



Villawood North Public School

Nurturing, Innovative and Dedicated

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Monthly Newsletter– November 2014

November 2014						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Dates to Remember	
9/12	Whole school Matinee Performance
9/12	Whole school Evening Performance
10/12	Whole school Evening Performance
12/12	Picnic Day
15/12	Presentation Day
16/12	Year 6 Farewell
17/12	Last day of School

Principals Report– School Success

2014 drawing to a close

It is amazing to be in late November. Where does the year go? We hope to have reports ready to go out in early December. As in past years there are no formal interviews planned at the end of the year. If you would like to discuss reports or your child you can do so by making an appointment with the teacher directly.

Please be aware that children can get very tired towards the end of a year, particularly with performance nights. This can cause some changes to behaviour. It is a good idea to make sure that children get enough sleep to avoid some problems at home and school.

School Performance

Our students have been involved in many rehearsals leading up to the performance on the 9th and 10th of December. It is always amazing to see how much effort goes into making this event successful. This performance is a great opportunity for students to perform for their parents. We certainly have some gifted performers.

Photo Competition Update

On the 17th of November, 20 students and a number of parents and teachers went to the Investec office in the city. I was so proud to see their professional photos being displayed. Many of the office workers commented on how good the photos were and were surprised at the age of the photographers.

Thank you Mrs Olivieri and Miss Kinloch for helping to organise such a wonderful night. We should never forget that the students of VNPS can achieve amazing things when given the opportunity.

Parent Forums

We are going to hold parent forums to get ideas on our new discipline policy and to discuss future planning. There will be a morning meeting held on the 3rd of December, with a night meeting held on 4th of December. It would be great to see you at one of these events to add ideas.

Regards
Garrett Nelson
Principal

Early Stage One (Kindergarten)

Kindergarten have been working hard and have had a very busy number of weeks. We have been involved in quite a number of fun learning experiences this term.

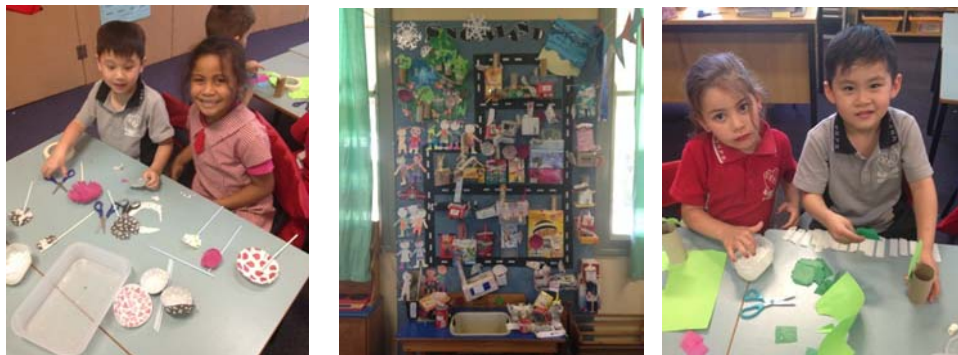
The students are enjoying working on our 'Community' unit of work. They have worked very creatively to build their own 3D community using recyclable materials. Thank you to all the parents who donated these products, they have been happily used. We have looked at and discussed what's involved in running a community successfully.

The students are also enjoying maths time where we are focussing on the TEN program. All students are engaged in hands on activities with a focus on number. You may want to try and incorporate some simple maths activities or questions at home whilst doing simple jobs around the house. An example would be counting how many steps it may take from the beginning of your house to the end.

As the term is coming to an end, a reminder that homework and home readers will finish in week 8. Students will begin taking home some workbooks. Make sure you keep reading at home over the holiday period as this is very important.

Good luck to all our beautiful Kindergarten students in 2015. Yes, you will graduate from Kindergarten and move on into Year 1.

Mrs Masri and Ms McLaren



Stage One (Years 1 and 2)

This term Year 1 and 2 have been studying the production of food and how to keep food clean and safe. Recently, students investigated hygienic practices when preparing food and made judgements on how to package and store dairy products.

