07/14
14th May 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 2 2014
EVERY MONDAY AT 2:15 pm
WHOLE SCHOOL PARADE

Wed May 14th
Flexi schools Fish and Chip Day order online ONLY please.
P and C Meet at 5:30pm in Library

Tuesday 20th May
Under 8’s Day—9am-10:30am Prep
Parents welcome to join in and watch their children

Friday 23rd May
Walk to School Day
Information inside

Wed May 28th
FREE dress in maroon or blue STATE of ORIGIN colours to support P and C

Sunday 1st June
CENT SALE 1:00-4pm
IN Hall

Monday 9th June
Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday

Wednesday 11th June
P and C Meet 5:30pm
ALL welcome

Thursday 19th June
Mackay Show Public Holiday

Friday 27th June
Last Day of Term 2
Report Cards go home

Mrs Elworthy—hard at work with Math and Project 600.

Faces to names—Mrs McBride and Ms Hodgon school administration.

Attendance Cup winners Week 3 are:
3C Mrs Wilson’s class

NOTICE TO PARENT AND CARE-GIVERS
Student absences must be reported by parent or caregiver—sister or brother reporting is not acceptable.

Gotcha card total for the fortnight: 144
New total for the year so far: 2090
**Principal’s News**

_Do what you enjoy, and you will enjoy what you do._

~ Baljit Sethi

Mother’s Day pampering began in our Year 1 classrooms on Friday morning. So many mums received expert attention with hair done, make-up applied along with having their skin moisturised and finger nails painted. Mother’s Day is our opportunity to ensure we say “thank you” for the special things that our mums do for us every day. A belated “Happy Mother’s Day” is extended to all our mums and carers from us all at Victoria Park SS.

**NAPLAN Testing**

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week students in Years 3, 5 and 7 took part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy, or NAPLAN, as it is commonly known. Skills tested included: reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy. These tests are done here at school and are considered just another part of the curriculum. It is important for you and your child to know that NAPLAN is not a pass/fail test. It simply looks at what level students are achieving in literacy and numeracy against National Standards and compared with student peers throughout Australia.

NAPLAN cannot be studied for and students are not expected to do so. The best way to help children prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that it is just a routine part of their school program and to encourage them to do the best they can on the day. At school we provide students with activities that familiarize students with the tests including the type of questions asked and time management strategies. All students in Years 3, 5 and 7 are expected to participate in NAPLAN testing. Later in the year we will send you an individual student NAPLAN report that you can use to view and monitor how your child is progressing. More information is available on the NAP website (http://www.nap.edu.au/).

**Social Media**

At Victoria Park SS we take our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our students and staff very seriously. This responsibility includes considering issues related to behaviours online. Behaviours in the online environment can cover a broad range of issues including online privacy and information protection, good and bad manners, digital citizenship and knowing how to get help to deal with online issues. As you may be aware, comments posted online about people and organisations may impact permanently on their digital reputation. This includes teachers, other staff and students and the school. There can be very real negative consequences from online posts – relationships between school staff, students and parents can be permanently changed for the worse. Facebook and other social networking sites are generally not private communities and, depending on an individual’s security settings, comments can be read by many people and remain online indefinitely. If you or your child is posting information online about the school, staff or students, I ask that you consider the ramifications of these comments on the school and any individuals in the school community concerned. As a rule of thumb: Public discussion is most effective when it is conducted in a polite and respectful manner; Before posting, consider whether those people you are posting about want information, including photos and comments regarding them and their children, posted on Facebook or on other sites. Perhaps ask them before you do it; Rather than airing complaints or grievances in a public forum like Facebook, come and talk to the school first about how to resolve your concerns; Remember that as a parent you have a responsibility to supervise and regulate your own children’s online activities at home and their impact on the reputation and privacy of others. For further information on managing cyber safety, please go to http://education.qld.gov.au/studentservices/behaviour/qsaav/info-parents.html If you have any concerns and would like to discuss further I invite you to make an appointment with me.

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**New Cybersafety website**

The Meet the creeps cybersafety website helps parents and students become aware of online scams, social media pitfalls and cyberbullying. The joint Telstra and Queensland Government project aims to equip middle school students with the skills to keep safe online. Crackers the Clown and Shifty Shane are just two of the characters you will meet in a new interactive quiz designed to highlight potential online dangers.

