

The Newsletter of Vacy Public School

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Tuesday 7 May 2013

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Principal: Mr Graeme Oke



“Friendship and Learning”

Principal's Message

Congratulations to our hard-working P&C led capably by Glenn Butler for their outstanding organisation of the craft activities at the Tocal Field Day. Thank you to the many volunteers for sharing the load and filling the rostered timeslots – your time and effort is really appreciated. Glenn has a message in the P&C News later in this newsletter.

Families with students in Years 3 and 5 will find an information brochure on NAPLAN that accompanies this newsletter. The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from Tuesday 14 May through Thursday 16 May.

Our COWs program (Creative Opportunity Workshops) begins tomorrow and there is a smorgasbord of activities on offer including dance, drama, cooking, drawing, paper art, clay modelling, crotchet, embroidery, gardening, singing and egg carton craft.

Congratulations to Shay Deacon and Mackenzie Peirce and we wish them good luck when they compete in the Hunter Region Cross Country event this Friday 10 May. The girls have been



running laps of the oval at recess and lunch in preparation.

Students from Vacy PS have benefitted in the past from Stewart House and the respite program that they offer to school students across New South Wales. Unfortunately, Stewart House is dependent on donations to ensure that the programs are available now and into the future. To assist Stewart House and the wonderful work that they do, please add your details on the donation envelope that accompanies this newsletter and slip just \$2 inside. Return to school on Stewart House Day, Friday 10 May to go in the draw for a \$4000 family holiday to a destination of your choice.

Congratulations to our newly elected SRC members for Term 2. Kayla Hallinan, Anna Lutschini, Brendan Lambert, Alec Grainger and Jack Magri will join our Captains as the student voice at Vacy. Their first activity will be selling rubber bounce balls at lunchtime on Stewart House Day, Friday 10 May for \$3:00 to help raise much needed funds for Stewart House.

Regards,
Graeme

Quote of the Week

High expectations are the key to everything.

~ Sam Walton

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Week ending 3/05/13

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

K	Gypsy Rocco
1	Tallon Convery
2-3	Annabelle Pereira
4-5	Saskia Bickerdike
5-6	Liam Key

CLASS AWARDS

K	Riley Watts
1	Joe Roberti
2	Jack Magri
3	Mia Roberti
4	Mackayla Smith
5	Libby Cant
6	Zoe Butler

Dates to Remember

May

Thursday 9	Mothers Day Stall
Friday 10	Stewart House Day - SRC Bounce Ball
Tuesday 14	Naplan Years 3 & 5 P & C meeting
Wednesday 15	Naplan Years 3 & 5
Thursday 16	Naplan Years 3 & 5
Tuesday 21	ICAS Computer Skills test
Thursday 23	Biggest Morning Tea

June

Wednesday 5	ICAS Science test
Monday 17	ICAS Writing test
Tuesday 18	ICAS Spelling test
Thursday 20	Life Education Van visit
Friday 21	Life Education Van visit
Thursday 27	Athletics Carnival

Kindergarten

In kindergarten we have all been settling back into our routines. Great to see all communication folders coming back this week. A big thank you to Mrs Rogers who has given the students a great start to school in Term 1, I will continue to follow the same familiar routines for the children.

This term we are learning 3 sounds each week, a new sound will be introduced Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, please continue to encourage your child to tell you about the sounds that they are learning. In HSIE this term we are studying a unit called "This is Me" where we look at our characteristics and where we fit in our family and community groups. In Personal Development and Health we will be working through the unit on child protection where we look at relationships and discuss safe and unsafe situations. A note went home yesterday giving your child information about their news item for Week 3, I look forward to hearing their presentations next week.

Year 1

The children were all given a speech to prepare for homework this week. I have not set any other work during this time so they can focus on this one task. The speeches will be delivered on their news day. As this is an assessment task all the children will be expected to have a go at preparing and delivering a speech. Please ring me if you have any questions regarding this.

Thursday's Reading Groups time has changed as it now clashes with Fitness. The new time is 9.30-10.30. I could also still do with a few extra parents on a Friday morning from 9.10-9.45 for Maths Groups, so if you are available let me know

Year 2/3

Topic for 2/3 news for the next two weeks is: My favourite food. Homework will resume this week. Don't forget about your home readers. Please bring them in on your news day to change.

Please bring in any empty egg cartons. They will be used in egg carton art during our Wednesday COWS.

Year 4/5

This week students are starting to look at procedures. Students are encouraged to look for examples of procedures at home. Students have received their first week of homework. Just a reminder that it is due back on Friday morning. Students are required to return it on Friday even if it is not 100% finished.

Just a reminder that NAPLAN is on next week for the Yr 5 students. We are reviewing mathematics and literacy topics in preparation. At home students are encouraged to have a good nights sleep and a big breakfast before their exams.

