

The Vaucluse Weekly

VAUCLUSE PUBLIC SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

TERM 4

WEEK 10

16 December - Class Parties

18 December - Last day of school

18 December - Locals Christmas Party @ Watsons Bay Hotel

2020 TERM 1

WEEK 1

28 January - Clothing Pool opens - 9-12

29 January - First day of school

3 February - First day of Kindy



Principal's Report

Dear Parents

Last week was packed full of activities. Year 6 Farewell, Principal's Award lunches, Whole School Assemblies and Presentation Day. This week we have had a calmer time with Class Parties including the Mad Hatter's Party, and the distribution of Semester Two reports yesterday. This afternoon will be our final farewell for everyone at 3.20 after they have walked through the Tunnel of Love. Our school is ending on a very happy and peaceful note. Our teachers have worked hard to keep everyone focused right until the last minute of school. This has been a significant challenge as our students are feeling the end of term / end of the year fatigue. Last week we also welcomed our new school leaders and we look forward to working with Elke, Lewis, Coco, Ellie, Will, Rex, Clement, Occy and Michael in 2020. We congratulate and thank all of the Year 5 leadership nominees who conducted themselves throughout Term 4 in an outstanding way. All Leader nominees spoke last week with courage and commitment in front of our school. Throughout Term 4 we have been impressed by the way they have conducted themselves and been excellent role models for the rest of the school. We also thank our 2019 school leaders, for their outstanding leadership in 2019. This leadership was evident in the way they led the school on Friday at Presentation Day.

In this newsletter there is also a copy of the 2020 Class Formation Policy. Teachers have been busily preparing classes for 2020. When students return on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 they will return to their 2019 classes. We will assemble on the top playground at 9.20 am for welcome messages. Students will then go with their 2019 teachers to classrooms. In this first week of school all classes will be implementing our Student Welfare programs. Our students will be participating in *Kidsmatter* units of works, *Bounceback* that will include anti – bullying strategies, *Kindness On Purpose* activities and *Positive Behaviour for Learning* units of work. All students will also continue to participate in a Transition Program that has been implemented this term. The program has been developed by the Learning and Support Committee. This program prepares all students for their new classes, new friends and new teachers. These units of work are part of our *Wellbeing and Engagement* strategy and are being implemented in the first week as part of embedding these skills for the year. Our 2020 Kindergarten students will be participating in the Best Start assessment for the first three days of week 1. Kindergarten students will commence on Monday 3 February. 2020. On Tuesday 4 February all students will go into their 2020 classes. This will take place after recess. We have put much thought and planning into this process. Coming back to familiar faces and surrounds ensures a calm start to the school year. Waiting until Kindergarten arrives also ensures we only have one formal start to the year. If you are going to be late returning to school it is extremely important that you either ring or email the admin office informing us of your plans.

In this newsletter is a copy of the Visiting Therapists Policy for our school. If you are thinking of using outside therapists in 2020 please read the policy carefully. You require permission for therapists to attend and they must provide us with *Working with Children* documentation. We in turn need to allocate a space for them to work in. We have limited space and each area

