



Newsletter

A message from the Principal

It was great seeing all of the Year 3/4 students with their beaming smiles climbing onto the bus on Tuesday morning. By the reports that I have received from Ms Graham and Mr Prior, and the photos that are on our Facebook page, they all look like they had a fabulous time trying out some new and sometimes scary experiences. Thank you to the teachers who have organised and attended the camp. We all appreciate you taking the time away from your families to be with the students.

Last week we released our interview times for our 3 Way Conferencing for Term 3. Please make sure you book yourselves in sooner rather than later so you get the time that is most convenient for you.

At Tuesday's P & C meeting, we discussed many things, the most important being our playground equipment and it is with pride and gratitude that I inform you that we have reached our goal of \$30,000 for its purchase. The whole community has worked together in this venture and with the assistance of a kind and overwhelmingly generous donation of \$15,000 by a community member; we are now able to start the process of application through the Department of Education. Thank you everyone for your involvement in this process. We can now focus on our next vision for the betterment of our school.

Grandparents & Friends Day and our annual Book Fair will be held on Friday 7th September commencing at 9:30am in the COLA. It would be lovely to see many family and friends attend this event which is always a special occasion for both our students and our visitors. The classes are busy painting and creating items for the day and our local scone maker will be busy soon supplying us with a delicious morning tea to share.

Don't forget to keep your Drought Relief gift donations coming in.

On Wednesday, I was notified by the principal of Martins Creek Public School that some girls around the ages of 11/12 years, possibly from Martins Creek, Vacy or Paterson Schools, were spotted playing on the railway tracks near Martins Creek Station. A report had to be officially submitted by the train driver who was involved because he was travelling within a 50m distance of the girls videoing each other whilst playing on the line. After speaking personally to the driver concerned, he asked if I wouldn't mind reminding all of our students about the dangers of playing around railway lines and make it known to the Martins Creek community in order to make sure that their children are playing safely within the area.

Kind regards

Karen Fonti

Relieving Principal



Presentation Day 2018

Due to a mix up in communication regarding the date of the Year 7 Orientation Day at Dungog High for 2018, we will now be holding our **Vacy School 2018 Presentation Day on Thursday 13th December at 9:30am**. I apologise for any inconvenience in this matter and hope that you will still be able to organise to be there on that day to celebrate the achievements of our students.

Dates for your Diary	
September	
Wednesday 5	Maitland Art Gallery and Library Excursion for Yrs K- 2
Friday 7	Grandparents & Friends Day Book Fair
Sunday 9	Vacy Country Carnival
Tuesday 11	Meerkat Production at school *Money and Note due Monday 3 September
Tuesday 11 & Wednesday 12	Ms Graham - 2/3 3 Way Conferences
Friday 14	Science & Engineering @ Dungog High School - Yrs 5/6 *Money and note due Monday 10 September
Tuesday 18 & Tuesday 25	Mr Prior — 3/4/5 3 Way Conferences
Wednesday 19 & Wednesday 26	Mrs Grainger — Kindergarten 3 Way Conferences
Thursday 20 & Thursday 27	Mrs Babic — 5/6 3 Way Conferences
Wednesday 26 & Thursday 27	Mrs Greaves — 1/2 3 Way Conferences
October	
Thursday 25	Invictus Games –selected students only
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
Thursday 13	Presentation Day 9:30am * Please note change of day

We were very excited to take delivery of our new sporting equipment that we purchased using the 19000 vouchers we collected this year during the Coles Sport in School promotion. Thank you to all who supported us in this endeavour. Included in the newsletter are photos of the new equipment we were able to purchase. We look forward to using it during our fitness activities.

Canteen Helpers — September	
Mon 3	Tanya & Rochelle
Thurs 6	No Canteen
P & C Dates for your diary	
Tuesday 25 September	P&C Meeting, 7pm
Saturday 20 October	Cutting Day

1/2 News

We are all looking forward to our excursion next Wednesday. We will be visiting the Library and also the Art Gallery. In class we have been studying artists and their work and learning that art will evoke different feelings in different people. We are also working on creating our own pieces of art and last week I shared photos of our Gris style pieces. This week we have looked at some famous portraits including Mona Lisa, Self-Portrait With Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird by Frida Kahlo and Girl with a Pearl Earring by Johannes Vermeer. Now we are creating portraits of our grandparents. With this in mind if the children would like to bring in a photo or photos of their grandparents we would love to have them as part of our display(I will copy and return straight away). A couple of reminders. We have Sip and Crunch every day and the children love this mini break and happily munch on fresh fruit and vegetables whilst listening to a story. Please remember to pack this for them daily. Library is now on Wednesday. I would like to see all the students in my class borrowing regularly. Please help your children to remember to bring their library bag on this day.

