



Newsletter

A message from the Principal.....

Congratulations to all of the students who were chosen by their peers to represent their class on our SRC. Our Student Representative Council is an extremely important part of our school as it provides our students with a voice to assist us with decision making.

The following students make up our SRC for Terms 1 and 2:

Class 1/2G – Gabby L & Nate J

Class 2/3G – Nicholas O'R, Ruby W & Sonny B

Class 3/4PS – Emily G & Sam M

Class 5/6B – Nellie C & Alana W

I love seeing our students participating in the many and varied programs that we have here at Vacy School such as interest groups, fitness etc., but one of my greatest joys as Principal is the fact that I get to go into classrooms and see the quality teaching that is taking place. This is often the part of your child's day that you don't hear about and yet the most important. Our teachers here at Vacy all believe in the importance of working in partnership with each student's parents so that our student's learning journey is shared and communicated efficiently. Shortly, we will be inviting you to take part in our 3 Way Conferencing sessions that will take place in the last week of Term 1. These conferences are an excellent way for us to meet with you and your child to discuss their progress and plan their learning goals for the future. Interviews can be booked online and will take place before school and after school for your convenience. Please keep your eye out for the note regarding this.

Remember that my door is open to you if you have any concerns about what is happening at school. I am always happy to speak to you, if I am not on class, to answer your questions. Going straight to the source is far more beneficial than finding out about something through outside conversation. If we have any issues with you child or children that cause us concern we will always ring you to speak to you so it can be resolved or explained. Our teachers, whilst they will always respond to your questions, do not have the time during the day when the students are here to stop and speak to you individually. Your understanding in this matter is appreciated.

Kind regards,

Karen Fonti

Relieving Principal



Dates for your Diary		August 2019	
March 2019		Wednesday 7	Robocup
Friday 22	School Cross Country 9.30am	Friday 2	Zone Athletics Carnival Woodberry
Tuesday 26	Maitland Library 3-6 Note Due 15/3	Friday 9	Education Week Celebration Grandparents Day & 160 Year Celebration
April 2019		Friday 16	Final deposit for
Tuesday 2	Zone Cross Country—Tocal	September 2019	
Wednesday 10	Deposit & Note Due 5/6 camp \$100	Mon 2—Fri 6	5/6 Camp
Friday 12	Last Day of Term 1 10.45am Awards ANZAC & Easter Festivities + Scripture Service	Friday 6	K-2 Reptile Park—Gosford
Monday 29	Pupil Free Day	Tuesday 17 & Wednesday 18	3/4 Zoo Snooze Note & Deposit Due 7/6 \$100
Tuesday 30	School Photos Students 1st Day Term 2	Friday 27	Last Day of Term 3
May 2019		October 2019	
Fri 3—Sun 5	TOCAL Field Days	Monday 14	Student & Staff 1st Day Term 4
Mon 13	Stewart House donations due	November 2019	
Monday 14	NAPLAN Begins	Monday 18 to Friday 29	Swim School Maitland Pool Years 1-6
Friday 24	2nd Deposit for 5/6 camp due \$100	December 2019	
June 2019		Tuesday 3	Year 7 Orientation Dungog High School
Monday 10	Queens Birthday	Friday 6	Year 6 Graduation Night
Wed 12 & Thurs 13	Life Education Van visit	Tuesday 10	Swimming Carnival Kurri Kurri Pool
Friday 28	3rd Deposit for 5/6 Camp Due \$130	Friday 13	Presentation Day 9.30am
July 2019		Wednesday 18	Last Day of School for 2019
Wednesday 3	Indigenous Activity Day		
Friday 5	Last Day of Term 2		
Monday 22	Pupil Free Day		
Tuesday 23	Students 1st Day Term 3		
Week 2—Term 3 29 /7—2/8	Hunter Dance Festival Date/Day to be advised		



Please note - If your child requires after school care of a Friday afternoon you must call **0455 040 998** to book them in by 1pm Friday.

