We accepted the challenge put out to school’s by Mackay Toyota to take part in the 20th Year of Planet Ark’s School’s Tree Day on Friday 24th July. Staff members were so proud to accompany 49 of our school leaders from Year 2 to Year who represented the school in the best way possible. Teaming up with Mackay Regional Council, Pioneer Catchment Landcare and Mackay Toyota staff, the students worked hard giving back to the community while learning important lessons about the environment. The students put every effort in to make the day a huge success and helped plant a massive 1500 trees on the day along the creek bed, adjacent to the new soccer fields in Glenella. A big thank you to Cowboys Player Tautau Moga and Mackay Cutters players for signing shirts and talking to the students on the day. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by all.
Introducing Key Staff members at Victoria Park State School

This term in the newsletters we will be introducing key staff members that are working hard within our school with staff and students to improve outcomes across the whole school with their support and expertise.

My name is Julie Morrison and I’m the Head of Curriculum (HoC) at Victoria Park. Curriculum refers to the knowledge and skills that students are expected to learn in each subject/learning area.

One of my major responsibilities is to prepare and conduct planning meetings with each year level at the end of each term. These meetings are critical to ensuring a consistent approach across classes effectively implementing the Australian and Queensland Curricula each term. In these meetings, assessment, curriculum and teaching plans for each learning area are reviewed, discussed and modified accordingly, to achieve the best possible learning outcomes for our students. This information is communicated to parents/caregivers each term in the form of a year level brochure. The school’s Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Plan provides an overview of the curriculum taught in each learning area and year level from Prep to Year 6.

Year 6 Camp

Last week we went to Sydney and Canberra for camp.
In Sydney we explored the Opera House and learnt about how it was built and it was designed by Jørn Utzon.
We also went to Taronga Zoo and saw animals such as elephants, lions, seals, monkeys, etc.
We went to the Sydney eye tower and watched a 4D movie.
After being like 300 meters in the air, we went to Chinatown and ate Chinese food, which was really good.
Later we shopped at Paddy’s Market for around two hours and went to Madam Tussaud’s wax museum.
The next day we got on a bus to go to Canberra and went to the old Parliament House where we learnt all about voting, politics and the House of Representatives. That night, we went to Questacon, which is an interactive science exhibit. The best part of Questacon was the Free Fall.
The next day we went to the new Parliament House where we learnt and observed the Senate and the House of Representatives, then after that we saw Tony Abbott and the Governor General Peter Cosgrove.
After that we went to the War Memorial and learnt about what happened in the Vietnam War.
We went to Iplay for two hours that night, where we played Arcade games, Dodgem Cars and Laser Tag.
The next day, we went to the AIS (Australian Institute of Sport) for a while, and had a lot of fun.
We went to the Royal Australian Mint, where we found out how all the Australian coins were made, then we went to our hotel in Cooma, where we played games in the games room.
The next day we headed off to Perisher Valley to have a good day in the snow, where we went tobogganing and tubing.
We all had fun and it was a great trip. We definitely recommend going on this camp, you won’t regret it.
By Holly Keates, Jessica Austin & Chelsea Bycroft.
Last term we were very fortunate here at Vic Park to benefit from a visit from real life author, Mark Svendsen. Not only did Mark present two very informative sessions for our students about how to improve their writing, but he kindly donated several of his books to our school library. He also suggested that with so many talented writers at our school, we should hold an in-house writing competition and provided two of his books as prizes.

So, as a thank you to all of those enthusiastic students who have entered stories in the Write4Fun and Whitsunday Voices writing competitions this year, I would like to announce that their stories will automatically be entered in this competition. Each story will be printed out without a name attached and presented to our very special guest judge, author, M.C. Edwards. Mr Edwards will judge the stories in two categories – Prep to Year 3 and Years 4-6 and will have no idea who has written which ones. We look forward to bringing you the results in a newsletter in coming weeks!

Get Set for Prep 2016

Enrolments and information packages are available for children who wish to commence prep in 2016. If your child turns 5 by June 30th, they are eligible for prep that year. Late last year, changes were made regarding prep. Principals now have the discretion to enroll students who turn 5 by July 31st. Prior to a decision being made a detailed enrolment interview will take place to determine his/her suitability and readiness. The table below is a guide to assist families determine their child/children’s prep eligibility.