Coles Vouchers



2/3 Class News

Term 3 always seems to start with a bang and this year has been no exception. We can achieve so much when students are on task and following routines. We have recently added 3 new students to our class and I believe that their transition to a new school has been made easier because other students have been able to assist them with classroom and school routines.

In order to cater for the range of learners that we have in our classroom, our Literacy work has changed slightly this term. A small group of students are exploring individual topics which involves research, summarising and then presenting their findings to the class by the end of term. Other groups are focussing on extending vocabulary within a topic that they are reading about while yet another group is focussed on extending their reading skills through developing expression and fluency while reading. Learning filmmaking skills with Mr Prior has meant that students are also creating mini movies of themselves reading. They really enjoy being able to watch themselves "performing" while reading aloud. If you have been in the classroom during Literacy time, you will know that the room is buzzing with activity as students work on developing a wide range of skills.

Maths time is also a time when I rely on students to rotate through 4 or 5 activities while I work with smaller groups to optimise teaching and learning activities. While it is important that I teach students at a level that suits their individual ability, I also call on students to provide guidance and support to their peers during independent work. Peer teaching is a method by which one student instructs another student in material on which the first is an expert and the second is a novice. Research has shown that the "expert" instructor consolidates their own knowledge through instruction while the "novice" gains better understanding through the reinforcement of strategies that they have already been taught.

Exploring the life and art of famous artists has the whole class looking forward to Thursday afternoon art lessons. Pop in and have a look at our exhibition in class.

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, I will be taking leave from 13th September to visit my daughter in Munich. I have since been offered an opportunity to teach English language classes in Spain and will be extending my leave to take advantage of this wonderful experience. Mrs Heather Green has agreed to continue her time on 2/3G until my return on 31st October. Mrs Green is well known to the students and she will continue with my planned programming during this time.

Times are available for our 3 Way Conferencing so I look forward to meeting with you all again during that time. If you are unable to make it to school on the given dates, please email me with an alternative and I will endeavour to fit you in.

Ms Sue Graham



Sam offering an addition problem to his peers.



William leading a Maths group.



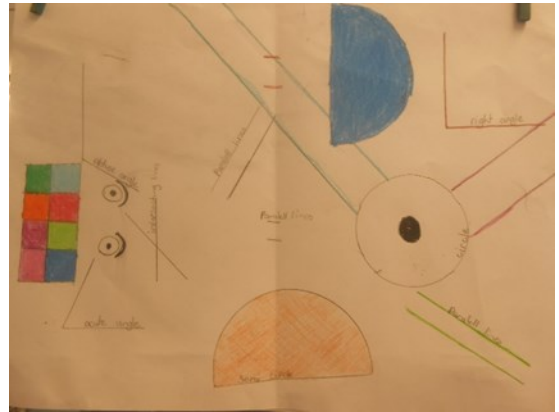
Everyone is keen to solve James' addition question.

2/3 Class News

Continued



Nate challenging his group with tricky addition problems.



Our Kandinsky inspired Maths artwork.



The best part about studying Van Gogh's artwork is learning how to pronounce his name.



Year 3 students stepped in as fitness leaders while 5/6 were in Canberra.



Great demonstration, Nate.

Premier's Reading Challenge

Today is the last day of the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2018. Students will receive their certificates at an assembly later in the year. Any gold or platinum recipients will receive their certificates at our Presentation Day. Thank you to all students who have participated this year. Don't forget to write down any books you read between now and next year as they can count towards your 2019 tally!

Kindergarten having fun at Fitness and Golf



**Come along and join us for our 2018
Grandparents & Friends Day
&
Annual Book Fair**

When: Friday 7th September, 2018

Where: Vacy Public School COLA

**Time: Our special assembly commences at
9:30am. This will be followed by morning tea and
our Book Fair in the library.**

Book Fair Payment Information

All books for sale are provided by McDonald's Book Store in Maitland. Books can only be purchased on the day of the Book Fair (7th Sept) with cash as we no longer have EFTPOS facilities available at the school.

Book donations to the school will be received with gratitude.

Receipts will be available on the day for all purchases.

*We are looking forward to seeing you all at
this special event.*