Students used their safe food preparation knowledge to make dairy products: ice-cream and butter while also putting their food packaging and storage predictions to the test. Before taste testing their final products we compared and contrasted batches of butter and ice-cream and how effective our packaging and storage methods were.



Please remember that the K-2 **Home Reader Program** will finish this week, please ensure that you return all of your books by Friday 28th of November.



Stage Three (Years 5 and 6)

Wow! Where has the time gone? We are almost at the end of term 4 2014, and what a great year it has been!

This term has been a busy one as our Year 6 children prepare to leave primary school and embark on the adventure of high school. We wish them every success and happiness. We will celebrate their time at a Villawood North with a farewell dinner and dance on Tuesday 16th December followed by a special assembly on Wednesday 17th December at 2pm.

In the classroom, we have been looking at visual literacy through books and film. The children have enjoyed the various activities and have worked very hard. One particularly interesting activity was the writing of a recipe for world peace. The children produced some insightful recipes that clearly demonstrated a great understanding of what world peace would look like. These recipes were bound and made into classroom books.

As we head towards the end of the year, I would like to remind the children that they need to continue to work to the best of their ability until the very last day.

Wishing you all a very safe and happy holiday.

Mrs Olivieri

What has been happening at VNPS?

Swimming Program

The Learn to swim program was a huge success. The students were happy and engaged during the lessons over the five week program. The instructors were all friendly and ensured adequate feedback was given to the students at the end of the program. The Safety lesson in Week 4 of the program was also interesting and the students enjoyed what they were shown.

With such a great experience we hope to return in 2016.

Mrs Malvicino

Swim Co-ordinator



End of year Performance “ROAR”

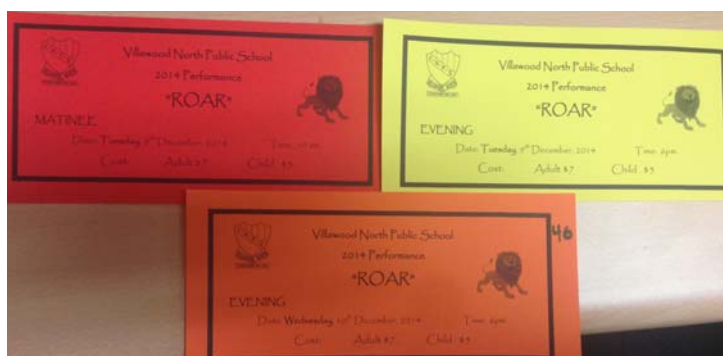
Students have been working very hard preparing for our end of year performance “Roar”.

There will be three shows this year held at the following times:

- Tuesday 9th December; 10am Matinee Performance
- Tuesday 9th December; 6pm Evening Performance
- Wednesday 10th December; 6pm Evening Performance

Don't forget to buy your tickets from the office!!

We hope to see you there.



Spelling Whizz

On Friday 14th November we held our annual Spelling Competition. We had many entrants and all the students who competed did a great job. Well done to our runner up and spelling champions.

I look forward to next year's competition !

Miss Kinloch



R2 are very excited for their classmate Arnold who won the year 2 competition

As you may have noticed, our school library has undergone a makeover. It is full of brand new lovely colourful furniture and the children seem to love it.

We would like to thank one of our parents Mr Tea who has kindly donated his time and some materials to decorate our library.

Do you have a special event coming up and need assistance with decorations? Mr Tea is available! If you would like further information please see Mrs Treen in the library.



