

The Newsletter of Vacy Public School

786 Gresford Road, Vacy 2421

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

Tuesday 11 March 2014

Ph: 0249388153

Principal: Mr Graeme Oke



"Friendship and Learning"

Co-operate



Respect



Play fairly



Be safe



Think before you do

Principals Message

It was something a bit different to turn on the Sunrise program and see our students on a foggy Friday morning last week when Sunrise filmed the weather segment from the Gresford Show.

Congratulations to our award winners at the Gresford Show. Our list of winners are Tom – Encouragement, Tallon – Second, Mackayla – Second, Tess – Second and Indica - Encouragement and CHAMPION. Well done! It sounds as if there were lots of families who were able to enjoy the show without getting wet.

Kindergarten students were visited today by David Hamilton, the Itinerant Support Teacher for Hearing. David performed some activities with the children to make them aware of how important it is to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' when they blow their noses and how we can look after our ears for better hearing.

We've made a couple of changes to our end of school day routines. You may have noticed that two benches can be found under the shady trees in the school front yard. These are to provide a comfortable place for parents to wait for their children when they pick them up. We've changed the route as well – the 'walkers' line now comes out past the bell and out the top gate. For safety reasons, the staff carpark is not to be used until 3:40 pm whilst there are students on site. Students using the crossing will be escorted by a teacher past the driveway and safely across the road.

Our SRC lunchtime games continue this week with OzTag. These games are being organised and run by the SRC. Next week's activity will be Netta and netball.

This Friday 14 March we will be holding the Vacy Public School Cross Country event in the school grounds and on the oval commencing at 9.15am and concluding by 10.15am. All students will be involved in this event. At the conclusion of the Cross Country some student will then be trialling for Maitland PSSA Zone Netball team. Hopefully the day will be fine and students will complete the course before the heat in the middle of the day. Parents are invited to attend to cheer on their children as they compete. Students will gain points for their Sporting Houses by participating in the run. Students who are 8years and over and who place in the first 4 for each age group will be invited to participate in the Maitland Zone Cross Country to be held on 3 April at Tocal Agricultural College.

The SRC would like us all to get right behind the National Day of Action Against Bullying on Friday 21 March. The day coincides with Harmony Day and its theme of Everyone Belongs.

I have included some more information from the BullyingNoWay website for your consideration and will include more information over the coming weeks.

Dungog Public School will be hosting a family evening program with the Interrelate agency on Thursday 7 August. The program includes sessions on "Where Did I Come From?" (suitable for students in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) and "Preparing for Puberty" (suitable for students in Years 5 & 6). Each session runs for 60 minutes and the cost to attend is \$25 per family for one session or \$30 per family to attend both sessions.

The textbook and resource levy is now due. Accounts were sent home last month and your prompt payment is greatly appreciated. Thank you to the many families who have made their payments. If you are having difficulty in making the payment, please contact me at school to make other arrangements.

Regards,

Graeme

Dates to Remember

March

Mon 31 - Young Leaders Conference - Year 6 only

April

Thu 3 - Maitland Zone Cross Country

Fri 11 - Last day Term 1

Mon 28 - Staff Development Day

Canteen News

Thank you to all the families who have volunteered to work in the Canteen this term.

Canteen Roster Term 1 2014

Thursday 13 March - Natalie Parker, Amanda Saxby &

Karen Sanders

Monday 17 March - Carrie Butler & Liz Burgman

3/ 4 & 5/6 Project

This week students in years 3/4 and 5/6 have received their next project. Both projects are science projects and are due on Monday 7th April (week 11). Please ensure your child has shown you their project and brainstormed with you how they can invent an object to meet the criteria. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at school.

Kind regards, Jamie Corrigan

Creative Opportunity Workshops

COWs groups are off to a great start for 2014. The photography group has taken some photos to show you the variety of activities that the children are involved in. Some of these include: Junior and Senior Dance, paper mache', gardening, sewing, art, shadow puppets and of course photography. From all accounts the children are really enjoying their Wednesday afternoon groups. One Kinder Child after participating in COWs was heard saying, "This is the best place in the whole world!"