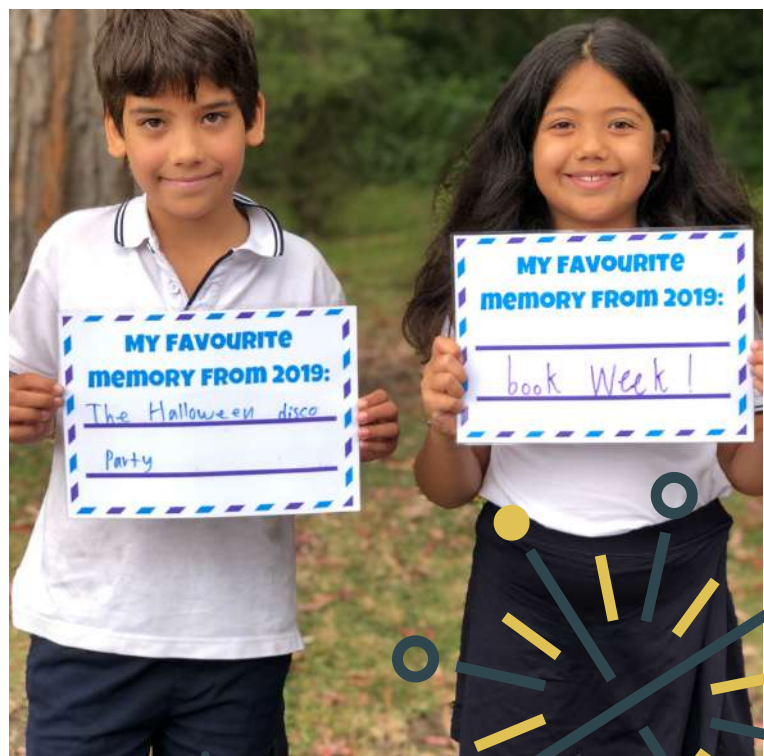
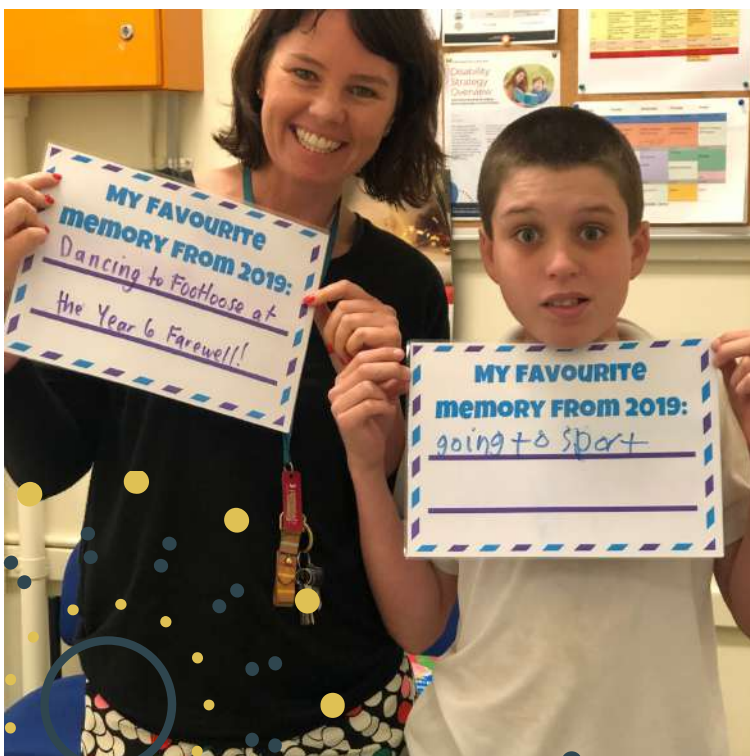
is carefully timetabled. You will need to lodge a request with your child's teacher and also with the Admin Office to book a space. There is a significant demand and limited spaces so your early attention is required to avoid disappointment.

We have had a wonderful end to the school year. A very big thank you from all the staff to parents who have spoilt us with their appreciation. On behalf of all staff we wish a very happy Christmas and a safe holiday. We hope you enjoy a special time with all those you love the most. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 29 January 2020.

