



# Newsletter

## Dates for your Diary

### August

Tues 28— Wed 29	Year 3/4 Camp to Morisset
Fri 31	Fathers Day Stall

### September

Wednesday 5	Maitland Art Gallery and Library Excursion for Yrs K- 2
Friday 7	Grandparents & Friends Day Book Fair
Tuesday 11	Meerkat Production at school

### October

Thursday 25	Invictus Games -Selected Students only
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### November

Monday 12	Surf School—Stockton Beach
Mon 19—Fri 30	Swim School—Maitland Pool
Friday 23	Year Six Graduation Dinner

### December

Friday 7	Vacy School Extravaganza Dungog High School
Tuesday 11	School Swimming Carnival Kurri Kurri Swimming Pool
Friday 14	Presentation Day 9:30am

## Canteen Helpers — August

Mon 20	Heidi & Alex
Thurs 23	Joe & Alyssa

## P & C Dates for your diary

28 August	P&C Meeting, 7pm
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## A message from the Principal

This week, we welcome back Mrs Pereira to the school after a sensational, jam packed, family holiday. In her absence, Mrs Crouch relieved in the position of School Administrative Manager with Mrs Lyn Jones. Both of these ladies did a wonderful job in her absence and we thank them for their diligence. For the rest of the 2018 year and most probably into next year, both Mrs Pereira and Mrs Jones will be sharing the SAM role at Vacy School and Mrs Crouch will be going back to her role as an SLSO (Aide) Monday-Wednesday and then relieving in the office as a SAO on a Thursday and Friday. Our support staff all do a fantastic job keeping our school running smoothly and I thank them all for their flexibility and diligence.

Congratulations to our Robocup teams who have all done extremely well competing against both primary and high schools from various areas around NSW. On Monday, they will be travelling to Sydney to compete at the University of NSW. We wish you all the very best of luck and hope that you enjoy and learn from the experience.

This week, our Stage Three students have been enjoying themselves in Canberra. Please keep a look out for a comprehensive report and photos next week about their adventures.

It is imperative that all our parents keep up to date with what is happening in our school. We provide many different options of communication ranging from a weekly newsletter, the Skoolbag App and our school website to name a few. We ask that you please make sure that you are watching out for regular updates and checking your child's schoolbag for notes each day as important information seems to not be reaching many of you about what is happening at Vacy School. A survey will be going out shortly to all parents to see what means of communication suits them best. This will determine whether we are covering the bases we need so that all families within our community are well informed.

Kind regards

Karen Fonti

Relieving Principal

## 1/2 G News

We have had a great start to a very busy term. 1/2 G was very excited to welcome Miss Wallington into our class to complete her final practicum. As of next term Miss Wallington will be a fully qualified teacher and this term is a chance for her to hone her skills in preparation for her new career. Therefore a lot of the teaching load will be taken by her this term. She will be required to organise and teach a variety of lessons and units of work and her organisation of these will be overseen by the class teacher, in order to ensure they meet the outcomes necessary for this stage group. Over the term there will be times when Miss Wallington is required to teach lessons without the class teacher in the room as this is part of her internship requirements. She will follow normal routines and structures during this time.

This term we completed our Information Reports on The Great Barrier Reef and made them into a great book to read during quiet reading time. We have also enjoyed making art works based around an ocean theme. Juan Gris was the inspiration for one of our art works and I have included a photo our beautiful display of these however, feel free to pop in and experience them next time you are at school. We have also written reports on sharks and found out lots of interesting facts. This term our writing and art will be based around our grandparent's day and also the plight of the farmers and drought in Australia.

Later in the term Miss Wallington is preparing a drama unit for the students to participate in as part of Creative Arts. This subject requires all students to participate in Drama, Music, Art and Dance throughout the year.

In Geography we are learning about Australia and its places. We will also learn about maps and how to find information using an atlas. We will be looking at Aboriginal maps of Australia and also the meanings of many of the Aboriginal names that our towns and cities are named after.

Maths topics this term include, Division (sharing into groups and recording as a number sentence), Time (months and calendars), Number (learning the foundations of place value), Addition and Subtraction (learning strategies such as "friends of ten"), 2D shapes and 3D objects (what their names are and their properties and tessellation), Fractions (quarters of an object) Patterns (odd and even numbers), Length, Area and Chance (outcomes of familiar events). We also continue to enjoy our TENS activities in which we learn how to use and apply strategies for mental computations.