Kinder News

As we head into the second half of Term 1, the students have begun to use the sounds that they know to read and write words. We are now increasing our new sounds to three a week and continuing to revise previously learnt sounds. New sounds will be taught Monday, Tuesday and Thursday until week 10. During week 11, we will focus on revision across all Key Learning Areas. Home readers will be coming home over the following weeks, please take the time to read through the yellow booklet, there are some great tips on how to support your child's reading. It is important that your child is seeing and hearing all the new information being taught at school. Even if your child does not appear to be having any difficulties, if you have not had your child's eyesight and hearing checked in the last 12 months, now is the time to look into it. As always, please contact us if you have any queries.

Sue Graham and Alicia Fay

ASSEMBLY AWARDS ~ Week Ending 7 March, 2014



STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Kinder -	Madeline Priestley
1-2-3G -	Tia Magri
1-2-3R -	Mikayla Preston
4-5-6F -	Brianna Beyer
4-5-6C -	Bronte Parish

CLASS AWARDS

K -	Henry Corke
1 -	Riley Watts
2 -	Charlotte Rienecker
3 -	Jack Magri
4 -	Kacia Rowles
5 -	Brendan Lambert
6 -	Jasper Lloyd



The types of bullying

What are the different types of bullying?

The types of bullying behaviours are physical, verbal or social. Bullying can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying can take place in person or online. Bullying – verbal or social – that happens online or via a mobile phone is referred to as cyberbullying. Research indicates that the majority of young people who bully online also bully others in person.

What is covert bullying?

Covert bullying includes social exclusion and intimidation. The term ‘covert’ highlights the fact that not all bullying is physical or obvious in nature. Covert bullying can have the same harmful impacts as more obvious bullying, as it can be more isolating, can go on for longer before other people become aware of it, and can be more easily denied by the other person.

Covert bullying is a subtle type of non-physical bullying which usually isn’t easily seen by others and is conducted out of sight of, and often unacknowledged by adults. Covert bullying behaviours mostly inflict harm by damaging another’s social reputation, peer relationships and self-esteem. Covert bullying can be carried out in a range of ways (e.g. spreading rumours, conducting a malicious social exclusion campaign and/or through the use of internet or mobile phone technologies).

What is cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is bullying that is carried out through information and communication technology, including the internet (e.g. on social media sites) and mobile devices. Technology can expand the opportunities for people to bully others.

Communication technologies allow for different ways to bully others, but do not change the fact that the bullying behaviour (and not the technology itself) is the main issue. Technology does create new challenges for dealing with bullying.

How does cybersafety relate to cyberbullying?

Cybersafety refers to a broad range of safe, respectful and responsible behaviours as well as ways to guard security and privacy online. Cybersafety is one way to reduce the risk of cyberbullying, identity theft or predatory behaviour by others online.

Cyberbullying is one of the online risks that knowing about cybersafety can prevent. Students need to be taught safe and appropriate online behaviour, which includes recognising when someone’s online behaviour is bullying, how to avoid engaging in or supporting cyberbullying, and being aware of the sort of support that bystanders can provide online.

How is cyberbullying different from trolling?

Trolling is intensive verbal abuse of an individual online done anonymously and by strangers. The difference between trolling and cyberbullying is that cyberbullying occurs within the context of an existing social relationship.

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 FREE Parent/Carer Information Sessions

Where: Club Macquarie, 458 Lake Road, Argenton

Time: 9.30am — 2.00pm

Cost: FREE — Morning Tea & Light Lunch Provided

RSVP: Thursday 24th April – For Catering Purposes Ph: 4921 4895 or 1300 887 776 or [Educare-Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au)

When: **Wednesday 30th April 2014**

The Impact of being a Parent/Carer – HNE – Carer Education & Support Program – Hunter

Building Parent Resilience – Jackie Currey, First Chance

When: **Wednesday 7th May 2014**

Siblings – HNE – Carer Education & Support Program - Hunter

National Disability Insurance Agency – Suzanne Punshon

Using Assisted Technology – Ben Coombe, Samaritans

When: **Wednesday 14th May 2014**

The Importance of Support Groups – Bronwyn Thoroughgood - Families Supporting Families

Child Behaviour that Challenges Us – Craig Moore, Clinical Psychologist

Discrimination – Your Rights and Responsibilities – Claire Williams – Anti- Discrimination Board of NSW

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

Sunrise visit at Gresford Show

