



VIRGINIA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Learning Together, Learning for our Future

CARING, RESPECT, FAIRNESS, ACHIEVEMENT, DIVERSITY

Issue 18, 2018

27th November

DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 7

Wednesday 28th November

Preschool Transition visits

Friday 30th November

PUPIL FREE DAY

OSHC AVAILABLE

Week 8

Tuesday 4th December

Preschool Transition visits

Wednesday 5th December

Governing Council Meeting 6:30pm

Reception Ready Parent Evening

6:00 – 6:30pm

Thursday 6th December

Reception Ready Parent Evening

6:00 – 6:30pm

Fri 7th December

Please come along and celebrate our end of year concert on our school asphalt.

BBQ starts 4:30pm

Concert begins 6:00pm

Week 9

Tues 11th December

Yr 7 Farewell assembly 9:15am

Parents of Graduating students welcome

Volunteers Morning Tea 10:30am

Thurs 13th December

Year 6/7 Graduation

Reports come home

Friday 14th of December

STUDENTS VISIT NEW CLASSROOMS

Last Day of School, Early Dismissal 2:15pm

Principal: Iliia Tsoutouras

Deputy Principal: Voula Pounendis

Gov. Council Chairperson: Colleen Sheedy

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Just a short newsletter as we head in to a very busy last 3 weeks of school. This newsletter will be followed by a final newsletter to ensure you stay up to date with everything happening around the school. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those that attended our most recent assembly, and also other assemblies throughout the year. Having the most important people in our children's lives (you) watching them present their work demonstrates the high value placed on their learning. We hope to further improve and strengthen this in 2019.

Concert 'Virginia under the stars' (Friday the 7th of December)

Our concert date is locked in, we are hoping you have blocked out your calendars!



As mentioned in our last newsletter, this year we are trialling the concert on the asphalt to help with acoustics.

Our food options are also expanding, as well as sausages, egg and bacon sandwiches and waffles we will be trialling spring rolls and souvlakia (shaslicks). We will once again have our BBQ prior to the concert however this year some classes will run stalls where you will be able to purchase a range of different items. Some examples include Christmas decorations & cards, star cookies and reindeer food/ jelly cups.

WE WOULD SINCERELY LIKE TO THANK OUR SPONSORS AND KIND DONATIONS FOR OUR RAFFLE FROM LOCAL AND NEAR BUSINESSES, FAMILIES, STAFF AND FRIENDS OF VPS. THERE ARE SOME AMAZING PRIZES! WE WILL ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE ALL OF OUR SPONSORS THROUGH OUR CONCERT PROGRAM AND IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER!

BBQ & Stalls – 4:30 to 6:00pm

Concert begins at 6:00pm

Reports/ Class Placement/ Teacher Notification/s 2019

Reports will come home on Thursday of week 9. Accompanying the report will be notification of your child's class in 2019. In our final newsletter next week we will officially introduce new, welcome back, thank and farewell existing staff.

Pupil Free Day

Whilst pupil free days provide some down time (or family fun time) for students, the same can't be said for teachers. **On Friday the 30th of November (THIS WEEK)** we will be having our Annual School Improvement Process day. On this day, we will review what has happened this year in terms of student achievement and well-being to plan for 2019. It is the final part to a process that takes place throughout term 4. As a school we pride ourselves on continuous improvement and dedicating a day to improving what we do, I believe it has been crucial for our improvement in academic results.

PUPIL FREE DAY

Friday 30th of November

(OSHC available if you have booked)



Buddy Class work

Room 8 and 10 have been working on a buddy class project together using the Habit of Mind, 'think interdependently' to learn more about each other and their different interests.

Their learning intention was to be able to design and make a fictional character from modelling clay.

Our Success Criteria outlined:

- Their model needed be no higher than 15cms in height
- Characters needed to reflect a combination of both partners' physical and personal characteristics.
- It needed to be planned together and the workload shared equally.
- Students needed to work collaboratively with others in pairs or groups of 3.

Together they carefully planned the different components of their characters body, facial features, hair, clothing and accessories and made sure to creatively incorporate our different interests in the design.

Along the way they faced some challenges that they 'persisted' through. Their modelling clay dried faster than anticipated, some models crumbled if they were made too thin and they had to improvise and make executive decisions when partners were away. In some cases these problems actually improved the quality of their end product.

They also reflected on the process and evaluated what we would change about their design and making in future.

They have really enjoyed working together with their buddies this year! Thank you!



REPORTING

Have your say....

As part of our Review Process as a school, we have been looking at our reporting processes. We have discussed potentially making a slight change to our reporting procedures to enable parents to meet and discuss their child's learning with teachers earlier in the year (Term 2 instead of Term 3). We have already gained feedback from both staff, and our Governing Council, and are interested in yours too. Ultimately, our reporting processes exist to support you as a parent/ caregiver to know where your child/ren's learning is at, so your opinion/ feedback is absolutely critical.

Current Reporting Procedures:

Term 1 (Acquaintance Meetings)

Occur during Weeks 2 and 3 of Term 1. The purpose of these is to establish a relationship teacher/ parents while gathering as much information about the student as possible. During these meetings our teachers record information about the student eg Hobbies, likes, dislikes, strengths, weaknesses, health and social issues, favourite and least favourite subjects etc and use this information to provide students with an inclusive, relevant and challenging curriculum.

Term 2 (Mid-Year Reports)

A written report is presented to parents/caregivers in week 10 highlighting the progress children have made halfway through the year.

Term 3 (3-way discussion)

Occur between parent, student and teacher during weeks 8 and 9 of Term 3. Purpose is to have students communicate their progress over the past 3 terms.

Term 4 (End of Year Report)

A written report is presented to parents/caregivers in week 9 summarising the student's achievements and attitude throughout the year.

Potential Reporting Procedures (*changes to current procedure highlighted in green*):

Term 1 (Acquaintance Meetings)

** Same as above

Term 2 (Mid-Year Reports & Interview)

The student written report is presented to parents/caregivers at a teacher/ parent interview in Weeks 9 and 10 of Term 2. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress at this meeting and your child's teacher will be able to talk to the report in more depth.

Term 3 (English/ Maths books go home for students and parents to discuss)

The purpose is to share examples of students' learning with parents/caregivers. Teachers send home an English and Mathematics book with an accompanying letter offering parents/caregivers the opportunity to comment in writing about their child's work. The letter encourages parents/caregivers to read through their children's books with them present and to provide them with feedback about the books.

Term 4 (End of Year Report)

** Same as above

Please tick your preference below and return to the front office;

Stick to the current reporting procedure

Change to the potential reporting procedures

Comments/ feedback: (Please feel free to provide us with any comments/ feedback below)