

The Newsletter of Vacy Public School

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"Friendship and Learning"

Principal's Message

Some well-deserved thanks are how I would like to begin this newsletter message.

Thank you to Joe Thompson who has 'stepped up to the plate' to fill the vacant position of Secretary for the Vacy P & C Association.

Thank you to Glenn Butler, Kris Hack, Gary Hallinan and Phil Clements who bent their backs alongside the community champions from Paterson Rotary. Their efforts have seen six new 'no-dig' raised garden beds built, four large planter boxes, the posts set for the plastic bottlehouse and the pipe laid from one end of the yard to the other to irrigate the gardens.

Thank you to the willing members of the Paterson Rotary Club who are putting something back into the local community. We very much appreciate the \$2000 donation and the assistance in completing the garden project.

Thank you to the professional staff at Vacy Public School. We are very blessed to have such a wonderful, caring staff to support the growth and development of the students.

Finally, thank you to all of our volunteers for your support throughout Term 1 whether it be preparing lunches in the canteen, supporting the students in reading groups, providing transport assistance, helping out on a committee or contributing to P & C meetings. In these 'time-poor' times, it's comforting to know that many of our families find a way to show their support.

Good luck to Zoe Butler and Ashley Rowe as they contest the Hunter Regional Selection trials at Mayfield this Friday 12 April. We wish them the very best.

Congratulations to Josie Waight whose brochure was selected as the winner in the Hunter Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority's "Healthy Paterson/Allyn Catchment" competition. The CMA has printed copies of the brochure for distribution in our catchment and a copy is attached to this week's newsletter. Well done Josie!

Congratulations also to Shay Deacon and Kasey Parker on being selected to represent Maitland Zone at the Regional Cross Country to be held on Friday 10 May. Good luck girls

Year 6 students will be conducting the School Anzac Service this Thursday 11 April at 10:45am.

The Annual School Report for 2012 has been completed and is available on the school's website. The report includes an evaluation of the 2012 targets and the priority areas for 2013.

Have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable autumn break. There will be two Staff Development Days to begin Term 2 and students will return to school on Wednesday 1 May, 2013.

Regards,
Graeme

Quote of the Week

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

~ Martin Luther King Jr.



Out of Uniform /Mufti Day

The last day of term, Friday 12 April 2013, will be an out of uniform day to raise money for our Sponsor child, Maurin. Students are reminded to wear closed in shoes, shirts with sleeves that cover shoulders and to wear a hat. Students will be asked to make a gold coin donation to assist with the fundraising efforts.

Dates to Remember

April

Thursday 11	Canteen - Bolognaise Day Anzac Day Service - 10.45am
Friday 12	Mufti Day - Last Day Term 1
Monday 29	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 30	Staff Development Day

May

Wednesday 1	All Students return Drum lessons recommence
Thursday 9	Mothers Day Stall

Class News



Kindergarten

Thank you Kindergarten students and families for a fantastic first term! I wish you all a safe and happy well deserved break. Kindergarten students have all worked very hard and have made a great start to school, I look forward to another great term.

Many thanks to our wonderful parent helpers, we hope to see you next term. Don't forget out of uniform day on Friday.

Year 1

We are learning about Anzac Day this week in preparation for our ceremony this Thursday. Special lunch order day this week and there will be no other options available apart from Spaghetti Bolognaise. Friday is the last day of term and is an out of uniform day to raise funds for Maurin.

I hope all the children enjoy a well earned rest as it has been a very busy term and I look forward to hearing all their holiday tales when we return next term. Don't forget there is an extra Staff Development Day next term and the children do not return to school until Wednesday 1 May 2013.

Year 2/3

Thank you to all year 3 and 4 students for completing your assignments. Everyone has done a wonderful job and I appreciate the amount of time and effort that went into them. I will be marking the assignment over the school holiday break and taking photographs of them. The projects are currently in the library as I did not have space in the classroom. I will make a display with the photos in my room and you will be able to take your projects home in week 2 of next term.

As I am away this week and Mr Inze will have the class. Free news topic for the first two weeks of term. I look forward to hearing all the adventures you had in the holidays.

