Term two  Week  two

Coming Events

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<td>Walk to School Day</td>
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<td>Tuesday 13 May</td>
<td>Naplan</td>
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<td>Wednesday 14 May</td>
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<td>Thursday 15 May</td>
<td>Naplan</td>
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<td>Monday 26 May</td>
<td>National Sorry Day/ Reconciliation Week</td>
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Tomika and mum, Alex enjoy a special hug with the new addition to the family, baby Arlo at the Mother’s Day celebrations today.
Dear Parents

It has been a whirlwind week this one. Years 3 and 5 are busily preparing for next week’s NAPLAN assessment. There is information in the body of the newsletter concerning NAPLAN organisation. For those parents who were not able to make Wednesday’s NAPLAN Information session and may have queries please see myself or your class teacher. David Todd is coordinating the assessment program and he may also be able to answer any questions you may have. We purposefully keep the program very low key and part of school life.

Many of you would have seen the article on the front page of the Sunday Sun Herald this week talking about rising school enrolments. Vaucluse Public School featured prominently. We have had many calls of congratulations. Now our well kept secret is out there. While we are now full to capacity we very much enjoyed the positive report of our wonderful school.

Our students (and teachers) performed extremely well yesterday at the Cross Country at Christensen Park. The weather conditions were extremely windy. Lesley Abelitis returned to school as if she had just done a trek to Antarctica and back. Our students responded very well to these tough weather conditions and we discovered some hidden talent in the student body. Everyone commented on the excellent performance of our Year 2 students.

A big thank you to all parents who have generously supported our Mothers’ Day stall. This year’s Mothers’ Day celebrations have been very well planned. We will report on the day in next week’s newsletter. However we would like to wish all our Vaucluse mums a very happy day.

The SRC have introduced a new award the Enviro Award. There is an explanation of this award in the body of the newsletter. This new award is part of a whole school program to raise our students’ environmental awareness.

Happy Mothers’ Day to all.

Maureen Hallahan
Principal

Chasper and mum, Tam enjoying Mother’s Day celebrations at School today
Student Representative Report (SRC)

The SRC has been meeting each fortnight to discuss ways they can make positive changes in regards to issues that they and their class peers think are important.

One area we have discussed is working together to create a more sustainable and litter free school. In response to this challenge the SRC has created Environmental Awards. These are small green awards that will be given to students by the SRC during lunch. Students who are observed eating 'nude food', disposing of litter thoughtfully and who are seen assisting in keeping our school beautiful will be given one green award.

The SRC representatives will work in their playground areas during first half lunch to observe the students and hand out awards.

Students need to keep these awards at home until they have collected ten. Once a student has ten awards they are to take them to Ms Aspden who will present them with a green Merit Award at the Monday morning assembly.

This initiative will commence next week and we look forward to presenting the awards to students who are committed to keeping Vaucluse Public School a green and clean.

Ms Aspden and the SRC

Rock Band

The school has certainly missed hearing our Rock Band play. We are now able to offer this exciting opportunity as an after school activity for students in Years 2-6 on Thursday afternoons at 3.20 in the Music Room (Uniform Shop).

Chris from Big Note will teach the students.

The cost of each lesson will be $10.00 per student i.e. a ten-week term would cost $110.00.

If students are interested they will need to register with Ms Aspden by the end of next week in anticipation of beginning in Week 4. Once numbers are established a note will go home to parents with the details.

Thank you.

Ms Aspden
Some of our Cross Country Champions
Make Online Payments

It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school's website by selecting $ Make a payment

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called Other this to cover items not covered in the previous headings, Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access the $ Make a payment you must enter:

- the students name, and
- class and reference number OR
- the students name, and
- date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number if you are aware of them, these are optional fields.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office.
Eastern Suburbs Artistic School

**Music:** Piano, Guitar, Violin, Clarinet, Singing and more

**Art:** Creative Art, Drawing, Painting, Cartooning and more

**Language:** Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian and more

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<td>Children Lesson</td>
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<td>In-Home lesson</td>
<td>In-Studio Lesson</td>
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Call now for more details!


