

The Newsletter of Vacy Public School

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Tuesday 28 May 2013

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Principal: Mr Graeme Oke



“Friendship and Learning”

Principal's Message

We have received a thank you letter from the Tocal Field Day organisers which I have included to show that the efforts of all those who gave their time and energy to support the P&C were valued and appreciated.

The letter began:

“Dear Glenn... thank you for participating in the 30th Tocal Field Days. Your team did an outstanding job in managing the Craft area and on the many occasions I went past it was always a hive of activity. I was particularly impressed with the great ‘agricultural’ ideas you all came up with using recycled goods to keep the children entertained. The exhibitors were all full of compliments and they felt well looked after with a capable and coordinator always on hand.....”

Recently I attended a briefing about ‘KidsMatter’, an Australian Primary schools Mental Health Initiative. After discussing KidsMatter with the staff, we all agreed that it is a fundamental premise that students learn best when they are in a positive frame of mind and their emotional wellbeing is being nurtured. KidsMatter was then introduced at the March P&C meeting with strong support for Vacy Public School to get involved and for the wider school community, including parents and carers, to work together to best support the children. The P&C then selected a parent member to be a part of the KidsMatter Action Team.

So it is that today, our Action Team of Mrs Fonti, Kristy Grainger and I attended a training day for Action Teams. Mrs Fonti will attend a second training day for in-school facilitators tomorrow and will be supported by Mrs Greaves (currently on Long Service Leave). We look forward to some inspiring developments as this initiative unfolds.

Just a reminder that Stage 3 students (Years 5 and 6) and their parents are invited to attend the Cybersafety talk on Tuesday 4 June from 5:00 to 6:00pm in the 5/6 classroom. Senior Constable Michael Steele will give general information and discuss safety concerns and will finish with a ‘parents only’ wrap-up of 15 minutes or so. Following the talk, there will be a free sausage sizzle available. The parent/child arrangement has been chosen as it is crucial that Cybersafety is openly discussed and matters are shared.

Well done to our Scripture and Religious education teachers for a truly special combined Scripture service to support the Cancer Council. Thank you to the many families who provided a plate for our Biggest Morning Tea and the many parents who were able to attend.

To date, there have been three families who have taken up the opportunity from Football Federation Australia to show their support for the Socceroos in their upcoming 2014 FIFA World Cup Qualifier match against Iraq at Stadium Australia in Sydney on Tuesday 18 June 2013. If you are interested, notes must be returned to school by Wednesday 5 June.

Regards, Graeme

Quote of the Week

You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.”

— [Mae West](#)

ASSEMBLY AWARDS Week ending 24/05/13

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS	
K	Lucy Thompson
1	Jackson Lambert
2-3	Kasey Parker
4-5	Jorgia Watts
5-6	Samantha Cowley
CLASS AWARDS	
K	Chandell-Rose Carroll
1	Danika Smith-Bryant
2	Seth Deacon
3	Fletcher Periera
4	Jacob Bates
5	Brianna Beyer
6	Ellie Waight

Dates to Remember

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
Friday 28	Last day Term 2

July

Monday 15th	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 16th	ALL students return to school

Kindergarten

We are nearly half way through Term 2 and the Kindergarten class is working beautifully. We are doing assessments as part of our normal work throughout this term and these results, along with all class work, will provide information for school reports.

Please check that your child's jumpers and hats are clearly labelled so that they get home each afternoon.

Year 1

No news this week as Mrs Greaves is away on Long Service Leave. Miss Elysha Jordan is replacing her and following Mrs Greaves program.

Year 2/3

Thank you to everyone who donated to the biggest morning tea. There will only be spelling homework this week as students should be practising their speech for this week. All students are aware of the speeches as we have been discussing them daily during news and they should also have received a letter last week about it. In class assessments will be starting this week in preparation for reports.

Year 4/5

Thank you to those students who have already performed their magic trick. You can tell that students have been doing their research and practising. The remaining students will be performing throughout the week. Please encourage your child to practice. The public speaking competition notes have been sent home with students yesterday. If your child has chosen to participate please read this information as it addresses the length of the speech and provides some helpful hints. 4/5 students will be presenting their speech on Monday 3 June. Notes are being sent home with year 4 students today regarding their new health topic of Child Protection. The note informs parents about the content we are covering. If you have any questions regarding this please contact me at school.