Canteen Helpers

Monday 11/3	Mel & Steve
Monday 18/3	Alyssa & Kristen
Thursday 14/3	Tanya & Vanessa
Thursday 21/3	Rachel

P&C Dates for your diary

Tuesday 12th March	Annual General Meeting 7pm
Fri 3, Sat. 4 & Sun 5 May	Tocal Field Days VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AWARD WINNERS Term 1 Week 5

	Kindy	1/2	2/3	3/4	5/6
Be Responsible	Eva	Benjamin Jack			Nellie P
Be Respectful			Bentley Levi	Jesse	
Be Safe	Jasmine			Aidan	Lars
Student of the Week	Sarah	India	Dougal	Taylor	Alex



Hunter Mobile Preschool operates preschool at the Vacy School of Arts Hall each Monday and Thursday of the school term. We currently have vacancies on both days for this year.

If you would like to enrol your child or would like to know more, please email us at lhactivityvan@bigpond.com

We are also taking details for our waiting list for 2020.



Kindergarten News

This week notes went home about home readers and parent helpers, thank you to those who have returned them and a reminder for those who haven't could you please do this as soon as possible as the students are excited about bring home, home readers.

I will send home a note to the parents that have volunteered next week confirming a start date for literacy group helpers.

Don't forget your gold coin for entry into the Gresford show on Friday.

Thanks

Mrs Grainger



1/2G

Learning new routines and following them has been the order of the day over the past six weeks in our class. Thank you for supporting your children during this transition period. Year 1 can be a steep learning curve however the new Year 1's are all coping well with the changes. The Year 2 students have settled back in like the "old hands" they are and are proving to be excellent role models.

I thought a few reminders may assist you with your child's routines.

1. Homework books come home on Monday and are to be returned on Friday. Homework is not compulsory.
2. Home Readers are changed on your child's news day. If I am absent they will be changed when I return.
3. Library is on Tuesday and the children need a bag for this.
4. Sip and Crunch occurs daily. It is an initiative that encourages children to eat fresh fruit and vegetables and to drink water. If you can please pack this daily for the children they will appreciate it as they are often hungry around this time.
5. Please send your child's communication folder in each day. Any notes I need to send home will be placed in here and likewise any communication for myself or the office needs to come in via the folder. This is part of our morning and afternoon routines. Please ensure that your child knows how they are going home each day in order to alleviate stress. Using the chart in the communication folder also allows me to assist them in remembering what they need to do.
6. If you want your child to wear a paint shirt when painting, please supply one. Despite my best efforts they do sometimes get messy without one.
7. A note calling for helpers in the class will be sent home next week. If you wish to assist during literacy groups please fill it in and return it and I will organise a roster. Groups are Monday – Wednesday 10.20-11.10.

If I can assist you with any other questions in regards to routines please do not hesitate to either pop in or call me.

So what has been happening in our class?

We just took delivery of some lap tables and have been enjoying these in a variety of lessons. We have a new reading table specially crafted for us by Mr Viner.

Gymnastics lessons started last week and the children had a great time learning the correct techniques for performing gymnastic manoeuvres.

We have already been on several excursions. Some students have been to zone swimming, a number of students nominated themselves to be part of a soccer gala day, we had a fabulous day learning about how to be safe at the beach and today we have been to the Gresford Show to look at our art works and watch our friends ride their horses.

All of these activities provide a great opportunity for writing. We have been learning how to write sentences correctly with attention to punctuation in Year 1 and Year 2 have been furthering their knowledge of paragraphs and using adjectives to make their stories interesting. Some of our efforts are included in today's newsletter.

Reading groups are off and running and the children have got into the routines and are enjoying reading instruction. Mrs Rogers is also supporting us in her LAST role on a Tuesday and Wednesday during these sessions.

We love our news session in 1/2. The Year 1 students are learning how to stand still, speak clearly and audibly and to look at their friends when speaking. Year 2 will work with Mrs Graham's students later in the term and will be preparing a more formal style of speech to build on their skills from last year.

In Maths so far this term, we have covered counting patterns and addition and subtraction. Mrs Smith teaches the students Measurement and Geometry on a Thursday morning.