Address | Level 1, 8 Manning Rd Double Bay NSW 2028

PH | (02) 8040 0900

Email | Info@EasternSuburbsArtisticSchool.com.au
Kids, social media and privacy

Regardless of your child’s age, the world may already know a lot more about them than you suspect. According to recent research:

- 92% of children under the age of 2 have a digital shadow (it starts with proud parents posting newborn baby photos on Facebook or Instagram)
- A quarter of Australian children 8 - 12 years old use Facebook, but the minimum age for a user is 13 years.
- More than 20% of tweens publish photos of themselves on Instagram.
- Young people 14 - 19 have an average of 453 fans, friends or followers on social media.

2014 Privacy Awareness Week, 4 - 10 May 2014, is a good time to review your family’s privacy settings and discuss online security. You’ll find lots of practical information and resources to share with your kids at www.ipc.nsw.gov.au

Printable planners for homework and study

School A to Z has printable monthly planners which include school holidays and the numbered weeks of each Term (for example Monday 19 May is the start of Week 4, in Term 2). Print one for each child to stick on the fridge or on their noticeboards. It’s a great way to teach them how scheduling their time means they’ll fit in the fun activities as well as their other commitments and responsibilities. Download May 2014 at http://bit.ly/Ubmqz8

Is your child’s backpack damaging their spine?

A recent Australian study has shown that approximately 25% of school-aged children suffer from back and/or neck pain at any one time. It’s believed to be due to a combination of factors such as poor posture, everyday load carrying and the use of computers.

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead suggests young people should:

- Not carry more than 10% of their body weight
- Use a backpack with the straps over both shoulders and a waist strap
- Load gear so that the heavier objects are nearer to the spine, with the lighter objects towards the front of the pack
- Lift a backpack properly – bend at the knees and lift the pack with both hands

More tips at http://bit.ly/1iB4OBo

English refresher from School A to Z on Homonyms

Homonyms (also known as homographs) are words that are identical in pronunciation and spelling but have different meanings.

They can be nouns, adjectives or verbs. The context gives them their meaning.

Ask your child for an example, like this one:

I prefer a fine tip on my pen.
He gave me a tip for the Melbourne Cup.
Don’t tip the water on the floor.
You gave the waiter a generous tip.

Vegetable Garden Dates Term 2 2014

I will be working these dates in the vegetable garden at Vaucluse Public.

Time: 9am to 4pm

Dates:
- Monday 05 - May
- Monday 19 - May
- Monday 02 - June
- Monday 16 - June

If you want to come and have a dig and plant, or help out in your child’s class come and join us.

If you want any more information contact Rudi Adlmayer Kitchen Gardener on 0423 020 648

or

email rudi.adlmayer@gmail.com
Wednesday is Fresh Produce Day at VPS

$40

for a mixed box of ORGANIC seasonal fruit and vegetables

FRESH, ORGANIC AND CHEMICAL FREE

Delivered Direct from Eco Farms

Four weeks $160

(or if you want to try it once just call Ilana)

Starting from Wednesday 7 May to Wednesday 28 May

Pick up from 3pm outside Clothing Pool

If you can help sort the vegies on a Wednesday afternoon we meet at 2.15
just let Ilana know via email/text.

Payments made by Cash
Please make payment of $160.00 and leave at VPS School office with your full name, email address and mobile details.

Payments made by Cheque:
Please make your cheque for $160.00 to Vaucluse Public School P&C Association and leave at VPS School office with your full name, email address and mobile details.

Payments made by Direct Debit
Bank: Westpac Rose Bay
Account Name: Vaucluse Public School P&C Association
BSB/Branch: 032 058
Account No: 26 8727
Amount: $160.00
Please put “box” and your surname (boxakres) as your payment description.
Please email confirmation of payment to akresfam@gmail.com with your full name and mobile details.

Payments made by Credit Card
Please contact Ilana on 0408854488 if you would like to pay by Credit Card. You will now need to swipe your card at the clothing pool on a dedicated morning

This is a P&C fundraiser with $5 per box per week going to help our P&C provide ongoing improvements to our school

For more info please contact Ilana akresfam@gmail.com 0408854488
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2014

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

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<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 16 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.