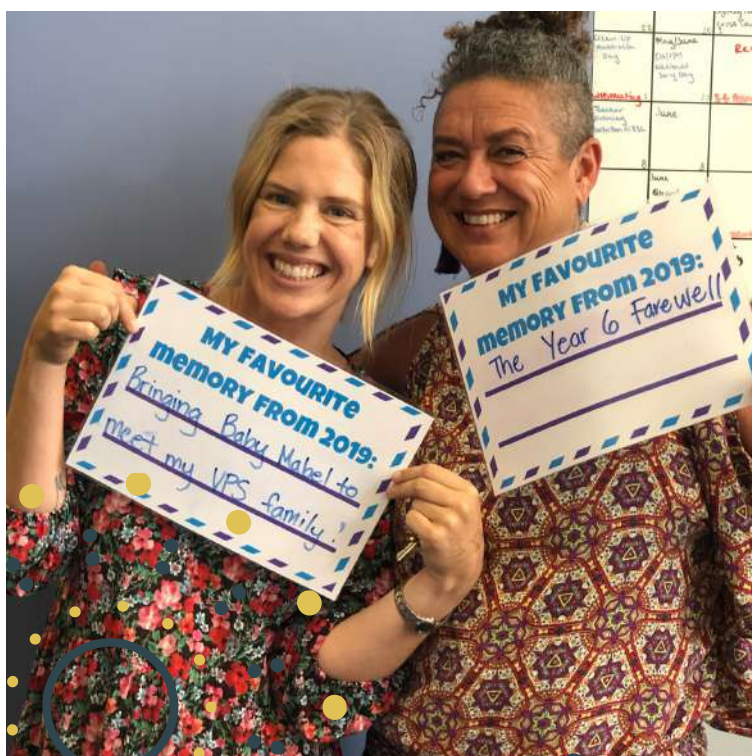
Maureen Hallahan



Thanks for a wonderful year!



Thanks for a wonderful year!



Thanks for a wonderful year!



Thanks for a wonderful year!



2020 SCHOOL CAPTAINS



**Congratulations
Coco & Rex!**

K-2 ATHLECTICS CARNIVAL



K-2 ATHLECTICS CARNIVAL



Principal's Special Lunch



Principal's Special Lunch



YEAR 6 FAREWELL



YEAR 6 FAREWELL



STAGE 3 SUMMER CAMP PARTY



K-2 MAD HATTERS TEA PARTY



BRIGITTE'S TREE

Year 6 Student Brigitte gifted VPS with a beautiful Native Christmas Bush. Together with her class she planted the tree in the top playground.



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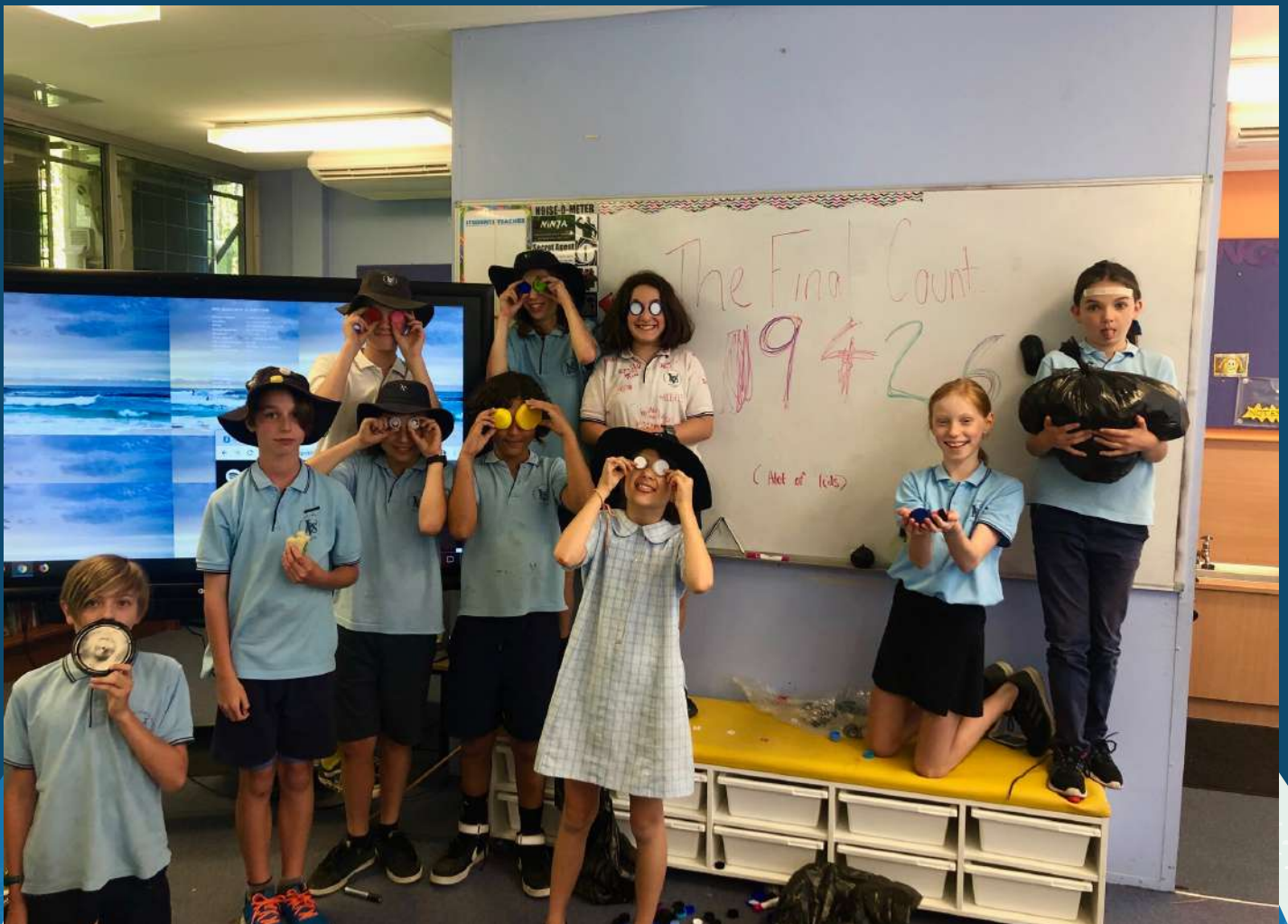


