

The Newsletter of Vacy Public School

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Tuesday 14 May 2013
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“Friendship and Learning”

Principal's Message

Good luck to our Year 3 and 5 students as they sit the NAPLAN tests being conducted this week. The NAPLAN tests started today with the Language Conventions and Writing tests, the Reading test will be held tomorrow and the Numeracy test will conclude the NAPLAN on Thursday 16 May.

We have needed to make some alternative arrangements this week to cater for the tests and I would like to thank our staff and students for their flexibility and consideration.

Tonight, the P&C will meet to discuss and make a representative decision on the school uniform amongst other matters. If you would like to have a say on the uniform, come along and join in the discussion.

Congratulations to Shay Deacon and Mackenzie Peirce who finished 17th and 32nd at the Hunter Region Cross Country event held last Friday 10 May.

Thank you to all of those families who returned a donation envelope 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. Good luck.

Our Year 6 students of 2012 presented the school with a public address system for the COLA. This has now been installed and features an iPod jack that is coming in very handy for our dance groups.

Our current Year 6 cohort is putting their thoughts together for fundraising initiatives. When the ideas are developed I will present their ideas through the newsletter.

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. The SRC sold all 50 bounce balls and raised \$150 for the Stewart House.

Regards,
Graeme

Quote of the Week

If past history was all there was to the game, the richest people would be librarians
~ Warren Buffet

ASSEMBLY AWARDS Week ending 10/05/13

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS	
K	Bridgette Finlay
1	Harriette Hopkins
2-3	Tom Doyle
4-5	Jasper Lloyd
5-6	Archer Woller
CLASS AWARDS	
K	Darcy Richardson
1	Layla Clarke
2	Seth Deacon
3	Blaze Basham
4	Chloe Reid
5	Joseph Ford
6	Jack Smith

Dates to Remember

May

Tuesday 14	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

Please continue to help your child with their homework and listen to their new sounds each week. The connection between home and school is an important part of your child's learning.

This week the children are presenting their news item about themselves. We have already had several great speeches and we are looking forward to hearing the rest. We are learning our numbers from 11 to 20 this term so please take any opportunity to encourage your child to count everyday objects. Hope everyone had a great Mother's Day.

Year 1

Wow! We had several of our speeches today and I am very impressed with the effort that the students have put in and the enthusiasm they showed in delivering them to their peers. I have also been impressed with how the students have been able to use their palm cards, some that had only pictures and theme words to jog their memory. We also had a few funny speeches and the children all enjoyed a big laugh. Thank you and I look forward to hearing more.

Next week I am taking some long service leave starting on Wednesday. My son who is in Year 6 has made it into the Regional team for AFL and we will be travelling with him to Barooga to support him while he is at the State carnival. This is a great opportunity for him as the quality of the sport at this level is outstanding and is one I do not want to miss. Ms Elysha Jordan will be taking the class in my absence and she will be following my class program during the time that I am away. Please feel free to see me or ring me if you have any questions.

Year 2/3

This week is NAPLAN for Year 3 and as a result this week's routine will be a little different. There will be no homework for this week.

Class assessments will be starting next week and will continue for the next few weeks in preparation for half yearly reports.

Thank you to those people that have brought in some egg cartons for COWs. Please continue to bring them in all term.

Please try not to put too much pressure on you child for the NAPLAN assessments. Remind them it is to see what they know and they may not know how to answer all of the questions. It is also a tool used by the teachers to see where students strengths and weaknesses are and to see how we can help them. Good luck year 3!

Year 4/5

Good luck to all the students who have started their NAPLAN testing today. We know you will do your best over the next couple of days. Make sure you get a good nights sleep and a healthy breakfast. The 'hot chip' lunch usually held after NAPLAN is going to take place on Friday at

lunchtime. Students are required to still bring their recess for that day .

4/5 students were introduced to their Term 2 project. This project will be mostly completed at school and further details will be sent home on Friday.

Year 5/6

Good luck to all of the Year Three and Year Five students who are sitting the NAPLAN tests this week. I am sure that you will go well if you all try your best. Make sure that you all have a good night's sleep before the tests and a big breakfast each morning. Don't forget that on Friday (17 May) we will be holding our "Hot Chip Lunch" for you all as a small reward for your hard work. Good luck guys!

Netball notes were sent home yesterday to all the girls who are participating in the game against Maitland P.S. on Thursday. Please bring them back signed by tomorrow. Soccer notes and information will go out shortly for our game against Paterson on the 21st May. Soccer training is on this Wednesday (15 May) with Mr Butler. Please bring your boots and shin pads.

School News

P&C News

Next meeting is Tuesday 14 May commencing at 7:00 pm. The main item for discussion and action is centred on School Uniform.

Thanks to Graeme Lambert for the bales of hay for the gardens.

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.

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.



Canteen Roster

Thursday 16 May	Amy Rowles Nat Parker Joe Thompson
Monday 20 May	Jacqueline Brand Sian Jones

Active After School Communities

Touch Football begins on Wednesday 15 May to 26 June. Places still available.

Vacy Public School Before & After School Care

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.

Book Club

All Book Club orders are due back no later than Thursday 16 May. No late orders will be accepted.

If making out cheques please make them payable to Scholastic Australia.



Community News

STS Student Exchange

STS Student Exchange are seeking Aussie families who are busy, friendly, interested in other cultures and willing to welcome an STS exchange student into their family. Aussie families come from all walks of life and all cultural backgrounds, that's what makes up our country.

Our volunteer host families provide room and board and treat their host son or daughter as a member of their own family. Exchange students have their own spending money and medical insurance. While your exchange student is learning about Australian culture, your family members will learn about theirs. What a great way for your children to learn about another country!

Contact us today to start your adventure in student exchange!

1800 263 964 (charge free), 0401 741 754 (mobile)

Email: stsf@people.net.au

Web: sts-education.com/australia

Little Athletics at Dungog

AGM Meeting
Dungog RSL Club Dungog
Wednesday 22nd May 2013
6.00pm
Membership fee is \$5.00 (to vote)
Any more information
Ph:02 49923999 or 042171776
Or email on t.a.z@bigpond.com.au

An Invitation to Parent/Carers

Do you provide care and support to a Child/Young Person who is aged Pre-School to School Years with a Disability, Mental Illness or Chronic Condition?

You are Invited to attend our NEW FREE Parent/Carer Information Sessions that run each Tuesday over 3 weeks.

Where: Metford Community Hall

Time: 9.30am to 2.00pm

Cost: FREE - Morning tea and light lunch provided

When: Tuesday 21 May, 28 May & 4 June 2013

RSVP: 15 May 2013

Topics include:

- Emotional Impact of being a Parent/Carer
- Building Parent /Carer Resilience
- Siblings
- Introduction to Self-Regulation (How to Develop Calmer Kids)
- Relationships Sexuality & Disability
- Using Assisted Technology
- Advocacy - a Toolbox of Speaking Out

For more information or to register contact EDu Care on: 4921 4895 or 1300 887 776 or email: Educare-Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au
(We ask that you RSVP for catering purposes)

Respite may be available by contacting Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre on 1800 052 222.

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 HUGE SUCCESS ABC JUMPING CASTLE HIRE

- ♦ KIDS PARTIES
- ♦ CHURCH GROUPS
- ♦ SPORTING GROUPS
- ♦ HOLIDAY PARKS
- ♦ FULLY INSURED
- ♦ SOCIAL CLUBS
- ♦ BUSINESS CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Booking and Enquiries 0432 266278

Situated in -

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