PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

STUDENTS’ ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL
Over the last few weeks of last term, it had become very noticeable that several students are arriving at school prior to 8.40am. Our school commences at 9.10am and a teacher is on duty in the playground at 8.40am to supervise the students as they arrive. Due to WH&S students are not to arrive at school prior to this time as no supervision for students is available until 8.40am. Staff are not available to supervise students prior to this time as they are preparing for the day and / or attending meetings.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
On Wednesday, 14th May we will be having our School Group photos redone as quality of the groups photos that were taken originally was not of an acceptable standard.

Girls: School dress, navy blue culottes, with the school maroon and yellow shirts with logo, white socks, black shoes with no colour highlights, trims or coloured shoe laces, maroon or navy blue hair accessories, no jewellery / wrist, neck or ankle bracelets.

Boys: School maroon and yellow shirts with logo, preferably navy blue shorts although grey shorts are acceptable, white socks, black shoes with no colour highlights, trims or shoe laces, no jewellery / wrist, neck or ankle bracelets.

CROSS COUNTRY
Unfortunately, due to the inclement weather, our School Cross Country had to be postponed. We will now hold our annual Cross Country Carnival on Friday, 2nd May, at 12.15pm

Families are more than welcome to come and join in the event and encourage all the students as they complete the course.

The canteen will NOT be open on this day.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
The National Assessment Program (NAPLAN testing) will be held in week 3 at Vineyard Public School for all students in Year 3 and Year 5. The children will complete assessment tasks in Language and Writing (Tuesday, 13th May), Reading (Wednesday 14th May) and Numeracy (Thursday, 15th May).

Friday, 16th May has been set aside as a “catch-up” day for any student who misses any of the tests.

Parents are requested to ensure that their child arrives at school on times and are not absent from school (unless sick) on any of the test days.
MOTHER DAY STALL
The P & C will be holding a Mother’s Day Stall on Friday 9th May. Gifts will be able to be purchased from $2.00 - $5.00. The Year 6 will be gift wrapping for $1.00 to raise money towards their farewell gift to the school.

ELECTRICITY REBATE
The Family Energy Rebate helps NSW family households to pay their electricity bills. In 2013-2014 the Family Energy Rebate gives eligible households a $125 credit on their electricity bill. If you live in a caravan or mobile home park, the 2013-2014 Family Energy Rebate is $137.50.

You can complete the application on line or by submitting a paper copy. If you require access to the internet, to either complete the application on line or to obtain a paper copy, please come and see us at the school office so that we can assist you.

OPPORTUNITY CLASS 2015
Parents seeking opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2015 are required to submit an application by 16 May 2014. Generally students are in Year 4 in 2014 when applying for Year 5 entry in 2015.

Online applications open on Monday 28 April 2014. All other applicants must complete an official printed application form. Late applications will not be accepted after the closing date of 16 May 2014 except in areas where there is a shortage of suitable candidates.

Application packages will be available in schools from 28 April 2014.

Application forms whether submitted online or lodged with the principal should be received by the student’s current primary school by Friday 16 May 2014.

WELCOME!
This week, we welcomed Billy and his family to Vineyard Public School. We hope they will enjoy attending Vineyard Public School and look forward to meeting the students, teachers and parents of our school.

MONEY REQUESTS
We have a limited amount of school funds that we are provided with each year. To subsidise this we request school fees and a school contribution fee. School fees pay for our on line computer programs such as Mathletics and a paper levy. As we do not use text books, we provide students with worksheets which involves the cost of covering paper and photocopying service charges. Currently, the number of families who pay their school fees is limited and we are having difficulty at covering costs. In 2015, we will review strategies to increase the percentage of families contributing to our school fees.

COSTS OF EVENTS
We always endeavour to provide parents with ample time to pay for school events. We are very aware that some families have more than one child so we attempt to keep costs to a minimum. Any family that is having difficulty meeting the cost are welcome to speak to me in regards to student assistance.

In this newsletter I have included a summary of anticipated costs for this term. This has been drafted using the current information we have as to events that we will be participating in this term, so it is therefore subject to change.

UNIFORM
Throughout 2013, we consistently reviewed the school uniform at P & C meetings. It is becoming a concern that parents are not adhering to our school uniform code. Many students are wearing multi coloured shoes for their everyday uniform and sports uniform.

We will be enforcing our school uniform policy daily, recognising those students who have come to school in correct school uniform. Students participating in out of school events will need to ensure that they adhere to the school uniform code, i.e. black school shoes for our school uniform and white or black jogger with no fluro laces or trims for sports events, if they wish to participate in the event.
PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS
At Vineyard, the staff are constantly attempting to provide opportunities for student to participate in a variety of
events to broaden their learning experiences and enhance student engagement. To do this it takes staff considerable
time to book events, negotiated our participation, prepare logistics, including notes, transport, costs etc.

Our continual necessity to cancel our participation in events is of concern to the staff not only in the fact that we view
the event as valuable to the student learning experiences and their engagement but also the reputation of the school
and the staffs’ credibility.

We would ask for your support in ensuring that your child participates in events that they are invited to attend as we
do not take light of the fact that when we request your child to attend an event we see it as a valuable learning
opportunity for them.

NOTES HOME
I have been altered to the fact that some parents are feeling that there are copious amount of notes that are being
sent home.

Notes are sent home to inform parents of the events that are occurring at school and often contain permission notes
that we require due to WH & S issues. Notes contain deadlines which are vital to the school being able to efficiently
organise the event and deploy staff as required. We would appreciate it if these notes could be sent back within the
time frame. We will no longer be supplying extra copies of notes due to administration costs. No late replies will be
accepted.

ANZAC Service
Our ANZAC service was held on Tuesday 29th April, 2014. Tara, Jordan, Billy and Andrew lead the assembly.

Students displayed exemplary behaviour throughout the service. Thank you to all the students and their families who
brought bouquets of flowers to lie at the base of our flagpole as part of our service.
### ANTIPOATED EXPENSES FOR TERM 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENTS</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>ANTICIPIATED COST</th>
<th>APPROXIMATE PAYMENT DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yrs 2 – 6 Competitors</td>
<td>Small School Cross Country</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 6th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K - 6</td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Stall</td>
<td>Gifts from $2.00</td>
<td>Friday 9th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Year 6 Fundraising for Farewell Gift</td>
<td>Gift Wrapping $1.00</td>
<td>Friday 9th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K - 6</td>
<td>Relay for Life</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Thursday 22nd May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yrs 2 – 6 Competitors</td>
<td>District Cross Country</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Tuesday 20th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 - 6</td>
<td>Writers’ Festival</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Friday 16th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years K - 3</td>
<td>Australiana Pioneer Village</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
<td>Monday 26th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 4,5,6</td>
<td>School Camp</td>
<td>~$280</td>
<td>Monday 4th – 6th August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>Year 6 Fundraising for Farewell Gift</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Various</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Why Can’t I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student “A” reads 20 minutes each day</th>
<th>Student “B” reads 5 minutes each day</th>
<th>Student “C” reads 1 minute each day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3600 minutes in a school year</td>
<td>900 minutes in a school year</td>
<td>180 minutes in a school year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,800,000 words

282,000 words

8,000 words

90th percentile

50th percentile

10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student “A” will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student “B” will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

*(Nagy & Herman, 1987)*