LIDS 4 KIDS

The Green Team did one final count of the year and we have collected a **WHOPPING 19, 426 LIDS!!!**

The organisation we are sending them to, Envision Hands, need about 500 to 700 lids build one prosthetic hand. This means that VPS has collected enough lids to 3D print over 32 prosthetic limbs!!!

The 2020 Green Team will still be collecting and sorting lids, with the collection point remaining outside Miss Schwartz's classroom.



#GREENTEAMSAVESTHEWORLD

CHANUKAH

Chanukah is starting this Sunday night 22nd December, it goes for 8 nights. There are public community functions around the suburbs as well as many Synagogue functions. I hope you and your children will be able to attend something. The Maccabees fought against the enemy, they went to clean up the Temple and found one small jar of oil, enough to last for a day but it lasted for 8 days instead. Chanukah is a time of miracles and a time of bringing light into the world; both are much needed.

Chanukah is a time to eat donuts. Thank you to the Hefer family and The Shuk Bondi, for your generosity in giving donuts to the Hebrew children of Vaocluse.

Happy Holidays.
Morah Miriam



SAKG KITCHEN REPORT 2019



TERM 4 WEEK 9
A BUSY WEEK IN THE KITCHEN!

An alfresco lunch to farewell Rudi

The school kitchen was buzzing on Monday as all the year 6 students put together a farewell lunch for Rudi, our fabulous garden specialist.



**Handmade Linguine with
Fresh Basil Pesto &
Christmas Pavlova**

LOCALS XMAS PARTY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
VAUCLUSE PUBLIC SCHOOL

**WED 18 DEC
FROM 5PM**

RSVP ESSENTIAL

WWW.WATSONSBAYHOTEL.COM.AU/LOCALS-CHRISTMAS-PARTY/



Vaucluse Public School Uniform Shop

Open- Fridays:8:30am-9:30am



>> <https://vps-uniform-shop.square.site/> <<<

December 2019 Opening Hours

Friday 6th & 13th December

8:30-9:30am

Online Orders

Orders will be sent an email as soon as they are available for pick up in the main Office. Usually within 1-2 working days.

