From The Principal

Thank you to those families who were able to assist or attend the 2014 Vacy Charity Cutting Day - an event which contributes a significant amount towards the P&C and ultimately to the students of Vacy Public School. I do want to make special mention of the contributions that Fiona and Kris Hack made through their organisation, liaising with the Cutting Day committee and seeking out sponsors. Thank you also to those who were able to assist by volunteering time to set-up at the venue, on the barbecue, in the food van or selling drinks. You know who you are and we do appreciate your efforts.

We are very excited to be able to announce that we have developed a free App that will sent alerts via both platforms – Apple and Google.

To download the App, simply visit your Apple App Store or Google Play Store and search for ‘Vacy Skoolbag’.

This term, our Learn to Swim program will be conducted at Maitland pool in weeks 5 and 6. We have 50 places available and to date we have filled 41 of those places. Please ensure that full payment is made prior to the commencement of the swimming program.

If you require financial assistance, please contact the office.

The next meeting of the P&C will be held in the staffroom on Tuesday 28 October commencing at 7:00pm. Some of the agenda items include Cutting Day evaluation, Year 6 Farewell organisation, developing a vision statement and goals for the school’s next 3-year plan and establishing a ‘coffee and chat club’ for parents. There will be plenty to discuss and I look forward to seeing you there.

The first of our Kindergarten 2015 will be held this Thursday 16 October from 9:30 – 10:30 am. We look forward to seeing our Kinders who will be doing some activities whilst their parents attend an Information Session in the Library.

Regards,
Graeme
**Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Kindy Orientation - 9.30am to 10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AASC P - Gymnastics begins 3.15pm to 4.15pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>K-4 excursion - Pete the Sheep</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AASC P - Tennis - 3.15pm to 4.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 22</td>
<td>Kindy Orientation - 9.10am to 11.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 28</td>
<td>Kindy Orientation - 9.10am to 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P &amp; C meeting 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 30</td>
<td>Maitland League Tag Gala Day Year 5 &amp; 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31</td>
<td>Disco - 5.30 - 6.30pm K-2 6.30 - 8.00pm Yrs3-6</td>
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</tbody>
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**November**

| Monday 3 | Learn to Swim School begins |
| Monday 14 | Learn to Swim School ends |
| Fri 28 | Year 6 Farewell Dinner - Venue to be decided |

**December**

| Wed 10 | Presentation Evening @ Tocal College |

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**Canteen News**

Due to suppliers price rises we have had to put the prices of menu items up. So just be aware when looking at menu that prices have changed. I will put in newsletter when sold out. Annabelle Pereira’s nachos are still available until sold out. I am still looking for some fresh ideas for menu. Drop into the front office with name on it so we can put in newsletter.

Don’t forget there are still Pizza Rounders available at $2.00 each. The Nachos are $3.50 each. Potato Bake at $2.50. The new McCain pizzas are a single size only, there are not 2 sizes. Also available for a limited time is 350ml Berri Juice in apple and orange flavours at $2.00 each. Please look at menu carefully as many of the prices have changed.

We are looking for someone to fill the position of canteen orderer for the start of next year. Please contact Mel Lutschini on 0455281525.

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**1/2G & 2/3R News**

The children in both 1/2G & 2/3 R have library each Friday, they need a library bag in order to borrow a book to take home. At present we have less than half the class borrowing. If you could encourage your child to borrow a book to share with you at home that would be great - Don’t forget to write it on the reader diary.

Next week, Monday 20 October, the children will bring home a short talk to prepare for homework. They will deliver these talks for news starting week 5, 3 November. If you have any concerns about this task contact Mrs Greaves or Mrs Rogers.

As the weather warms up the children often like to have a drink of water throughout the day. The children are welcome to have a water bottle on their desk so that they can access it whenever they wish. If you could encourage them to bring a bottle of water to school each day it would be appreciated.

For the parents in 1/2G I just wanted to let you know that I will be absent from school on a few occasions over the next few weeks. My husband is having eye surgery and I need to be with him at this time. My program will be followed along with all our normal routines whilst I’m away.

Regards,

Mrs Greaves & Mrs Rogers

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**International Competitions and Assessments for Schools**

Congratulations to those students who chose to sit the ICAS tests. These tests are particularly difficult and are a valuable indicator of the high standard achieved by our students.

A special mention to the following students:

Amy Magri who earned a Credit award for Writing and Maths.
Saskia Bickerdike who earned a Credit award for Writing and English.
Kacia Rowles who earned a Credit award for Maths.
Mackayla Smith who earned a Merit award for Maths.
Vacy Blues and Roots Festival
The organising committee have assured us that they will have security personnel patrolling Vacy village this coming weekend and we have agreed that the grounds of Vacy Public School are off-limits.

Active After-Schools Program
Parents are reminded that students who have enrolled in tennis on Tuesdays and gymnastics on Friday are expected to commit to the program for its seven week duration. Once enrolled, students are determined to be attending unless the office has been notified of changed arrangements. We do have a number of children on waiting lists for both activities and ask that if your child does not want to continue in the program please notify the office so that students on the waiting list can participate.

No Hat, No Play
The school has a ‘No Hat, No Play’ policy, in line with the Cancer Council’s SunSmart policy, that students who do not have a hat to wear during play periods are to stay under the shade of the COLA. Now is a good time to check that your child has their hat, labelled with their name, either at school or packed in their bag each day.

FACE Art Exhibition
Six children’s self portraits were sent to be considered for inclusion in the Art Exhibition to be held at C Studios Newcastle beginning 20 October, 2014.
Congratulation to the following students who were chosen to represent our school.
Rory Ashcroft - Kindergarten  Scout Woller - Year 1  Charlotte Parker - Year 2  River Rowles - Year 2
Indica Chapman - Year 6  Archer Woller - Year 6
We have included the picture in the newsletter so you can see what a talented group of students we have here at Vacy Public School! The organisers will choose which portraits they will display from our schools entries. Further information will be sent home as the exhibition gets closer.
The Athlete’s Foot are running a fundraising program to help our school raise money. This program will run all year round and the dollars raised goes straight to the school. The program is easy and requires families and staff shopping at any of our three stores, Glendale, Charlestown or Greenhills for their children’s school shoes, their work shoes and/or the families sport shoes. The Athlete’s Foot will donate $5 for every pair back to the school. All you have to do is mention Vacy School when you shop at any of the stores mentioned above.

ParentingIdeas Schools

This week, we have added an excellent article on confidence-building, to our website.

As Michael Grose suggests: ‘The secret to raising confident kids. Independence is the key that unlocks the door to confidence in kids. In this important piece I challenge parents to do more for their kids, by doing less.

Great for parents of upper primary and secondary school parents.’

Dungog Shire Child & Family Network

are holding a FREE Info & Fun Afternoon

21st of October 2014

at Dungog Public School from 2:30pm to 4:30pm

Information on services & programs available
FREE Face painting Jumping Castle Craft & BBQ
Bring your Teddy for a free check up
10 Outreach services & programs coming

Sydney Bus Trip to Birkenhead Point Outlet Shopping & Lunch

@ Napoli In Bocca Restaurant Haberfield (food only) 23rd November 2014

$85-00 per person Full payment required on booking
20 seats available Depart: Paterson Friendly Grocer 7:30am Return: 6pm
Contact Rachel Homan Rachel@panoptic.com.au or 49385091 to book your seat