**Principal’s Report Week 8**

I continue to be extremely impressed by the positivity and support that parents and the community demonstrate towards the school. This was again in evidence last Tuesday night for the P&C AGM and Parent Forum evening. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend for your commitment, important feedback, ideas and encouragement. Thank you also to all office bearers or sub-committee members for your hard work and dedication to the school during 2015. Congratulations to our new executive and their team. Your commitment and efforts are very much appreciated.

**Parent Information Sessions**

Our parent information sessions were very well attended on Thursday evening. Thank you to all staff for giving up your family time and thank you also to the P&C for organising the sausage sandwiches. If you were unable to attend the sessions please contact the office so we can organise any paperwork handed out on the night to be sent home.

**Survey**

There is a link below, on the school website and on our Facebook page for a survey that will assist us in our planning, communication and improvement. All responses are anonymous and greatly appreciated. Whilst I understand that completing surveys can be sometimes inconvenient, I believe it is extremely important that we all work together in improving the education of our children and making the school the best possible learning environment with the strongest possible links with parents and the community. I will be utilising this way of collating information, ideas and views so that all people involved in our school have the chance to share their opinions. Please complete this survey by Thursday, March 31st so I can collate the responses and share the information with everyone by the end of term. [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/vacycomm](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/vacycomm)

**Communication Procedures**

Communication is the most important aspect of any partnership. With so many things happening at school and in everybody’s lives it is imperative that communication between home and school is managed effectively, consistently and appropriately. I would like to outline to everyone the correct procedures for contacting teachers and relaying information.

Firstly, if you have a concern about something that has happened you need to contact the office (by phone, letter or email) and leave a message for the teacher outlining the issue and ask for them to call you back to discuss over the phone or make an appointment to discuss the issue. This allows the teacher to be professionally prepared to assist you and have as much relevant information as is necessary to attend to your needs. If it is a playground issue your child’s class teacher will more than likely refer it to the teacher who was on duty at the time. Whilst all staff endeavour to let parents know about incidents as soon as possible, sometimes there needs to be information gathered or advice sought so that anything that is communicated is accurate, verified and delivered appropriately. Any requests for meetings with teachers should, whenever possible, give the teacher enough time to be fully prepared so they can be more able to answer any queries or concerns and provide a positive outcome for all involved. Any classroom issues should be directed towards your child’s teacher first. This is not only common courtesy but more likely to provide the answers you seek as the classroom teacher is more often the most informed and more likely to be the person who knows the situation and the children involved the best.

If, after having a meeting, conversation or correspondence with the classroom teacher, you are unsure or dissatisfied with the outcome you are more than welcome to make an appointment to see me or have me call you back to discuss the matter. Please be aware though that I will need time to gather the information necessary for our conversation.

Whilst there is always the facility to bypass the procedures in exceptional circumstances and some issues do need to be dealt with in a different matter, for the majority of instances following the correct procedure will bring about the best outcome in the most timely, appropriate and fair fashion. I thank everybody for your cooperation in this matter.

**General Assistant/Grounds person**

Ross McCabe, our General Assistant/Grounds person has resigned from his position, effective tomorrow. On behalf of the school I would like to thank Ross for his efforts in maintaining our school and wish him well for his future. At this stage the position will be filled until further notice by Mr Andrew Viner. I welcome Andrew to Vacy Public School and look forward to working with him to continue the hard work done by Ross.

Regards,
David Stone (Relieving Principal)
Easter Activities 2016

Our Easter activities for 2016 will take place on Thursday 24th March.

We invite parents and friends to join us at 10:30am in the COLA for our Easter Hat Parade. This year students will be making hats at school. Students will need to bring in Easter decorations to make their Easter hat. They can bring their own hat to decorate or teachers will provided a cardboard band. Easter hats will be made at school during the week from Monday 21st March. Please bring Easter decorations to class teachers by this date.

At recess we will be having a Hot Cross Bun morning tea. Parents and friends can order from the order form sent home. After our Hot Cross Bun Morning Tea we will assemble in the COLA for our Easter Raffle draw, presentation of prizes for our Easter colouring competition and Easter Songs by the Choir and K/1/2. This year we will include preschool students in the colouring competition, please pick up colour sheet from the office.

At 12.15pm we invite parents and friends to join us in 1/2/3 room for our Easter Scripture Service which will conclude our Easter celebrations.

Raffle tickets for the Easter Raffle have been sent home. If you would like more tickets please see the office. We are asking each family to donate Easter eggs for raffle prizes. Please bring donations to the office by Monday 21st March.