2020 Opening Hours

Tuesday 28th January (day before school starts): **9am-12pm**

Wed 29th & Thurs 30th January **8.50-10am & 2.30-3.30pm**

Fri 31st January **8.30-9.30am**

Monday 4th Feb (tea and tissues) **8.50-9.30am**

Then all Fridays **8:30-9:30am** during term time.

All online orders purchased during the school holidays or the first 3 weeks of T1 can be picked up from clothing pool during the above times ONLY. No office pickups until after Wk 3.

Volunteers to help would be very much appreciated. If you can help on any of these days, please contact Che via email at vpsclothingpool@gmail.com

VOOSC NEWS

The VOOSC Team would like to thank all of our families for a fabulous 2019.

We appreciate your support and friendship through-out the year along with the wonderful, valued feedback on the service we provide to your children.

We were so happy to celebrate with the children and their families yesterday at the VOOSC Christmas Party and to see them having fun dancing with their friends, siblings and Santa. We are certain our VOOSC kids this Year have made it to Santa's nice list!!!!

It was also wonderful to share the fun with some of our Year 6 friends. We will miss you, but look forward to catching up and for you to share your new adventures with us. Best of luck at High School.

ALL TERM FEES ARE DUE IN FULL PLEASE

We'd like to close the books on 2019 and start the New Year fresh and rested and not chasing outstanding fees please.

Thank you to families who have always kept on top of their term fees and remain loyal throughout the year, we appreciate this greatly. As a Not for profit Centre we rely on fees and loyalty to enable us to remain operational, to put back into the service and continue to provide quality experiences and care for your children.

Our Team take their much deserved Annual leave from 18/12/19 until School returns on the 29/01/2020.

We would like to wish our families and Community a very Merry Christmas and holiday break and look forward to seeing your happy faces at the beginning of a new school year!

Warm regards , VOOSC Team





POLICY FOR VISITING THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONALS

Dear Parents

In 2020 Vaucluse Public School will schedule a timetable for visiting private therapists such as Occupational Therapists and Speech Pathologists. In addition to this timetable, Vaucluse Public School have developed a policy for visiting therapists to read and sign prior to commencing therapy.

Intervention by visiting therapists needs to be discussed with and approved by the Learning and Support Team and the school Principal prior to commencing therapy with individual students at Vaucluse Public School. This includes therapists who may have already been privately operating within Vaucluse Public School this year or in years past.

As part of the procedure for arranging therapy at school in 2020 parents will need to write a letter to the Classroom Teacher and school Principal that includes the name of the therapist, the nature of the proposed therapy and the times requested. Permission will not be granted for students to leave the school grounds during school hours to attend outside therapy sessions. If you wish for your child to participate in out of school therapy during school hours, you must apply for Partial Enrolment through initially the Principal of Vaucluse PS, then Bondi Office and the School Education Director of the Port Jackson region.

From January 2020 all visiting therapists are required to:

- 1) Present their working with children check prior to commencing any therapy sessions*
- 2) Sign **in** and **out** at the office **before** and **after** each therapy session*
- 3) Ensure they wear a visitors badge whilst at the school*
- 4) Wait in the office for the office staff to notify the students' classroom teacher of their presence at the school*
- 5) Collect children directly from the classroom teacher and proceed to the designated room as allocated on the school timetable*
- 6) After the therapy session has been completed, the therapist must hand over the student directly to their classroom teacher. Students are NOT permitted to take themselves to and from therapy sessions alone, or in the company of another student without the visiting therapist*
- 7) Comply with all Workplace Health and Safety procedures including Emergency Evacuations, Lockdowns and Lockouts.*



POLICY FOR VISITING THERAPISTS AND PROFESSIONALS

As a visiting therapist, I understand that I require approval from the school principal prior to commencing therapy with individual students at Vaucluse Public School.