Year 5/6

This week the 5/6 class will continue to revise the concepts that they will be tested on shortly. Next week of course,

our Year 5 students will undertake the Naplan testing which will be held during the morning sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please make sure that your child is well rested and has had a hearty breakfast on those days as they will need to have the capacity to concentrate for the majority of the morning.

There are a few people who have yet to pay their \$100 deposit for camp this year. I'd like to remind you that school assistance is available and should be sought sooner rather than later where camp is concerned. Recently we have been invited to participate in a netball gala day and a football knockout competition. While I am very excited that the students in my class have been offered these experiences to represent their school, I have reminded them all that they will only be invited to attend if their behaviour is nothing short of being excellent during school time. I hope that I have your support in this matter.

School News

P & C Update

Dear Parents & Grandparents of Vacy Public School, I would like to thank all the volunteers who were able to help at the Tocal Field Days on our craft stall.

This was the first time that Vacy Public School was asked to co-ordinate the craft activities and from the feedback provided it was great success.

By giving up your time over the weekend you have provided the P & C with an amount of \$2000.00. These are much needed funds which can be used for future events or resources required for the school.

Kind regards,
Glenn Butler
President of P&C

The next P & C meeting is Tuesday 15 May commencing at 7:00 pm.

The main item for discussion and action is centred on School Uniform. If you would like to have a say on the uniform, come along and join in the discussion.

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.

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 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.

Mother's Day Stall

Mother's Day Stall will be held this Thursday 9 May 2013.

Canteen Roster



Thursday 9 May	Eleesha Pereira Kelly Richardson Amanda Saxby
Monday 13 May	Kristie Roberti Bek Hancock

Active After School Communities

Touch Football will be on Wednesdays commencing 15 May to 26 June. Permission note is attached to this weeks newsletter. Places will be allocated on a first come basis - so bring your notes back early to avoid missing out.

Vacy Public School Before & After School Care

Welcome back to term 2! As of this week, after school care on a Thursday is currently full however if you require a spot please call the BASC office as numbers can change from week to week and Tammy will place you on a waiting list. Monday afternoon is nearly full and currently has 4 places still available.

Just a reminder that in addition to the after school hours care offered on the school premises, we also offer to take your children to and from after school activities.

These include:

Dancing/Gymnastics – Opposite the school grounds at Vacy School of Arts

Soccer Training – This is at the oval adjoining the school grounds

Active After School Activities – on the school ground.

The children will be handed over to the responsible adult at each activity and if required, collected again and returned to after school care following the completion of the activity.

For enquiries or bookings

Phone - 4938 8450

Email – vacybasc@gmail.com

Don't forget that the service is fully accredited which means that all families eligible to receive Child Care Benefits (CCB) and Child Care Rebates (CCR) will do so once they complete the necessary paperwork. For more information regarding your eligibility for these rebates please call the Department of Human Services (formerly Centrelink/Family Assistance Office) on 136150 between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday.

With thanks

BASC Committee

Drum Corp

Col Hatchman is currently searching for any video taken of the Vacy Drum Corp performance at the White Ribbon Day function. If you have any footage of the students playing please contact the office.



Community News

**HUNTER
WRITERS
CENTRE**



Creative Writing for Young Writers

Learn how to get started and how to keep going.
Enjoy writing and reading brilliant stories.

Location:

Hunter Writers Centre, 90 Hunter Street,
Newcastle.

To be held on **Saturday 11th May 11.00am to 3.00pm.**

Cost : \$30

Bookings Essential:

hunterwriterscentre@gmail.com

Paterson Valley Swimming Club

Presentation Night

this coming Friday 10th May 2013.

The sausage sizzle will start between 6:00 and 6:30pm and the actual presentation will be at 7:30pm.

The sausage sizzle is a gold coin donation and there will be several raffles prizes up for grabs.

Come and enjoy good company and celebrate the achievements of the swimmers.

Baby Sitter Available

Need a baby sitter? Lucy Priestley is available.
Contact Leesa Priestley if you require Lucy's services.

**Coastal Valleys Region Girl Guides invites
you to**

Come and Try Guides!

At your local Girl Guide unit

For girls aged 7-18 years

Guides enjoy challenging and fun program of
indoor and outdoor activities:
games, leadership and life skills, craft, badges,
cooking, camping and community events

**For information on the location and available
meetings in your area**

Please email

coastalvalleysgirlguides@live.com.au or call
13004475484

visit our website www.girlguides-nswact.org.au
to find out more about Guides.

**HAVING FUN TODAY -
LEADING THE WORLD TOMORROW**

**MAKE YOUR NEXT PARTY A HUGHE
SUCCESS**

ABC

JUMPING CASTLE HIRE

- ♦ KIDS PARTIES
 - ♦ CHURCH GROUPS
 - ♦ SPORTING GROUPS
 - ♦ HOLIDAY PARKS
 - ♦ FULLY INSURED
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- Booking and Enquiries 0432 266278

Situated in -

Singleton - Cessnock - Maitland - Newcastle
www.abcjumpingcastlehire.com