



# Newsletter

## ***A message from the Principal***

Welcome back everyone to what I'm sure will be another busy yet fulfilling year at Vacy Public School. To all of our new students and their families, we especially look forward to you becoming a part of our school community and we hope that you settle in quickly to our routines. Please remember to ask if you require any information or clarity regarding anything we do here at Vacy. Our office staff are all very accommodating and our teachers are happy to answer your questions before or after class time. I too have an open door policy and will happily see you if I am available. Please note that appointments should be made via the office for extended interviews with staff.

We also welcome a few new staff members this year, some of which will be familiar to you already.

The following shows our teaching staff for 2019:

K – Mrs Sally Rogers (Monday)

Mrs Kristy Grainger (Tuesday-Friday)

1/2 – Mrs Maree Greaves (Assistant Principal)

2/3 – Ms Sue Graham

3/4 – Mrs Belinda Smith (Monday, half day Thursday, Friday)

Mr Lachlan Prior (Tuesday, Wednesday, half day Thursday)

5/6 – Mrs Jamie Babic

RFF – Mrs Karen Fonti (Principal)

Learning & Support Teacher – Mrs Sally Rogers (Tuesday, Wednesday)

Careful consideration went into the planning of our class structures for 2019 and students have been placed into the groups they have after extensive collaboration amongst last year's teaching staff.

Like other years, 2019 will bring our students a variety of opportunities that will enable them to thrive and develop a love of learning. Shortly we will be inviting our students to join an Interest Group of their choice to participate in during lunchtimes. Activities included this term will be cooking, gardening, coding, choir, board games, sport, and yoga. Mrs Babic will also be taking two dance groups, junior and senior on a Friday afternoon. We will be competing in the Hunter Dance Festival this year as in previous years.

We will also be embarking on a new program called 'Discovery Learning'. A question will be posed to our students and through investigation, an answer will be found. This is a great opportunity for our students to become familiar with project based learning and we are looking forward to collaborating with each other through our investigation. Mrs Babic and Mr Prior are driving the program and all students from K-6, along with their teachers will be participating. Look out for more information in the future regarding this topic.

Students are not allowed to bring in mobile phones or devices to school. If for some reason your child has to have one in their possession for the day, they must provide a note from their parents with a clear explanation as to why they have the phone or device at school. If they are brought to school, students will be asked to leave them in the principal's office throughout the day and collect them at home time. If a student does not bring in a note, the phone will be kept at school until a parent can collect it personally. Phones are not needed at Vacy School. They often cause distraction and grief if they are mislaid, damaged or used inappropriately. We are more than willing to contact parents if emergencies arise or if there are any other special circumstances that need to be addressed.

Our Parent Information Evening will be taking place shortly. We were expecting to be able to open our new school playground at that even. Unfortunately we have been notified by the company we purchased the equipment off, that it now won't be ready and installed until the end of March. More information will follow shortly about the information evening and the playground equipment grand opening.

Please remember to keep an eye on the school calendar provided in the newsletter. It is essential that all families know what is going on throughout the term. This calendar is for your convenience and will be updated with each newsletter. Reminders for the payment of upcoming events and permission note requirements can also be found on it. Due to the increased workload for teachers and office staff, reminder notes will only be allocated once before an event. Our office staff will not be phoning parents to chase payment or notes this year.

Our newsletter (either hardcopy or email), the Skoolbag App, FaceBook or our school website are the different ways we can communicate with our school community. Please make sure that you check one or more of these sources so that you don't miss out on vital information about our school and what is happening.

Regards,

Karen Fonti

Relieving Principal

Dates for your Diary	
February 2019	
Monday 19	Zone Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 20	Gresford Soccer Gala Day
Friday 22	Surf School -Stockton Beach <b>Note &amp; Money due 15/2</b>
March 2019	
Friday 8	Meerkat Production
Friday 22	Cross Country Carnival
April 2019	
Tuesday 2	Zone Cross Country
Friday 12	Last Day for Term 1

Canteen Helpers	
Monday 4/2	Tanya & Alyssa
Thursday 7/2	TBC—Volunteers needed
P&C Dates for your diary	
Tuesday 12/2/19	P & C Meeting @ 7pm