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**P and C News**

**Uniform Shop**—Corrected hours (sorry)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours are</th>
<th>Mon-Fri 8:30am-9am Mon-Fri 8:30am-9am Tues-Thurs 2:30pm-3pm Thurs-Fri 2pm-3pm Fri</th>
</tr>
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**CENT SALE**—helper forms have been sent home last week. Please return ASAP to your class teacher.

**May 23rd Walk to School**

will be held again this year. We will need volunteers to help out with walking to school from particular points close to school. If you’re interested please see either Michelle Hansen or Mrs Brunetto. There will be a sausage sizzle for the students/teachers at the end of the walk from 8am to 8:30am outside the Hall.

**FLEXISCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING system.**

Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and type in Victoria Park SS to see a demonstration and register yourself to start ordering. If you have any questions please contact Flexi -schools on 1300 361 769.

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK—12-17TH May**

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers who support our school. In so many different ways. From our R.E. teachers to June and others in the Tuckshop, reading group supporters, P and C helpers and so many more. You are TRULY valued.

Coming up is the **Annual Cent Sale on Sunday 1st June**. We will be asking for donations each week of vouchers or grocery items up until the cent sale.

**We need approx. 30 volunteers on the day!** This is a huge fundraiser which benefits ALL children at Vic Park! Please fill in the helper forms even for a short time as many hands make light work.

The CENT SALE to be held on SUNDAY 1st of JUNE from 1.00 –4pm. Helper forms and donation forms have been sent out. Buckets are delivered to classrooms for donations over the next 4 weeks.

If you would like HELP downloading these apps please come into the P&C room Monday morning and we would be more than happy to help.

**JUMPER ORDER FORMS**; please see the volunteers at the uniform shop if you would like to order a Jumper in preparation for the Winter season.
### STUDENT OF THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep/1- Tristan</th>
<th>Achieving his Number Goal. You are a counting superstar.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Estelle For putting in 100% effort when completing her sight words in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A - Ally</td>
<td>For trying super hard with spelling words AND regularly completing homework.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B - Danielle</td>
<td>Always being a fabulous four star learner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1C - Ethan</td>
<td>Blowing my mind with your recall of content and personal drive this term! On fire!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 - Caleb</td>
<td>For being responsible and a great role model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A - Raiden</td>
<td>For working hard to improve his homework.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C - Noah</td>
<td>For always putting in his best effort with all class work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B - Max</td>
<td>For amazing Math skills!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C - Asafa</td>
<td>For making pleasing improvement in Genre Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 - Jazmine</td>
<td>For being a responsible student and working independently in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A - Harley</td>
<td>For being a reliable and responsible student.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B - Sarah</td>
<td>For being respectful in the classroom and giving at least 3 compliments per day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A - Natarsha</td>
<td>Striving to complete work to a very high standard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B - Riley</td>
<td>Improvement in Handwriting and standard of work in class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6A - Ben</td>
<td>For working hard to improve his Mathematics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/7A - Juan</td>
<td>For excellent focus during lessons to reach his goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7B - Lydia</td>
<td>For a great effort in composing a narrative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A - Callum</td>
<td>Always being a responsible and respectful student.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers:

- Cameron 6/7A
- Ally 1A
- Bryce Prep B
- Max 3B
- Caitlin 4A
- Chance 2C
- Kara 6/7A
- Jessica 5B
- Keira Prep/1
- Jack 1C
- Hemorangi 3B
- Katrina 4B
- Tilayna 6/7A
- Jade 7A

Congratulations to ALL winners! Enjoy your $2.00 FREE tuckshop and keep up the great work! Well done.

### FROM THE OFFICE

- **When MAKING PAYMENTS** for school, please place the payment in an envelope and CLEARLY MARK the appropriate student’s NAME, CLASS and PURPOSE of PAYMENT.

- **State School consent forms need to be returned** if you haven’t already.

  The requirement is to pay ALL monies to the classroom teacher BEFORE class commences. If paying by DIRECT DEPOSIT PLEASE use student name, class, and reason for payment as reference.

Please note the dreaded head lice are STILL about. Please TREAT your child if they have head lice and CHECK your child once per week with the conditioner and comb method so we can attempt to eradicate these annoying pests.

