From The Principal
The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Vacy Public School P & C Association will be held on Tuesday, 10 March 2015 commencing at 7:00 pm in the staffroom. At the AGM, all positions will be declared vacant and nominations for 2015 positions will be decided by an election. The AGM will be followed by a general meeting.

Good luck to our team of swimmers who compete in the Maitland District PSSA Swimming Carnival today. Thanks also to Todd Magri who is acting as team manager for our competitors.

The Before and After School Care committee are still on the lookout for someone to plaster and fit out the old sports shed as it will be used to store the BASC sports equipment. If you know of someone who would be interested, please let them know that the BASC would welcome them quoting for the job.

Forty of our students will be attending the Sorry Day Event at Dungog High School on Wednesday 25 February. Our Dungog Community of Schools received funding through the Healing Foundation to support the participation of our Year 6 students and Aboriginal students in other grades and their ‘buddies’. The event will include a range of activities including a talking circle with a Key Note Address about the Stolen Generation and the challenges faced in the past, present and future for Aboriginal people; story telling; music and dance; and artwork.

This will culminate in a combined activity for all participating students with a smoking ceremony and an opportunity to showcase artwork, dance and ideas from the 4 workshops with a focus on healing and moving forward.

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) team has been busy setting up our PBL framework for the school. Yesterday, the SRC members met and wholeheartedly supported the four ‘expectations’ that form the basis of our school PBL program.

These are Be an Active Learner, Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible. The team would love to hear feedback from parents and students about the expectations for students at Vacy Public School.

Special thanks to Natalie Parker who has created a special platypus logo that will be our mascot for our PBL program. Thanks, Natalie, it looks awesome!

This Friday, 27 February, I will be meeting with our Dungog Community of Schools Principals to discuss activities and arrangements for 2015.

One of the exciting initiatives will be the introduction of a ‘Virtual Gifted and Talented’ program that will be launched this year. The program is made possible by a successful funding submission through the DEC’s Rural and Remote Strategy which will see students across our community of schools come together online through the Connected Classrooms in each school.

Regards,
Graeme
Dates to Remember

February
- Wednesday 25th: Sorry Day @ Dungog High School Yr 6 & Transition Day for Yrs 5 & 6 @ DHS 5pm

March
- Friday 6th: Dungog League Tag Day
- Monday 9th: K-1 excursion to Paterson Pre-School
- Tuesday 10th: P & C meeting & AGM

April
- Friday 3rd: Good Friday - School Holidays start
- Tuesday 21: All students return for Term 2

Canteen News
PLEASE! CHECK YOUR DIARY...
A big thank you to Mr Oke and the gardening crew this week for the tasty rockmelons! These were grown in the school vegetable garden and now we can add them to our freshly prepared fruit salad for recess. Yum!! Don’t forget to add fruit salad to your recess order on Thursday to try some!

Currently fried rice is unavailable, luckily we have plenty of other options to choose from, I do know that the fried rice is a favourite for some so I will let you know when it becomes available again.

Thank you to Tim, Donna, Angela and Karen for helping us this week, your time and effort in the canteen is greatly appreciated.

Regards,
Emma Maslen
Ph: 0411342935

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thur 26th Feb</td>
<td>David &amp; Tracey Ney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 2nd Mar</td>
<td>Heidi Watson &amp; Eleesha Pereira</td>
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STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Harry McCosker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Jeremy Dupal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Zak Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Ursula Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Mackayla Smith</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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CLASS AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Award</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Hailey Anderson for following school rules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Maddison Lye for clever thinking in Maths.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Nellie Pereira for always paying attention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Bailey Eldridge for being settled and hard working student.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Seth Deacon for impressing Miss Corrigan with his Maths work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Blaze Basham for having an impressive work ethic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Josie Waight for sportsmanship and leadership at the swimming carnival.</td>
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NEW App Update!

Children enjoy spending time on their iPads, iPods and tablets. Sometimes a little too much time! Throughout the term we’ll be sharing apps that children are using in their classroom. These apps are fun, engaging and support the learning your child is doing in the classroom. Once downloaded, these apps can become part of your homework schedule; however you might be surprised to find your child playing them just for fun!

**Targeting Maths**

Cost: $7.49       Ages: K-6

The targeting Maths app range is an amazing new way to learn mathematics. Within these apps, students can access a huge range of activities that make learning math skills fun, motivating and full of rewards. Each child makes their own account and individual achievements are recorded in the progress section. There is a separate app for each year level, so download the one that best suits your child’s needs.

Swimming Carnival News

Congratulations to all of the Vacy students who participated in the swimming carnival last Tuesday. A great day was had by all with lots of students entering the events that were offered throughout the day. It is always good to see everyone, even our not so confident swimmers, having a go and doing their best for their team.

Well done to the students who gained a place on our Zone Team who will be competing at Maitland Pool today. We wish you well and hope that you gain a lot of experience against the bigger schools in our area. Thank you to the parents who are assisting to manage that team and those providing transport for students.

Well done to our captains who showed off their great leadership skills and a big thank you to all of the parents for their assistance with timekeeping.

Congratulations to the following students who are our swimming age champions for 2015;
- **Junior Boy** - Jack Magri
- **Junior Girl** - Charlotte Rienecker
- **11 Year Boy** - Alec Grainger
- **11 Year Girl** - Amy Magri
- **Senior Boy** - Zac Rocco
- **Senior Girl** - Saskia Bickerdike

Gostwick was the winning team!

Keeping Gates Closed

Please shut the gates. During the day, the school gates are closed to ensure that all of our students are safe and that risks are minimised. At present, we need to be extra vigilant with closing the gates, including the staff car park gates, to manage the safety of some of our younger students. We do ask that, if the gate was closed when you came upon it, then please close the gate once you have passed through. If in doubt, please close the gate.

Staff Car Park

The school car park is for staff parking between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm each day. This is due to Work Health and Safety policy and the limited access to the carpark. During these hours, parents and caregivers are asked to park on the road and enter the grounds through either of the two, safe pedestrian access gates. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.

The Hatchman Drum Corp School Group

The Hatchman Drum Group performed at the Maitland Show on Saturday. A great time was had by all!
An invitation To Carers

Do you provide care and support to another person?
You are invited to Carer Connections

Take the Opportunity to Connect with other Carers and listen to our Guest Speaker!

Carers are usually family members or friends who provide support to children or adults who have a disability, mental illness, chronic condition or who are frail aged.

GUEST SPEAKER: Kathie Nickerson, Clinical Nurse Specialist Hunter Integrated Pain Service

TOPIC: ‘The Meaning of Chronic Pain: and Hunter Integrated Pain Service’s approach to Improving Life’

VENUE: East Maitland Bowling Club, East Maitland
TIME: 10.00 to 12pm
When: Monday 23 March 2015
RSVP: Wednesday 18 March 2015

For more information ring 4921 4895 or 1300 887 776

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VACY PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INC.
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Association will be held on Tuesday 10th March 2015 at 7.00pm in the Vacy Public School staff room.
The business of the meeting will be: Election of office bearers: President, Vice President (x2), Secretary, Treasurer.
Consideration of changes to the Constitution of the Association
All parents and caregivers are members of the school P&C and are cordially invited to attend.

J Thompson
Secretary