Bandaged Bear Fundraiser

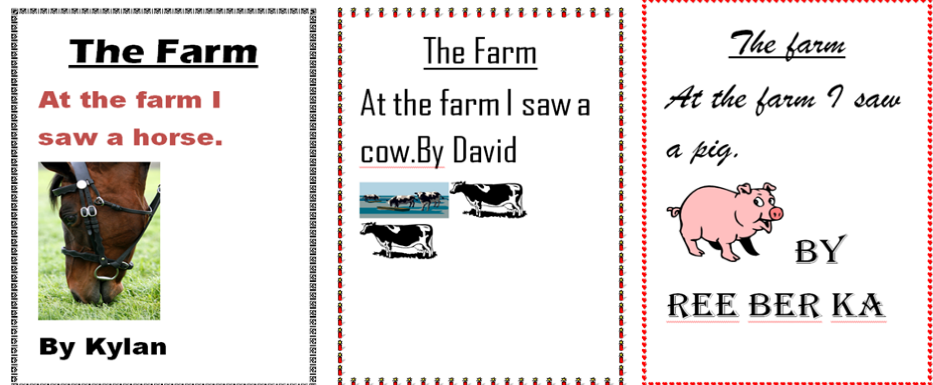
On Wednesday the 26th of November, we held a Bandaged Bear fundraiser for Westmead Children's Hospital. We asked all of the students to wear their pyjamas and bring along a teddy bear as well as a gold coin donation. They enjoyed a picnic lunch out on the oval and had a special visit from the Bandaged Bear.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this fun charity event.



Computer room news – end of year wrap up.

TERM THREE saw our Kindergarten's learning to use Microsoft word. They learnt to type a sentence, insert pictures, borders as well as change the colour and look of the font they were using. They wrote some fantastic sentences about their visit to Calmsley Hill City Farm. Mrs Jugovac is very proud of just how far our kindergarten has come in their ability to use the computers this year. Well done Kindy!

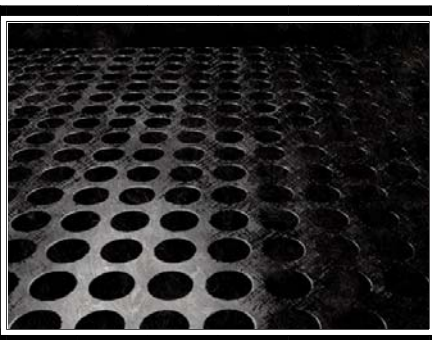
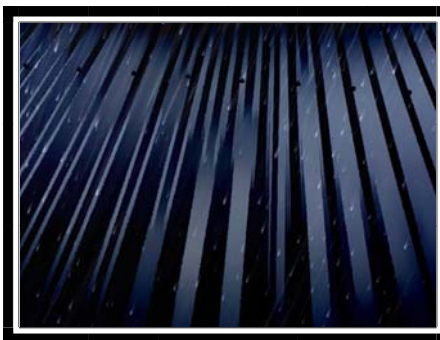


While students in Years 1 and 2 expanded on their Word skills and learnt to use Microsoft Publisher. They learnt how to change then font, colour, inserting pictures and backgrounds into their work as well as saving their work correctly. Years 3-6 all participated in photography lessons using the school's iPads. This was to coincide with the school's participation in the Investec Photo Competition. It was an exciting time as the students and I were all going along a learning journey together and it ended off beautifully with an awards night at Chifley Tower where the prize winners were announced. Congratulations to:

1st place: Bway G5

2nd place: Shelley K3

3rd place: Tom M5/6



TERM FOUR has seen the whole school working on lots of exciting projects in the computer room.

Students in years 3-6 have been learning about computer science and computer programming. The students have been participating in self-regulated lessons where they have been leaning to code. The lessons have included working on the school iPads using apps such as Daisy the Dinosaur and Scratch Junior as well as participating in lessons on the web including sites such as: code.org and crunchzilla.com.



Meanwhile Years 1 and 2 have worked collaboratively this term using the google tool called presentation to make a class fairy-tale. Please feel free to have a look at R2 and S1/2's great stories online using the following links:

<http://bit.ly/vnpsr2> <http://bit.ly/S12vnps>

While Kindergarten have been introduced this term to internet safety. Looking at what the internet is and discussing personal information and learning that we only share personal information with people we trust. This unit will lead up to what they will be learning in term 1 next year on cyber safety.