Thank you to those who have checked and treated their children already.
Please continue each week :)

### SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

We currently have a short supply of larger sizes. If you are willing to donate your old uniforms please take to tuckshop to hand in. Thank you for taking the time.

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Email: mark.daniel@harcourts.com.au  
Web: www.markdaniel.harcourts.com.au
SO FAR WE HAVE HELPERS AS BELOW FOR THE CENT SALE

Prep A — 3
Prep B — Nil
Prep C — 3
Prep/1 — Nil
1A — 1
1B — 1
1C — Nil
1/2 — Nil
2A — Nil
2B — 1
2C — 1
3A — Nil
3B — Nil
3C — 1
3/4 — Nil
4A — Nil
4B — 1
4C — 1
5A — Nil
5B — Nil
5C — 2
6A — Nil
6B — Nil
6/7A — Nil
6/7B — Nil
7A — Nil

We need 2 helpers from each class. Please see your class teacher and ask how you can help.

GARDEN CLUB
Garden Club Forms - please see Michelle Hansen if you need one.

5 Tips for Helping Students in NAPLAN Week

Keep Calm
It is vital that staff in schools model a calm approach. OUR attitude is contagious and will be ‘caught’ by our students. It is therefore vital we manage our own stress levels, remain calm and do NOT become flustered. We need to be careful NOT to transfer high-stakes expectations onto our students. Pressure doesn’t help! Focus on encouraging students to do their best and trying hard. It is important to choose your words carefully when you speak. As with all learning activities we should put our focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure on students should be to try hard rather than to do well.

Keep NAPLAN in Context
It is important to keep perspective. NAPLAN is only ONE measure of student achievement and a VERY NARROW measure of that. It is a point-in-time test only. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test. It is not expected that all students will be able to answer all questions correctly. ‘Test scores can not tell us whether a teacher or a school is good or bad because many other factors influence test scores (such as poverty, parental support, personality, interests, aspirations, motivation and peer pressure),’ Wu and Hornsby 2012

Acknowledge that exams are stressful
It is helpful to acknowledge that some students may be worried or anxious. NAPLAN provides an opportunity to help students build resilience to anxiety through teaching students some relaxation techniques - deep, controlled breathing, relaxing the shoulders and keeping calm thoughts. reassure students that you’re on their side. You are there to support and encourage them.

Share your own stories of what helped you in your exams
What was your secret - Baroque music? Enough sleep? Healthy snacks? Supportive peers? Going for a run? Colourful mind maps? Give them a way to learn from your successes and failures.

SHEP Music Camp
Jayden 6A (clarinet) and Imogen 6/7A (violin) attended a 3 day Music Camp at North Mackay State High last week. Lots of fun was had.

The best part was meeting lots of like-minded musical students and playing in a concert on Sunday at 3pm in the Nth State High hall. The worst part of the camp was that Jayden fell over and injured himself and Imogen didn't get enough pizza!

The concert was attended by parents and Griffith University Lecturers. SHEP stands for State Honour Ensemble Program.

The concert was intense and challenging although our students rose ably to this. Imogen played “Pacabel’s Canon”, “Gaelels Castle”, “Dragon Fire” and “Jasmine Nights”. Jayden played “Tu Unge”, “Diamond Joes Riviera Club”, “When the Wind Whispers” and “Conundrum”.

We are very proud of our musical students’ representation of Victoria Park. WELL DONE!
Each fortnight some of our class teachers offer Insights and Updates on what is happening in their class. This fortnight we hear from: Year 4
Ms W Brown, Ms L Harbin, Miss N Carnell, Ms T Brown.
This week 30 year 4 students will take part in the PCYC Bike Ed program. This will teach the students to develop responsible attitudes and behaviours regarding the safe use of bicycles. The Year 4 cohort have started inter-class sports on Friday afternoon as a way to build social, gross motor and sportsmanship skills. How EXCITING for the Year 4’s.

Whitsunday Voices is back in 2014!
Wednesday 16 July - Saturday 19 July 2014
Students from Years 3 to 12 are invited to submit entries for the 2014 Whitsunday Voices Youth Literature Festival Short Story Competition. Students are free to respond to a theme or topic of their choice and there is no limit to the number of entries allowed by each student.

Thanks to our sponsor, Friends of Mackay Libraries, for their very generous cash prizes and assistance.