Science sees us exploring different types of materials and their properties. We will be taking part in some experiments that will help us discover why we choose materials for a particular purpose. We all enjoyed describing what was in the feely bag to our friends.

Mrs Fonti will continue to teach PD, Health. Last semester was all about building our resilience and helping us with our strategies to deal with bullies. This term's topic will be Drugs and for this stage the work involves learning about medicines and keeping ourselves safe around them. Mrs Fonti will also take our class for library. Don't forget this is on Wednesday.

Friday is a busy day. This term Mrs Smith will have 1/2 G of a Friday afternoon and she will be teaching us Fundamental Movement Skills. Mr Prior is taking the class on Friday morning for a movie making session. The whole class and Mrs Greaves have learnt lots already and look forward to this session each week. Mr Ringis will be choir master on Fridays for our Infants' singing group. Lastly the majority of the class joins Mrs Babic for Junior Dance Group after recess and she teaches us a move or two. (You can see why we all love Friday so much!)

1/2 continue to be explicitly taught the values of Vacy school (Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Safe) and what these look like in different settings in our school. We are thinking about what our reward day will be for those students that follow the rules and make good decisions regarding their behaviour. Stay tuned for the decision.

Goal reviewing and setting will take place over the next few weeks in preparation for our three way conferences.

Lastly, we are looking forward to our annual K-2 excursion which will take place soon and information regarding this will be sent home shortly.

We are all looking forward to another great term.





# Children Helping Children

We've all heard a lot about the drought that is now impacting on all of New South Wales.

Campbell Evans, one of our Year 3 students is familiar with how the weather affects people who live on the land. "What about the kids?" he asked "When Mum and Dad are doing it tough, the kids are doing it tough. What can we do to help the kids?"

So began the idea of partnering with a small school in a severely drought affected area. We are asking all students from our school to spend \$5 to \$10 to buy a small gift for a child of a similar age. Something simple, fun and useful like textas, bouncy balls, slime or even a magazine. What about adding an edible treat like popcorn, a muesli bar or a small bag of chips? Chances are that if you like it, then another child will as well. We are asking all students to bring in their gifts which we will then help them to package in something as simple as a brown paper bag. In class, we will all write a brief note to another child to let them know that we are thinking of them and hope that our gift will help brighten their day. These gifts will then be sent directly to another school to be distributed to the students.

Please help your child to choose some appropriate gifts and bring them into school during Week 5 so that we can add the finishing touches before sending them on.

We have already shown that we are a generous community by raising over \$150 in donations from staff, children and families at our Education Week Assembly last Friday. Donations are still being accepted at the school office and will be forwarded directly to the "Buy a Bale" fundraising group.

Thank you everyone.



## Stage 2 Morisset Camp

Medical and consent forms were due back yesterday, 16th August.

If your payments or forms are not returned by the due date, your child is at risk of missing out on the excursion. Because staff at our school want all children to be able to share in the opportunities that are offered through excursions such as this, we spend time reminding parents when payments or forms are not returned on time.

Time spent on chasing up late paperwork takes time away from our core business of educating children. If you are in any doubt as to whether you have paid or whether you have returned forms, please contact the office immediately so that we can confirm your details.

## Canteen News

We are looking for volunteers for the following dates for the canteen:

\*Monday 27th August

\*Thursday 30th August

\*Monday 3rd September

\*Thursday 6th September

\*Thursday 13th September

\*Monday 24th September

\*Thursday 27th September

We know your time is valuable and we appreciate all our volunteers but if you could spare a day to help out, could you please contact Tanya Reynolds on 0429 800 608 or find us on Facebook "Vacy School Canteen".

Thank you

## PRC News

Well done K-2 who have successfully completed the Premier's Reading Challenge at school with their teachers. A special congratulations to the following students from Years 3-6 who have read and entered the required number of books to complete the challenge by themselves. Well done Jesse, Harry, Madison and Charlie. There are a number of students who are very close to finishing also. So please keep reading and if anyone has any issues entering their books please see Mrs Greaves next week.

The challenge closes for students on the 31st of August 2018.

Keep reading everyone.

Regards,  
Maree Greaves

## LOST

A student in 1/2G has lost an entire bag of coles min collectables at school this week. They were last seen in the playground at lunch on Tuesday. If anyone can assist us by finding them it would be greatly appreciated.

## The PACER Rebate

Students from our school will soon be undertaking an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government have contributed \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards the cost.