

The Newsletter of Vacy Public School

786 Gresford Road, Vacy 2421

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

Tuesday 4 June 2013

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Principal: Mr Graeme Oke



"Friendship and Learning"

Principal's Message

Welcome to former student, Tahlor Darnley who is completing her "work experience" week with the Kinder and Year 1 students and staff.

We are working to ensure that our website is kept up-to-date and informative and we have recently added a Canteen page on the "Our School" tab. Here you will be able to find the latest menu and pricelist, together with the current term's roster and the latest canteen news.

Elsewhere you will find upcoming events listed on the calendar.

Just a reminder that Stage 3 students (Years 5 and 6) and their parents are invited to attend the **Cybersafety talk tonight Tuesday 4 June from 5:00 to 6:00pm in the 5/6 classroom**. Senior Constable Michael Steek 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. Parents of students in other years are welcome to attend however, the student invitation is specifically for Years 5 and 6.

At the May P&C Association meeting, it was decided to make changes to our uniform supplier and the colour arrangement on the polo shirt. One of the major difficulties being experienced was in the turnaround time for uniform orders that have, in some cases, been up to 8 weeks before delivery. With families presenting for enrolment with little notice, this has left us out of stock of popular sizes and the new supplier has a much quicker 10 day turnaround for orders.

The dark blue front was seen as being less prone to marking and staining and retains our distinctive dark blue, light blue uniform colour. The new supplier isn't able to integrate the school name on the collar without a significant increase in the cost. The great news is that the price for the polo shirts has reduced from \$29.00 to the new price of just \$23.00 and the fleecy lined baseball jackets have come down from \$35.00 to \$30.00.

This will mean that any new orders for polo shirts will be placed with the new supplier at the new prices. Naturally there will need to be a transition phase that exists between the current and the new styles and we would envisage that all students would be in the new style by the commencement of 2015 – that gives 18 months for the change of style to fully come into effect.

When the P&C were discussing the uniform I raised my concerns about student footwear. Whilst we present with a very tidy uniform appearance, the influx of different coloured footwear and inappropriate styles needs to change.

The preferred option for school footwear is black lace up jogger style, readily available at reasonable prices at a range of outlets. This style is preferred as it is a robust shoe that is safe and meets the demands of the playground. I would ask that all parents support the school and purchase footwear for school that keeps our strong uniform appearance looking great. It would be wonderful to start Term 3 with everyone in the correct footwear.

Last week, we launched a weekly raffle draw for positive behaviour in the playground. Duty teachers present raffle tickets to students who are displaying strong community values of friendship, courtesy and helpfulness and the tickets go into a draw at our weekly assembly. The lucky winner receives a \$2.50 canteen voucher and our first winner was Jack Smith. Congratulations, Jack.

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 on Tuesday 18 June 2013. If you are interested, notes must be returned to school by Wednesday 5 June.

Regards,
Graeme

Dates to Remember

June

Tuesday 4	Cybersafety Talk Years 5 & 6 ~ 5.00pm
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

In Kindergarten we are continuing with our unit on child protection. The children have been introduced to "NO, GO, TELL" as a way to look after themselves in a situation where they are being hurt by someone else. Please discuss this with your child and feel free to contact me if you have any concerns.

We are coming to the end of our Jolly Phonics 42 sounds and will be revisiting all these sounds regularly in class, mastering these sounds is important for developing reading and writing skills. For the remainder of this term, homework will be activities to reinforce the knowledge of double sounds that the children have been learning lately.

Year 1

In HSIE we have been learning the difference between wants and needs. We have also been doing some lovely writing in our handwriting books.

Year 2/3

Thank you to all the students who are returning their home readers each week. It is very important for every student to return their home readers every week as it forms the basis of their literacy program. 2/3 are also busy reading books to complete the Premiers Reading Challenge. I would encourage all students to keep reading at home.