Year 5/6

Congratulations to all of the students who represented the school in the NSW Netball Gala Day last Wednesday at Singleton. A fun day was had by all and even though we didn't win the day, we learnt a lot. Many thanks to our dedicated coach Mrs Tanya Waight, for giving up her time to help us learn some new skills. Thank you 5/6 for presenting your speeches yesterday to your classmates. I was very impressed with them and was pleased that many of you had taken on board some of the advice that I had given you. It is going to be a difficult job choosing two of you to represent the school in the up and coming public speaking competition.

This week I will be at a course (Tuesday, Wednesday) called "Kids Matter" and then I will be at home nursing my daughter after a tonsillectomy. Mr Inzce will be in for the

week and will be following my program.

Camp notes will go home this week regarding the final cost and arrangements.

School News

Second Hand Book Fair

On Friday 31 May 2013, we will be repeating the second hand book fair. Books for sale will be books that are no longer required for the Library. Students are welcome to purchase books at recess. Books will be sold for 10, 20 and 50cents. All money will be put back into the Library to purchase new books.

Hunter Dance Festival

Once again our senior dance group have been successful in their audition to perform at the Hunter Schools Dance Festival. The Festival is an opportunity for Hunter Schools to demonstrate their abilities and creativity in the art of dance. The Festival runs over four nights, however, the students will only perform on one of these nights. They are performing on 25 July. It is to be held at Newcastle Panthers and the performance starts at 6:30pm. More information regarding rehearsals, ticket sales and costumes and make-up will be handed out closer to the date.

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

There is still plenty of time left in the Challenge so keep on reading. It is great to see several reading records have been created by Primary students. Well done to Amy Magri who is already half way through the Challenge. Please remember there are a variety of books on the booklist and they are not all novels. There are even quite a few picture books that can be read by Upper Primary Students. You can access the lists through your portal or see Mrs Greaves. Our Infants will complete the challenge with their class teachers. If you have any trouble creating your list, either refer to previous newsletters that have the instructions listed or see Mrs Greaves. Happy reading everyone.

Soft Drink Bottles

We have used all of the soft drink bottles that have been collected so far and are in need of many more.

Please collect any plastic soft drink bottles of 1.25L and larger for us to use as we build our recycled plant propagation hothouse. It really helps if the bottles are rinsed and the labels are removed.

Canteen Roster



Thursday 30 May	Belinda Geddes Fiona Baker Tim Carter
Monday 3 June	Carrie Butler Kelly Richardson Karen Wells



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

Baby Sitter Available

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

Holiday Sport

Sport and Recreation activities will be held across the Hunter in July and details of the above clinics will be available on the below website shortly:

<http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/active/whatson.asp?region=hunter>

Maitland Hockey clinic - July 2-3

Aimed at 8-14 year olds the two-day clinic will be delivered by accredited coaches and is focused on enhancing participant skills by taking part in an array of drills, activities and game-based scenarios

Holiday Cricket roadshow - July 4-9

Aimed at 5-14 year olds, two clinics 'Cricket Fun' and 'Cricket Skills' will be delivered at each venue by accredited coaches each focusing on enhancing participant skills based on their experience in the sport.

'Cricket Fun' For 5 to 8 year-old current or new players and will run for 90 minutes using plastic equipment.

'Cricket Skills' A development level clinic for current players between the ages of 9 and 14. Participants can bring their own equipment and will use hard balls during the clinic and drills. It will run for two and a half hours.

Dates:

Thursday July 4 Singleton

Friday July 5 Scone

Monday July 8 Maitland

Tuesday July 9 Warners Bay

Multi-skills clinics - July 12

These clinics will deliver a fun and engaging workshop for participants focusing on developing fundamental movement skills. Included will be an array of activities which develop transferable skills in different sports.

Dungog 9am

Gloucester 1pm

Should you have any questions about the clinics please feel free to contact our office on 4926 1633.

Found

On Monday 27 May, 2013 a Grey/Black, Blue Heeler cattle dog cross was found on the corner of Lennoxton Road and Gresford Road Vacy. If this dog belongs to you please phone the office on 4938 8153.