Year 4/5

Well done to all of the students who brought their mini projects in to school yesterday. It has been a very busy term, especially those year 4 students who also had a science project a week earlier. If your child has not yet brought in their project, they are encouraged to do so during this week.

Congratulations to those students who participated in the Zone Cross Country at Tocal. It was a long race with a tormenting up-hill run to the finish line. It was great to see everyone finish. An extra congratulations to Shay Deacon from 4/5 who has made it through to the next round. This is the last week of term and we are wrapping up with a special spaghetti lunch on Thursday and an out-of-uniform day on Friday. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable

break.

Year 5/6

This week is a busy one for 5/6 as they continue to work hard to improve their persuasive writing techniques, grammar and maths knowledge ready for the Year Five up and coming Naplan tests next term. I will be sending some work home during the holidays for the Year Five students to help them practise their skills further throughout the break. Congratulations to all of our class members who went to the zone cross country last week to represent their school. I hope you all had a great time and gave it your best shot.

Last Tuesday we had our first connected classroom interaction with 5P, a class from John Purchase Public School in Cherrybrook, Sydney. This is the first of many other interactions we will have during the year which hopefully will enable our students to learn about other students from a city school who are from different cultural backgrounds. Already we have shared our thoughts through our writing about which is better, city life or country life, and we have learnt that our community is very different from theirs. All of the children enjoyed the experience of talking on the big screen and look forward to doing it again in the future.

Finally, a reminder that camp deposit note and money is due this Friday. I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing holiday.

School News

Changed Pick-up Arrangements

We have reviewed our procedures when students are to be collected by someone other than their parents. The new procedures are as follows – parents are asked to advise the nominated pick-up adult to present at the office with ID and wait in the foyer to collect the student/s. The student/s will be notified, via the 'bus and walkers' book that they will be collected from the office and will walk down with the walkers' group. This is being done in the interests of students' welfare and safety.

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Woolworths Earn and Learn has started, please be sure to collect stickers when you purchase over \$10 from Woolworths, stick onto sticker cards and put in the Earn and Learn collection box in the office. Last year we earned many great resources from this promotion. Don't forget to ask family and friends for their stickers.

Active After Schools Communities

During Term 2 the AASCP program will offer netball on Monday for Years Kinder to Year 2 and Tuesday for Years 3 to 6. There are still some places left on both days. The netball program is open for both boys and girls.

Premier's Reading Challenge News

Keep on reading and entering your books. If you are unsure of how to do this please try the following.

1. Go to your Student Portal.
2. Go to Learning section
3. Click on more
4. Click on Premier's Reading

This will then allow you to access book lists, your reading record, rules and lots more. If you are still having difficulties please see Mrs Greaves.

NSW Police Force

Central Hunter Police Command has reported a recent trend in break and enters of remote schools, that is schools located outside the major CBD's. Parents and students are asked to be vigilant in reporting any unusual activity, recording registration numbers of vehicles seen around schools particularly at night.

Library News

Library borrowing has recommenced!

Library days are as follows:

Monday – Year 4/5

Tuesday – Year 2/3

Wednesday – Kindergarten

Thursday – Year 5/6 and Year 1

Please ensure that your child has a borrowing bag on their assigned Library day and that they return their books regularly.

Canteen News

During Term 2 the Canteen, together with Reading Cinemas are introducing a healthy food initiative. If you order fruit, fruit salad or salad (including salad on burgers, wraps etc) for either recess or lunch you can go into the weekly draw to win a movie ticket to Reading Cinemas Maitland. The draw will happen after Thursdays Canteen day each week.



Please note there will be **NO** Canteen on Thursday 3 May 2013 due to the Tocal Field Days.

Canteen Roster

Thursday 11 April	Belinda Geddes Fiona Baker
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Canteen Special Day

Thursday 11 April 2013 - Spaghetti Bolognese served with Garlic Bread for just \$2.00. There will be **no other items** for sale at lunch time. Recess will be as normal from the canteen menu.



Our New Demountable



Working Bee





Community News

Vacy Red Cross invites you to come and enjoy our

**‘Country Cottage Garden Open Day’
at 281 Lennoxton Road Vacy
on Saturday 13 April 2013**

Garden entry: \$5.00 10.00am to 4.00pm Sausage sizzle, morning and afternoon tea/coffee. Stalls of craft, books & home made goodies. Wide variety of plants and trees.

