue with the lessons permission notes and money must be returned by Tuesday 24 April 2012. Unfortunately students who do not return notes and money by this date will not be able to participate in the lessons for Term 2.

Netball Gala Day & Basketball Day

On Wednesday 21 March girls in Years 3 to 6 will attend a Netball Skills day at Maitland Basketball Centre run by Maitland Netball Association.

The boys in Years 3 to 6 will participate in a Basketball Skills Day run by Mr Inze and held at school.

The girls will return at lunchtime and then both groups will join for some fun games using the skills they have learnt.

Excursions for Term 2

During Term 2 all students will be involved with the Life Education Van when it visits the school on 18 and 19 June. The cost of this excursion is \$8.00 per student.

Students in Kinder to Year 4 will also participate in an excursion to Newcastle Entertainment Centre to see Disney on Ice on 24 June 2012. This will replace the usual excursion at the end of the year when the students in Years 5 and 6 are away at camp. The cost of this excursion will be \$35.00

Parents may start to make payments for these excursions from the start of next term. Permission notes will sent home at the start of term 2.

ICAS tests

All families of students in Years 3 to 6 received ICAS nominations forms in Week 5. These competitions close on 26 March. Any applications received after this date will not be processed.

Easter Activities 2012

Vacy Public School Easter Activities will take place on

Thursday 5 April 2012.

We will be having our annual School Easter Raffle, this will be drawn on the 5 April. For raffle prizes we ask each family to donate Easter eggs. These may be dropped at the office. Tickets for the raffle will be sent home this week.

Our activities for the day include:

11.00am -	Hot Cross bun morning tea (order form attached)
11.30am -	Church Service K/1/2 room
12noon -	Easter Raffle Draw - COLA
12.10pm -	Easter Activities
1.00pm -	Lunch

Parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Active After School sports

In Term 2 students are invited to participate in an Athletics program which will be run on Friday afternoons from 3.10 to 4.10. The program will be run by Mr Mark Babic and include race techniques, starting, tactics for long distance running and shot put, discus and javelin skills. Applications forms are included in the newsletter. Forms need to be returned by Monday 2 April 2012. Places will be allocated on a first in basis. If there is an over whelming number of students who wish to attend then preference will be given to students who are old enough to represent the school at Zone level (ie 8 years and over).

Premiers Reading Challenge2012

It is that time of year again where the Premiers Reading Challenge begins. The challenge starts in March and concludes at the end of August. The children will be required to have all their reading completed by 24 August in order to allow time to validate and enter their reading logs. Any reading the children have done since September 2011 can be counted towards this years challenge and entered onto their reading log. The following information should help you and your child with their 2012 entry.

Years K-2

The Infants School will complete the challenge at school with their teachers. We use our Crunch 'n' Sip time to fulfil the requirements of the challenge.

Parents need to be aware however that if your child's name is entered they will automatically receive a certificate of completion and their name will be published on the Honour Roll in the National newspaper. Therefore we will require permission for this to occur and a note will some home early August in regards to this. You may choose to not have your child's name published and entered for a certificate but they will still participate in the reading of the stories at school.

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Years 3-6

The children need to complete the challenge at home. We do have a good selection of P.R.C. Challenge books in our School Library and Maitland Library has a large range also. The book lists for the year groups are in the library and can also be accessed through the child's DEC Portal. The children will also need to use their DEC Portal to enter their books on-line (simply google search DEC Portal, click on link, enter name and password into portal, click on learning, and then Premiers Reading). Please see me if there are any problems with this. At the end of the challenge I will need to validate the reading logs and once I have done this the children will automatically receive a certificate and their name will be included on the honour roll that is published in the National newspaper. Therefore I will require permission to do this and a note will come home early August asking for permission to validate their reading logs. Only those who return their notes will be entered. I hope that lots of children will support the challenge this year. Even if they don't complete it, it is a good way to ensure they are reading at home and choosing good quality literature.

If you require any further information or assistance please give me a call.

Happy Reading!

Maree Greaves
P.R.C. Co-ordinator



Community News

Year 2-11 Audition Applications for 2013

Auditions for Hunter School of the Performing Arts are now available for students entering Year 2-11 in 2012. These auditions are aligned with the state-wide Year 6 to 7 Transition timetables.

Primary enrolment applications are due by 12.00noon on Friday, 15th June 2012.

Auditions Information and application forms can be accessed on the school's website: www.hspa.nsw.edu.au/information/enrolment-forms/

Holiday Fun Maitland Mustangs

BASKETBALL FUN DAY AND MULTISPORTS FUN DAY!

10 & 11 April 2012

Day 1 - Basketball, Day 2 - Multisport

\$50 for the 2 days or \$30 for 1 day

Families with 2 or more children pay \$10 per child there after

Lunch ONLY is provided

NO Basketball experience required
Fun day of learning and games

Where: Maitland Federation Centre, 10 Bent Street,
Maitland 2320

Time: 9.00am to 3.00pm

Ages: Open to infants and primary school children 5 years and over.

For more information or to book your child's spot phone
H.I.T.E.C. On 1800 654 188

Maitland Tennis Centre Holiday Clinic

April 2012 School Holidays

Tennis Clinic

Dates: April 11, 12, 13 2012

At Maitland Tennis Centre
Corner Page & Lawes St East Maitland

Time: 9.00am to 10.30am per day

Price: \$50.00 for 3 days per child
(Family Discounts Available)

Age: 4 years to 16 years

Standard: Beginner to Intermediate

Book Now

Phone: 4934 5016 or 0421882055

Or online

www.maitlandtenniscentre.com.au