Principal’s Message,

It is always really pleasing to hear how happy the supervising teachers are following an excursion. It is absolutely brilliant when the teachers say it, not just after a day trip, but after a week-long major excursion which is what Mrs Fonti and Miss Corrigan had to say about ‘camp’ this year.

As a staff, we would like to join parents in being extremely proud of our senior students at Vacy Public School. Their manners, participation and cooperation received many positive comments which makes us all proud.

Well done also to our Year 4 students who willingly and capably stepped in to fill in by leading Fitness groups and taking on other responsibilities including raising and lowering the flags, putting out the pedestrian flags and to Jorgia and Alisha who conducted our assembly last week.

Welcome to Ms Julie Hartigan who has started her four week teaching practicum on Kindergarten with Mrs Graham. We are sure that you will gain some invaluable experiences through your professional learning experience at Vacy PS.

This week we are updating our display boards in the foyer to recognise the efforts and achievements of those students who have reached Bronze and Silver level this year. We will also be presenting the next of our Bronze and Silver awards at this week’s assembly to those deserving students.

This week is National Literacy and Numeracy Week when we will have a special focus on some of the literacy and numeracy learning that takes place in our school. We will join with schools across Australia in the “Read for Australia” event on Friday afternoon when we read “Sunday Chutney”. We will also be investigating how mathematics is used in the area of water usage and wastage, something that is particularly of importance in our region.

In the lead-up to the Vacy Village Country Carnival on Sunday 14 September the P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 September at 7:00 pm to ensure that we are well prepared and ready to promote our wonderful village school. All moneys raised at events such as this are invested in the programs and resources that benefit all of our children.

Parents and visitors are asked when visiting our school to come to the office when entering the school to sign in.

Good luck to our junior girls relay team when they compete at the Regional Athletics Carnival this Friday 29 August. They have practised hard and have made huge improvements to their baton changes. All the best also to Mackenzie in the junior girls 200m and the 10 years girls 100m and to Shay in the junior girls 800m. Go girls!

Regards,

Graeme
Canteen News
In today’s newsletter there are items available until sold out. We need some fresh ideas for our summer canteen menu. It needs to be easy to make. It could be something we can have as a special day. I am sure you have some great ideas so drop them into the office labelled “canteen menu” and make sure you put your name on it.

Thanks Mel

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Thursday 28 August</td>
<td>Robyn Preston &amp; Russell Jessop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 1 September</td>
<td>Fiona Baker &amp; Belinda Holding</td>
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Kindergarten News
Our classroom is now a display room for all the fabulous bedrooms that the students have created. Well done everyone and keep an eye out for the Kindergarten bedroom feature in an upcoming newsletter. This week we welcome student teacher, Ms Julie Hartigan, to our classroom. Ms Hartigan is completing her first 4 week teaching practicum and has already begun to establish a rapport with the students. A reminder that students should not bring their own pencils for classroom use as they can easily become lost, especially as we move to different desks during group work. If your child would like to keep a pencil case in their bag for wet weather play time and creative play then they are welcome to do so.

For all of our Budding Chefs
Do you have a tasty idea for a canteen item? Our canteen is looking for always on the lookout for delicious items to add to our healthy menu. Send your food suggestion in to school, list the ingredients needed to make it, add a photo or two, give your creation a special name and we will feature your idea in a future newsletter.

Active After School Sport - Dance
Next week is the last week of after school dance. There has been plenty of positive feedback from Jackie regarding student behaviour and enthusiasm. Well done everyone! The students have a short performance that they would like to share with their families at the end of next week’s lesson. Come along at 4pm on Tuesday September 2nd to see how much they have progressed.

Vacy Public School Fundraising BBQ at the Vacy Country Carnival
Sunday 14 September

Vacy Country Carnival is quickly approaching and we are looking for eager mums and dads to help us out for the breakfast shift. We will be cooking a bacon and egg BBQ, nothing too strenuous for the wee hours of the morning. Please fill out the form below, tick the time frame that you would like and return to the school by Monday 8 September.