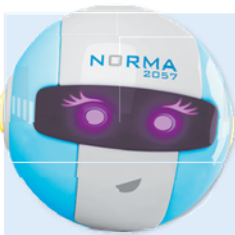
The students and I have had a great year exploring new things together in the computer room and I look forward to more learning journeys with our fantastic students!

Mrs Jugovac

Computer Coordinator



BE ROAD SAFE *Around Schools*



Driving home a vital message

WELCOME to the second part of our special educational series on road safety for children.

This week, NRMA's Norman and Norma will focus on the road dangers around schools and how our attitude and behaviour can keep us out of harm's way.

Schools are safe places, but the roads around them can be dangerous, with large numbers of cars and people moving around.

Children need to be aware of this and remind their parents to take special care in school zones. In this section, we will also

investigate design and safety features on cars.

Road users of all ages have an important role to play in ensuring everybody stays safe, be it as a driver, passenger or pedestrian.

Let's now continue our safety journey.



Have a good day: It's OK to say goodbye to your child on the pavement, but you shouldn't leave your vehicle parked in a drop zone. Picture: Sam Rutyn

Road Safety Message to Parents

Term 4 Road Safety Education

VNPS has continued Road Safety Education in classes this semester to ensure students are aware about the Safety to and from school. The students are enjoying the lessons and interacting with teachers.

I was able to capture a class EK in action during the term and enjoyed their actions. Their actions coincided with their road map of 'Snowland'. Thankyou Miss McLaren. Please try and practise with your children some of the words which are critical for road safety:

Stop
Look
Listen
Think

Road Education
Mrs Marcela Malvicino



Lesson in safety: School zones

Keeping our kids in

YOUR school is probably surrounded by roads. Some schools are located on very busy roads such as highways and main streets, and some are located on backstreets that are not so busy.

Whatever type of streets surround your school, you must be aware of what the environment looks like and be aware of some of the dangers that exist. Each school will be different, but basic road rules remain the same.

There are some basic rules you must obey and be aware of:

- Children up to eight years old should hold an adult's hand in the car park, on the footpath and when crossing the road.
- Children aged between eight and 10 should be closely supervised by an adult in the traffic environment, and should hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.

● Most 40km/h school zones operate on school days from 8am to 9.30am and from 2.30pm to 4pm in NSW. In the ACT, school zones operate from 8am to 4pm. Drivers must obey this speed limit even if children cannot be seen.

● You may have noticed dragon's teeth road markings near your school. These are triangular road markings which will alert drivers that conditions have changed and they are entering a school zone. Drivers must obey the 40km/h speed limit during the two periods.

● As a child pedestrian you are at greater risk of injury than an adult. You should know your arrangements for getting home from school. Do you catch a bus, walk, or are you picked up? You should know what to do if your arrangements go wrong. You might miss your bus or your parent might be late picking you up. Make sure you have a plan of what to do in these situations. Talk to your parents about this.

● If you are using the school crossing you may have a crossing supervisor to assist you. You must wait on the footpath away from the kerb until the supervisor indicates that it is safe to cross. If the crossing is unsupervised, wait until the cars have come to a complete stop before crossing the road.

Community Messages



Liverpool Night Markets

Join in the festive fun at the Liverpool Night Markets on 6 December! There's something for the whole family at this free event – from the annual Liverpool Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, to carols performed by the Combined Churches of Liverpool choir, to a special visit from Santa! Parents can pick up great Christmas gifts at the market stalls, plus there's the usual petting zoo, jumping castle and story times at the Liverpool Pop-Up Library for the kids.

- Santa stops by from 5pm
- Hear carols from 7-8pm and again from 8.30-9.30pm
- See the giant Christmas tree lit from 8-8.30pm

Head down to Macquarie Street and Macquarie Mall, Liverpool from 4-9.30pm. For more info, visit www.liverpool.nsw.gov.au/nightmarkets or the Liverpool Night Markets Facebook page.