Year 4/5

Congratulations to the students who chose to participate in the public speaking competition. Students presented some terrific speeches making it very hard to select just two to send through to the next round.

I would like to invite parents to attend the cyber safety seminar at school tonight. It commences at 5pm. 5/6 students are invited as well as parents of students throughout the school. This is a great opportunity to stay up to date with the latest safety issues online.

Year 5/6

Arrangements are being made for speaking about very important issues facing our next PSSA Knockout Soccer match against Seaham P.S. Details will be available for you and the boys later on this week. Tonight is the Cybersafety talk that all parents and carers of Year 5 and 6 students are invited to. It is important that you and your child attend this evening as Snr Constable Michael Steele will be speaking about issues that will help them protect themselves from harm in relation to the ever changing technological world we now live in. The session will begin at 5pm in the 5/6 classroom and commence at 6pm. A sausage sizzle will follow. Parents will be able to ask questions and seek advice during the "parents only" part of the evening.

School News

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Thank you to all those families that have been bringing in their Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers, this is a great way for our school to gain valuable resources at no cost. This promotion ends on Sunday 9th June and we need to submit the stickers to Woolworths by the end of this term. If you have been collecting these stickers for our school, please bring them in over the next few weeks so that we can get them in on time.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS Week Ending 31/05/13

	STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS
K	Charlie Watson
1	Cooper Rocco
2-3	Mackenzie Peirce
4-5	Hayden Reid
5-6	Anastasia Lutschini
	CLASS AWARDS
K	Jack Tyler
1	Charlotte Rienecker
2	Ethan Lechner
3	Jayden Street
4	Daniel Jessop
5	Tess Bennett
6	Matthew Shilcock

Quote of the Week

"Accept responsibility for your life. Know that it is you who will get you where you want to go, no one else." –

[Les Brown](#)



CATCHMENT CRAWL

On the Wednesday 29th of May Tom, Libby, Rose, Caitlyn and Mr Oke went to Raymond Terrace for the Catchment Crawl. Catchment Crawls are a fun and educational way for school groups to take a closer look at their local environment, in particular how urbanisation, land use and the way we live can impact on our local catchments. When we got to Raymond Terrace there were 4 other school. We were given a t-shirt and named the brush tail phascogale group. We then jumped on a bus and made our way to Chichester Dam. It was quite cold at the dam

Once there we did two activities, one on water quality and the other on waterbugs. We tested the air and water temperature, the EC (salt), Ph levels and how



clear the water was. The second activity was bugs we got a net and scooped up bugs from the river. Libby and I found shrimp, backstroke swimmers and lots more.



After the activities we had recess then hopped back on the bus and went to Dungog. After that we had a talk from Ranger Gary from the National

Parks. He talked about the Aboriginal culture and the Wonnarua people.

Then we had some lunch and hopped on the bus and travelled back to Raymond Terrace where we were met by Katie, the Zoomobile and all the animals with Tom being really scared of the snakes. We saw a blue-tongue lizard, green tree frog, turtle, tortoise, frilled-neck lizard and more.

We also did a poster for Catchment Crawl. It was a tiring day yet we still had a lot of fun.

Thank you to Hunter Water and the Hunter Catchment Management Authority and the crew of Amanda, Jane and Ingrid.



Text by Caitlyn, Tom, Libby and Rose; layout by Rose and Libby





Community News

July 2013 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS COACHING CLINIC

Pro-Shop: 49345016 Mobile: 0421882055

Post: PO Box 2411 Greenhills, 2323.

Web Site: www.maitlandtenniscentre.com.au

***When: 1st, 2nd, 3rd July
2013***

(Mon, Tues, Wed)

Where: Maitland Tennis Centre

Cnr 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

Name (1).....

D.O.B.....

Name (2).....

D.O.B.....

Name (3).....

D.O.B.....

Address.....

Phone (Home).....

(Mobile).....

Email.....

BOOK NOW: PH 49345016, 0421882055

or

Email:

in-

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

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.