2016 Prep information night will be held in Week 5 at a date to be advised in the next newsletter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birthday</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/07/09 to 30/06/10</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>One</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/07/10 to 30/06/11</td>
<td>PreK</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/07/11 to 30/06/12</td>
<td>Kindy</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Year</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/07/12 to 30/06/13</td>
<td>Kindy</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Year</td>
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</tbody>
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Year One News

Last Tuesday we began our Fire Education program. The firemen visited us to teach us all about good fires and bad fires. They also taught us what to do in an emergency.

If our clothes catch fire we need to Stop, Drop and Roll.

If we are in a room and there’s a fire outside, we need to Get Down Low and Go, Go, Go. When we escape from a fire we need to Get Out and Stay Out!

All the children were encouraged to go home and make an escape plan with their families and identify a meeting point, usually the letterbox. We also practised shouting, ‘Help!’ and the phone number to call in an emergency 000. Next week we might be able to look at a fire truck and maybe even use a fire hose.

Look out Mr Shepherd!!

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school. The box is in the foyer of the office. Sticker charts can be photocopied.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library.

If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

Thankyou.
Rule of the Week: Week 2
Be Respectful - in the classroom
• Use your manner when talking to peers, teachers and other adults in the school grounds
• Respect others’ right to learn.

Social Skill of the Week: Week 2
Asking Permission
1. Look at the person.
2. Use a calm and pleasant voice.
3. Say “May I……? 
4. Accept the answer calmly

The weekly rules and social skills are presented by students on parade each Monday. Please take the time to discuss them with your children at home also.

***************Attendance Cup winners (P-3)***************

Week 2: 2B with 97% attendance.

***************Attendance Cup winners (4-6)***************

Week 2: 4A with 98% attendance.

Tuckshop Voucher Winners from Week 2

Prep - Zara
Year 1 - Indie G
Year 2 - Ace
Year 3 - Lani
Year 4 - Reynan
Year 5 - Taylor
Year 6 - Marjill

★ Total for week 2 is 363
★ Total Gotchas for Term 3 so far is 881
★ Total Gotchas for the whole school so far
★ this year is 5711

Principals Gotcha Award
A student with 50 Gotcha Cards during the year. For following the 4 school rules. The student also receives a Principal Awards Certificate on parade to recognise their achievements.

There were no students receiving this award this week but some that are very close. Keep up the good work.

Gold Gotcha Award Winners
are students who have received 36 Gotcha Cards.

Having a great start to the term and receiving their Gold Certificates in week 2 are:

1B - Violet W
3A - Christian P
Paige K
Brianna –Lee J
Hamza K

Silver Gotcha Award Winners
Students who have received 24 Gotcha Cards.

Having an awesome start to the term and receiving their Silver Certificates in week 2 are:

Prep/1 - Jack C
Bailey D
Hayden F
Indianna H
Travis P
1A - Ky L
Nevaeh E
1B - Pixie L
Tamia Q
Sim S
Isabella V

Bronze Gotcha Award Winners
are students that have received 12 Gotcha Cards.

The following students received a Bronze Award in Week 2 are:

1A -- Raeleigh W
Tyler G
1B - Shontal B
Kahu W
Keirah S
Amity S
Nickolas C
Aron R
Sophie VE
1C - Ethan B
We are now looking for another intake of parents willing to become volunteers to help out in our uniform shop and tuckshop. As the year progresses we see an increase in the demand of these services from parents and need some extra hands please. No experience is necessary as all training is provided. If you have a couple of hours, a morning or an afternoon free please contact Michelle on 0438576784. Come along and meet the fantastic volunteers that already help out every week.

Please RSVP before 31st July to ph: 4957 222

This event is being run by The George Street Neighbourhood centre. Tickets will be ready at the door for you to purchase. It is only $5 per family.

Lantern making for the Animating Spaces Lantern Parade
3A students will participate in two lantern making workshops to be showcased in the Animating Spaces Lantern Parade on August 29th as part of the Festival of Arts. The first workshop was a whole class effort to create a giant fish lantern using bamboo and cane. The children will make individual lanterns during the second workshop. Come and see 3A’s beautiful creations as they become part of hundreds of lanterns to be paraded down the Pioneer River boardwalk at the Lantern Parade on Saturday 29th August. More information regarding the Lantern Parade will be advised closer to this spectacular event.

Juli Eastment 3A Teacher.