



The Vaucluse Weekly

Friday 5 May , 2017 Term 2 Weeks 2

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Calender

Term 2 Week 3	NAPLAN Years 3 and 5	Tuesday 9 May Wednesday 10 May Thursday 11 May
Term 2 Week 3	Year 4 Camp	Wednesday 10 May Thursday 11 May Friday 12 May
Term 2 Week 6	Reconciliation Week	29 May – 02 June
Term 2 Week 8	Queens Birthday Public Holiday	Monday 12 June
Term 3 Week 6	Book Week	21 August—25 August

Delicious Mango Lassi's in 2B,
as part of the student's unit
of work
India Calling .



The Principal's Report

Dear Parents

Next week NAPLAN will take place in all schools across the country. At Vacluse Public School we take great care to keep this week as low key as possible. We treat it as any other week and the NAPLAN process as just another assessment. We do this to keep our students and our learning environment as stress free as possible. We appreciate the support we get from parents in helping us to do this. In 2016 the feedback we received from parents confirmed our success in supporting our students throughout this process. We expect that next week will proceed smoothly. Do not hesitate to contact your class teacher if you have any concerns.

Recently we have had parents bringing in ice blocks for birthday treats and storing them in the fridges in the staffroom / kitchen. This is presenting quite a problem for us. The staff freezer is quite full and the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen fridge is often used for a variety of purposes. This week the freezer is full of scones for the Mothers' Day Morning Tea so storage of anything else is impossible. We request that parents check with their class teacher before bringing food to school that needs to be stored in the staffroom refrigerators. Please do not assume that the fridges will have available space. The kitchen is heavily used by the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program and by teachers for personal use and often for class activities. We suggest if parents wish to bring something to school to celebrate a birthday, mini cupcakes are a wonderful treat. Again please check with your class teacher for allergies and an appropriate time to do this. The advantage of mini cupcakes is that they are easy to distribute, can be stored in the classroom, easily delivered to school and a mini size reduces the sugar load. We would really appreciate your help with this.

In this week's newsletter we have published a copy of the Department of Education's policy on Compulsory School Attendance. Please read it carefully and if you have any questions concerning the policy, please see your class teacher. It is a legal requirement that once a child turns six they must attend school every day. It is very important for a child's wellbeing and their learning that they attend school consistently. We know that consistent attendance at school has an effect size of more than a year of learning.

We are looking forward to seeing as many members of our school community as possible at next Friday's Mothers' Day Concert and morning tea. We hope that everyone will be able to stay for the duration of the concert and visit classrooms afterwards. Please do not forget to send something wrapped in clear cellophane for the Mothers' Day Stall. Considering all the activities surrounding Mothers' Day celebrations we are hoping no one will have to visit a store for gift and card purchases.

Thank you for your continued patience with the installation of the Lift. It will be absolutely worth the inconvenience when it is finished and all the students in our school will have access to upstairs.

Maureen Hallahan

Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling](#).

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/programs/attendance.php>

The school leaving age:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leaving-school/index.php>

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities



Some of our Cross Country champions





2M



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AND MANGO LASSI

PIC•COLLAGE



SENIOR CHOIR HAS LANDED!

**MONDAY LUNCH
3M CLASSROOM**

MISS MORGAN & MR GUZOWSKI



Cross
Country
2017.



Welcome Back to Term 2

The Term 2 P&C meeting has been set for Tuesday 16th May at 1830
in the Library.

Please come and join us in supporting the wonderful community at
VPS.

All welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you there.



Mum and / or Loved Ones

You're invited to

Our Special Mothers' Day

Assembly

On

Friday 12 May 2017

Assembly will commence at 9.30 am in the Playground. Assembly will be followed by a visit to your child's classroom to view your Mothers' Day Portrait / Gift. You are then invited to the Staffroom for Morning Tea. Please note that children are not invited to this. (It is Mums only as we simply do not have enough yummies to feed everyone.) After recess the children will be able to purchase a Mothers' day gift from the Mothers' Day stall.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Staff and students of Vaucluse Public School



Dear Parents

As Mothers' Day approaches we are busy planning a number of activities to celebrate all the wonderful mums at Vaucluse PS. On **Friday 12 May** there will be a special **Mothers' Day Assembly** followed by a morning tea.

After recess there will be a Mothers' Day stall for the whole school. There will be a \$2, \$5 and \$10 stall. (Money raised from the stall will go towards books and resources for the library). We are asking that every student bring in at least one or two gifts if possible (there are many students who like to buy two gifts). These gifts will need to be wrapped attractively in clear cellophane (so the children can see what they are buying and do not have to have their purchase gift wrapped) and left in the baskets outside the Admin Office.

The following are suggestions for gifts:

- Soap, perfume, bath oil, bath gel, candles, make up, nail polish, hair products
- Jewellery
- Picture frames, ornaments
- Chocolates, tea, biscuits ,lollies
- Books, magazines
- Gift packs of toiletries, tea, coffee, sweets, etc
- Hats , gloves, scarves, hankies
- CDs, DVDs
- Movie tickets

Or anything that you think our children would love to buy for their mum. We are hoping through organizing these activities, that children will not have to visit the shops for Mothers' Day rather they will be able to organize their gifts independently and make a card in their classroom. The performances at the Special Mothers' Day Assembly will also be part of the children's mothers' day gift.

Thanking you in anticipation of your support.

Maureen Hallahan
Principal
3 May 2017

VOOSC NEWS

VACATION CARE NEWS

A huge thank you to all of our wonderful children who joined us for Vacation Care.

We had such a fun time!

It was fantastic to see everyone enjoying themselves with their friends, being creative and participating enthusiastically during all of our activities.

We had so many compliments from activity deliverers about outstanding behaviour and how our centre and children were the best group that they had visited during the vacation care break!

We have to agree, it was a pleasure to spend time with you and to take you on excursions. Be very proud, we are!

VOOSC STARS

Shining stars this week have been chosen for compassion, responsibility and friendship. Welcome to the Wall of Fame,

Shakked, **Ryan N**, **Stella V**,
Leonardo M, **Chala**, **Laylah H**,
Nash R, **Roman**

Hula Hooping has returned to Voosc for Term 2.

Bunny Hoop Star will be with us each Monday between 4:00-5:00pm.

Warm Regards

VOOSC Team





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