Science sees us learning about what makes up our landscape along with what is in the sky and the weather.

Mrs Fonti takes the students for Personal Development and Health and this term they are learning about how to make positive choices about their health.

Art has been focused on portraits and we have been learning how to draw faces in readiness for our Gresford Show paintings where the theme is "Our Favourite Person" (I am thinking that some of you will be figuring prominently in this year's display.)

An Infants' choir has been formed this year. K-2 along with their class teachers and Mrs Fonti enjoy an afternoon of singing on Tuesdays.

Lunch time activities are popular and the children have all taken the opportunity to join an interest group. They have been able to choose from cooking, gardening, board games, yoga and sport this term.

Some students have joined our dance group and a small group are continuing recorder with Mrs Beasley on a Friday afternoon.

All of our afternoon sessions are in stage groupings and it gives the Year 2 students a chance to learn and mix with their peer group.

But.....the thing we are loving the most at the moment is our discovery learning. On Friday mornings the Stage 1 students, their class teachers and Mrs Babic join together to participate in this new style of learning introduced at Vacy this year. During this time some of the skills the students will develop are: team work, researching skills, computer skills, film making and learning how to guide their own learning. We have thoroughly enjoyed the start to our unit that is focused on libraries. I have included a few photos of us hard at work during these sessions. I hope you enjoy them and have learnt a little more about what your child is doing each day at school.

Mrs Maree Greaves





On Friday I went to the beach. I had some free play and I played in the water. I went in the waves. I was scared at the beach but I faced my fears. I had fun.
Nicholas



To learn how to be safe at the beach, Vacy School went to Stockton for a Surf Safety Day last Friday. We got a bus to the beach and it was a long trip. At the beach we put on our rash shirts and went on boards. We had fun.
Emerson



Vacy School went to Surf Safety Day and we had a magnificent day. We went to Stockton Beach on Friday because we were learning how to stay inside the flags and be safe.

We went on a big, bumpy bus.

We got off the bus. We put on bright, blue rash shirts and then we were ready to do some activities.

We dived in the magnificent waves and had some fun relays and we went on red and yellow boards.

After all that I was exhausted.

Layla

Splash! I dived into the sparkly water, played in the ice cold, giant waves. I fell off the cold body board into the freezing water in the rain. The waves thundered like horses.
Abigail



Spectacular! I think Surf School is the best day in the year.
It all started on the bus.
Then, boom, first activity was races and I sped through the waves.
Last activity was body surfing. It was magnificent.
George

Go Jack go.....

Congratulations to Jack Butler who competed on the weekend for the Cooks Hill Nippers Team in the Cameron Relay; a team event that is spread over four categories: Ocean Swim, Sprint, Paddle Board and Sprint. Jack, running the sprint category, had to wade into the water and do a 70 metre run, won the State Championship title for the Under 11's and helped to earn his team best club in the state.

Next month, Jack will be competing in the Australian National Futsal titles in Borneo, Malaysia. We wish him well and can't wait to hear about his achievements. Good luck, Jack!



Coastal Valleys Girl Guides

Girl Guides have lots of FUN! We camp, cook, craft, play games, earn badges and learn skills for life.

Girl Guides meet in a suburb near you!

For more information: please contact
Sandra Herbert on 0418 160 402 or
herbshaven@bigpond.com
or go to www.girlguides-nswact.org.au



GIRL GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
NSW & ACT

A Weekend of Art and Gourmet Food at Morpeth

Save the date: **Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th March 10am - 5pm** "The Festival of Two Palettes 2019"



"Fishing Stories" by Natalie Jane Parker

Morpeth Gallery will hold its annual "Festival of Two Palettes" exhibition where you can meet and chat to over 12 artists, admire their creativity, purchase their artwork and watch most of them paint at their easels, all in a relaxed environment.

Tantalise your taste buds at Morpeth Gourmet Foods with tastings of gourmet foods, fudge, cordial and honey. Entry is free. Phone: 0249 331407 Morpeth Gallery/Gourmet Foods 5 Green Street, Morpeth NSW 2321