Featuring a talk at 1.30pm from Mr Noel Jupp of “Riverdene Nursery” Gresford.

Tocal Field Days Celebrates 30 Years with Big Farming Displays and Family Fun

Tocal Field Days celebrates 30 years in 2013 with an exciting line up of activities and events. From Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th May, visitors to Tocal Field Days can experience piglet races, taste local food and wine, learn new skills with a number of farming demonstrations and enjoy a variety of entertainment.

A free shuttle bus to the event will run from Maitland Railway Station on the hour, also collecting in Lorn at 15 minutes past the hour.

With the latest innovations for the rural sector as well as country hospitality and entertainment, the 2013 Tocal Field Days will be a big event in its 30th year. Entry is \$12 for seniors and \$17 for adults, kids under 16 accompanied by a paying adult can enter for free. Visit www.tocalfielddays.com for more information.

Maitland City Library April Holiday Fun

Microcosmic! Bug and spider stories, games and activities. Wednesday 17 April Rutherford Library 11am – 12 pm 5-8yrs Free

Super Microcosmic! Discover rare insects and arachnids through a scavenger hunt and make your own magnifying glass to spot insects at home. Thursday 18 April Rutherford Library 2 – 3 pm 9-12yrs Free.

Robot World -Learn robot stories and songs and then make a cool robot from recycled material. Friday 19 April East Maitland Library 11am -12pm 4-7yrs Free.

Create a nature journal - Channel your inner naturalist and make a journal to keep track of exciting changes in the seasons. Friday 19 April Thornton Library 10am - 12 pm 9-14yrs Free.

Become an author – comic book style! Create a comic online and take it home to impress your friends and family! Saturday 20 April. Maitland Library. 12 – 1pm. 8 – 14 yrs

Free.

Ananse stories – the music and stories of Ghana Sing, drum and chant as you learn the story of Ananse the spider from a master African storyteller. Monday 22 April.

East Maitland Library. 11 am – 12 pm. 5-12yrs \$5.

Construct a Paperbot -Make your own movable paper robot! Tuesday 23 April. East Maitland Library. 2-3pm 9-12yrs. Free.

Build your own bug story Create a mini bug world and share stories about your bugs with the group. Tuesday 23 April. Thornton Library. 10.30 – 11.30 am. 4 – 8yrs. Free.

Library detectives. Unleash your inner investigator with fun games and activities in the library! Can you help the librarians with your super sleuth skills? Wednesday 24 April. Maitland Library. 11 am – 12 pm. 8 – 14yrs. Free.

Marvellous mummies – Ancient Egypt discovery workshop. Piece together ancient artefacts and create a take-home cartouche with your name written in hieroglyphs on real Egyptian papyrus!

Friday 26 April
Thornton Library
11 am – 12 pm
5 -10yrs \$5

Friday 26 April
Rutherford Library
2 pm – 3 pm
5 -10yrs \$5

Booking and payment for events is essential and can be made in person at any Maitland City Library branch, or by phoning 4933 6952.

Paterson Red Cross Trivia Night Saturday 27th April 2013, 7.00pm at Paterson School of Arts Hall

Grab your family and friends, make up a table and come along to our Trivia Night for a great night out.

Tables of 8 or 10 at \$10.00 per person can be booked by calling Anne on 49385128.

Tickets must be purchased before 23rd April 2013.

Great prizes to be won.

Light supper will be provided.

BYO Drinks and Nibbles.

A day in the roses

care - show - sketch - cook

Sunday 21 April

Enjoy a day of hands-on workshops and pleasure devoted to that beloved flower: **the rose**.

‘Cultivating Roses’, ‘The Secrets Of Showing’, ‘Cooking With Roses’ and ‘Sketching Roses’. Book one workshop or more.

At **Mount Rivers** (north of Gresford).

Cost: Workshops \$22 each. Workshops are repeated through the day. Bookings essential so you don’t miss out.

Dungog Community College live & learn

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A part of the Dungog Shire Community Centre