Prior to commencing any therapy sessions, I agree to do the following:

- 1) Communicate with the school principal and the classroom teacher of the student/s I will be working with prior to commencing any therapy sessions*
- 2) Sign in at the office before each therapy session*
- 3) Present my working with children check upon arrival at the school office and prior to commencing any therapy sessions*
- 4) Wait in the office for the office staff to notify the students' classroom teacher of their presence at the school*
- 5) Collect the student/s that I am seeing directly from their classroom teacher and proceed to the designated room as allocated on the school timetable*
- 6) Hand over the student directly to their classroom teacher when the therapy session has concluded. I understand that for safety reasons students are NOT permitted to take themselves to and from therapy sessions alone, or in the company of another student without me to accompany them*
- 7) Comply with all Workplace Health and Safety procedures including Emergency Evacuations, Lockdowns and Lockouts.*

I have read and understood the above information and agree to comply with all of the above.

Name (please print): _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____



CLASS FORMATION POLICY FOR 2020

Dear Parents

The staff of Vaucluse Public School recognises the need for careful consideration to be given to the formation of class groupings. Teachers make decisions regarding the placement of children in classes based on their experience, prior knowledge of individual children and their skills and understandings as professional educators. Our intention is to provide students with a learning environment that suits their individual academic and social needs, learning styles and temperaments in the knowledge that this is the platform for optimum growth. We acknowledge that some children can find the start of the new academic year challenging. It is our firm belief that by supporting children to adjust to new situations within the supportive and familiar environment of a school we are developing resilience and self- management skills for life.

Groupings

- ✓ The number of children in a class will be as follows:

Kindergarten	Average of 20 children
Year 1	Average of 22 children
Year 2	Average of 24 children
Year 3-6	Average of 30 children
- ✓ There will be occasions when it is necessary to form a composite/multi-age class. It is widely acknowledged through a body of international and national research, that there is no evidence to support the belief that composite/multi-age classes have a detrimental effect on children's progress.
- ✓ If at all possible, composite/multi-age classes will be formed to fit within stage groupings. It is recognised that this is not always practical.
- ✓ Composite/multi-age classes will have as even a mix of grades and gender as is practical. When a composite/multi-age class is formed in Kindergarten, Year 1 or 2, the number of children will be on average the same as the average expected in the higher year level.
- ✓ The inclusion of a child in a composite/multi-age class will be based on the child's individual learning needs and the benefits that would be gained from such a placement.
- ✓ Children will be provided with the opportunity to nominate five friends they would like to be with in the following year at the end of the previous year. It is intended that all children will have at least one person they nominate with them.
- ✓ Classes will be formed in mixed ability groups. An even number of boys and girls is desirable. There may be times when staff believes it to be beneficial for gender based groups to be formed for certain teaching and learning activities.



Time Frame

- ✓ Classes will be formed in the final weeks of term 4, 2019. This gives teachers time to consider the composition of the class and to consult collegially on the appropriate placement of students. At this time the placement of new enrolments if known is also considered. It is acknowledged that there may be times when classes need to be reconfigured in Term 1 to cater to fluctuations in enrolment. Because classes are not final we do not inform parents.
- ✓ Teachers will then have the opportunity to consult with each other to ensure the best possible mix of children.
- ✓ At the commencement of the 2020 school year all students will return to their 2019 class groupings. 2020 classes will be formed in week 2, Term1 2020. This is to ensure school student numbers are definite. Until the school can accurately determine the number of students enrolled for 2020 classes will not be formed.
- ✓ 2020 Classes will be announced and organised in week 2, Term1, 2020 after Kindergarten has commenced school and the school population has stabilised.

Parental input

- ✓ *It is recognised that parents/caregivers often have reasons for wanting their children in a certain group or with a certain teacher. It is only in **very exceptional** circumstances that children will be moved from one class to another. Consultation will take place between the child's previous teachers as well as the School's Learning Support Team.*

Maureen Hallahan
Principal
30 October 2019