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<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>7.00 - 8.00am</th>
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Thank you for all of your support.
Book Week – “Connect to Reading”

This year’s theme is “Connect to Reading” and the following ideas can help us to use reading to connect. Try these ideas to create a reading culture for your children:

- **Every night**: read a story at bedtime.
- **Every dinner time**: ask your children what they’re reading, and why they like it, or suggest ways they might find a book they like more.
- **Once a week**: share a household chore like unpacking the dishwasher or tidying a bedroom – one person works while someone reads to them.
- **Once a week**: visit the library together and hunt for books you might like to read.
- **Every weekend**: share what you’re reading with your kids. Share an item in a newspaper or magazine, or a text from a friend, or an online article.
- **Every weekend**: find a new way to share a book or a poem or a story. Get grandma to skype reading a story; blutac a poem in the loo; read the dog a bedtime story; tell your kids a funny story about your childhood, or their grandparents.

**Every month**: lend a book you love to a friend or give a book to a charity or school or library.

Sharing the gift of reading with your children creates a legacy – your child will see and follow your example. We can easily fall into the trap of being “too busy” to read and share with our children however, it is time well spent and the rewards for you and your children will be evident for years to come.

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Private Vehicle Conveyance Subsidy

Families who receive the Private Vehicle Conveyance Subsidy will be receiving a brochure regarding online application. Further information is available at: http://www.transport.nsw.gove.au/pvc.

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IPods, Mobile Phones

IPods, mobile phones are not permitted at Vacy Public School. If your child needs to bring an ipod or phone to school for use after school, please bring the device to the office for safe keeping. The school accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to a device brought to school in breach of our rules. Any such device will be confiscated and parents will need to collect the device.
Canberra Camp 2014

Camp is over for another year and what a fabulous time was had by all those who attended the five day event in our capital city, Canberra.

Day one saw us leave school before daylight and arrive in Canberra around midday. After some rain on our way down we were greeted by fine weather that luckily lasted for most of the week. With temperatures that ranged from -2° to 16° we braved the elements to enjoy the many sights the city had to offer visiting places such as Parliament House, The Australian War Memorial, The High Court of Australia and many more important sites.

The highlight for many of the students on day two was the chance to participate in the Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial. We all joined in the special service that featured the story of one of our many gallant soldiers that lost his life in the Gallipoli campaign in 1915. Our school captains Ana and Mitchell represented their school proudly, laying a wreath at the base of the Pool of Remembrance to remember all of the fallen.

Day three was our day in the snow and the weather was extremely kind with brilliant sunshine helping us to cope with the cold snow. The students played and enjoyed themselves throughout the day and lapped up the chance to throw snowballs at each other and their teachers.

On day four we visited the Mint and the Electoral Centre where we all voted Miss Apple in as our new candidate for the Paterson Electorate. After lunch Canberra Zoo beckoned and half of the students bravely fed a magnificent male white lion while the others fed the giraffe. Lots of fun was had by all even when a beautiful corn snake was sliding through our hands.

Day five, even though we were all very tired, saw us enjoying the many exciting activities at Questacon. Those who were brave tackled the Free-Fall slide with a smile while others decided that the Earthquake simulator was enough for them. After a McDonalds lunch on the way home, we sat back and pondered our trip and the many memories that we would have about the places we had visited and the fun times with our friends.

On behalf of the students and school, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people for their contributions towards our 2014 Canberra Camp:

◆ Mr Brad Sexton, who was our camp organiser and driver for the week. His friendly manner towards the students and teachers and brilliant organisational skills enabled our trip to run very smoothly.
◆ Vacy Public School P & C Association who contributed $50 towards each student’s camp fees.
◆ The Australian Federal Government for sponsoring the students with a $20 rebate on their camp fees through the PACER rebate scheme.
◆ Mrs Hope, Mrs Allen and Mrs McCabe for their assistance in the office.
◆ Mr Oke and the staff at Vacy for putting up with my whinging and for looking after our leftovers.
◆ Miss Jamie Corrigan and Mr Mark Babic for their assistance throughout the week. Their energy and commitment to the students enabled an old girl like me to survive her 20th camp smiling.
◆ The Year 5/6 students who attended the camp for their impeccable behaviour and manners through the trip. It was a pleasure taking you all away.

Regards,
Karen Fonti