On Monday 21st March we will be holding a working bee to wrap Easter prizes and fold tickets. If you would like to help please come to the library at 11am. Please RSVP to Mrs Rogers.

We look forward to seeing you at our Easter celebrations.

1/2 G News

It was lovely to see everyone at our parent meetings last Thursday. I realise not everyone was able to attend so have sent home a copy of what we went through on the night. If there are any questions please feel free to contact me through the office to make a suitable time to meet. We will be making our hats for the Easter Parade on Monday so please send in any decorations by Monday morning.

2/3G News

What a great turn out for the parent information evening! If you were unable to attend, an information sheet has been sent home. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments about the information that I have provided. Thank you to those parents who have volunteered their time to help in the classroom, we have started this week and I am very excited about using the knowledge and skills that you have to help the children with their learning.

We have all had a great deal of fun during drama where the students have been creating different personalities with only a hat for a prop. If your child has not yet brought their hats in for this activity, we will be continuing this next Monday.

Notes Sent Home

* Easter Celebrations
* Mothers Day order form
* ICAS tests for Yr 3 to 6

March 15 2016
**Canteen News**

Yesterday I spent a lovely day cooking and preparing lunches and recesses for the special little people in our lives. I was blown away by just how beautiful everyone’s manners were. It made the day all the more pleasant to have happy well mannered children to talk to. One thing I did come across a few times was the sharing of money. I noticed some children had quite a lot of spending money and were buying treats for their friends. It's a lovely gesture but it is something we try to discourage. It would be wonderful if you could give your children a little reminder to keep their money for a treat for themselves and also if your child doesn’t have money to spend maybe a reminder that asking a friend to buy something for them isn’t appropriate.

**Don’t forget:** Breakfast Club is closed for the rest of term and will reopen week 2 of next term and hot cross bun morning tea orders and money are due back on Thursday.

Thank you to Loren, Melissa and Debbie for your time and efforts last week in the canteen. Your valuable time is always appreciated 😊

Emma Maslen
0411 342 935

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday March 17:</th>
<th>Rachal Franks and Donna Tolhurst</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday March 21:</td>
<td>Jen McCosker and Donna Tolhurst</td>
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**Breaking News:** Eleesha Pereira has decide after 3 years as Uniform coordinator it’s time for her to hand the reins over. Heidi Watson and Anne Lean have kindly decided to run the Uniform shop. Heidi can be contacted by either ringing 0427015707 or email heidi.wat@hotmail.com

**K-2 Excursion to Gresford Show**

On Friday K/1/2 went to Gresford Show. We had a lovely time at the show. We looked through the pavilions and spent some time checking out the ring events. The students had a great time cheering on fellow students as they competed in equestrian events. Congratulations to all students for their amazing artworks and well done to the students who braved the heat in the ring for the equestrian events. All students were very well behaved, it was lovely to have comments from the public about our well-mannered students. A big thank you to Linq buses for transporting us to the show and to the Gresford Show Society for allowing us to visit.

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Our official Facebook page is up and running. Please 'like' the page to stay up-to-date with reminders and events in our school. We also love sharing the successes of our students."
EASTER FUN DAY

Saturday 26th March 2016
9.30am - 1.00pm

Visit the Hunter Wetlands and join the Easter Bunny for Wetlands Adventures
Fun Games
Craft & Face Painting
Reptile Encounter
BBQ – sausage sizzle

Entry: Adults $5, Children $2, under 3 free.

Open Easter Saturday 9am to 4pm
Closed Good Friday,
Easter Sunday & Monday
For details of School Holiday activities
Check out our website
www.wetlands.org.au

1 Wetlands Place, Shortland, NSW
Ph: 4951 6466

AUTUMN KIDS’ CAMPS BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

✔️ New friendships ✔️ Fun
✔️ Great value ✔️ Safe

Our Autumn Kids’ Camps are now open for enrolments via our website. Here, you will find what’s on offer for the autumn school holidays.

Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands. Our Kids’ Camps are suitable for children aged 7 to 16 years and range from 1 to 5 days.

Residential camps include:
- 24 hour supervision
- Activities
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Supervised transport

sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps | 1313 02
fb.com/nswsportandrecreation

GRESHFORD BILLYCART DERBY

No safety gear
No ride

supported by Dungog Shire Events

GRESHFORD BILLYCART DERBY

9am 26th March

9am 26th March

Park Street, East Gresford
www.gresfordbillycartderby.wordpress.com