PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE
Welcome to 2015. On behalf of the staff I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our children and their families who have returned back to school this year.

In particular, a sincere welcome to the parents and carers of our eleven kindergarten students; David, Sienna, Jordan, Bligh, Joseph, Charlotte, Violet, Ryan, Deejay, Mitchell and Shaun.

This year we will be having two multistage classes: The Possums and The Echidnas. Mrs Cara Laing’s home class will be The Possums and Mr Sean Holmes’ home class will be The Echidnas.

This year, I will be taking Library, RFF and working with the students and teachers during the Literacy and Numeracy Sessions.

I look forward to working closely with the students, teachers and the school community. I believe that the education of your children is a shared partnership between school and home. If at any time you have a concern about your child, I encourage you to contact the school to make an appointment to see your child’s class teacher or myself if appropriate. By working together, we can do our best to ensure that your child/children feel safe and happy and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential academically, culturally, socially and emotionally.

WELCOME!

This week, we welcomed Alexander 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.

ASSEMBLY
Our K -6 Assemblies will be held on a Thursday afternoon each fortnight on the even weeks at 2.45pm in the School Library. We invite all community members to our assembly to celebrate the success and achievements of our students.

MEET THE TEACHER
Next Wednesday, 11th February we will be holding our Meet the Teacher evening. We will commence the evening at 5.30pm in the school library where we will present information about our whole school literacy and numeracy programs, our Positive Behaviour for Learning Program and our homework policy.

The evening will not focus on individual children. Parents will then have the opportunity to visit their child’s classroom and develop and understanding of the teacher’s expectations for the year as well as to provide you with an overview of the programs your children will be participating in this year. We will be having formal Parent/Teacher interviews for that purpose late in Term 1. However, if at any time you have a concern about your child, you are encouraged to contact the school to make an appointment to see your child’s class teacher at a mutually convenient time.
STUDENT SAFETY – COLLECTION OF STUDENTS
To comply with Work Health and Safety I request that all parents collect their child/ren from the school playground at the conclusion of the school day. This ensures that the school gates are only accessed by an adult, that students are escorted through the car park in the supervision of an adult and that parents are vigilant in ensuring that only their child/ren accesses the car park when the gate is open.

STUDENT SAFETY – PETS IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS
To comply with Work Health and Safety I request that families do not bring their pets into the school grounds. Some students find the presence of animals such as dogs stressful and even frightening. Even well behaved pets, can behave unpredictably when placed in busy, noisy and crowded school environments and this can lead to animals snapping / fighting at each other. Students can also behave unpredictably when in the presences of pets and this may lead to the students being harmed by the pet.

STUDENT SAFETY - CAR PARK SAFETY
We are very fortunate to have a school car park where parents are able to easily park to drop off and collect their child from school.

For the safety of our students, please:
- follow the road signs at all times
- ensure that your child is adequately supervised as you would do so if in a public car park.
- travel through the car park in a clockwise direction

PERMISSION TO PUBLISH
It would appreciate if you could return the General Permission To Publish And Disclose Information permission note promptly by Monday, 9th February, 2015 as it is a legal requirement by the DEC to enable us publish information that may include your child’s first name, age, school and information collected such as photographs, sound and visual recordings of your child, your child’s work and expressions of opinion such as in interactive media. This will enable us to share his/her experiences with other students as well as, informing the school and broader community about our school and our educational programs.

FEES
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 the students to use 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. We would appreciate it if you could finalise you school fee and voluntary contribution by the end of February.

ANTICIPATED COSTS FOR TERM 1
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.

The summary of anticipated costs for this term 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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Kinder</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
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YEAR 6 FUNDRAISER
This term, during the warmer weather, Year 6 will be selling superdoopers at our play breaks on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday for $0.50. The funds raised will be used for the Year 6 farewell gift to the school.

Year 6 will commence selling superdoopers on Tuesday 10th February, 2015.
PERMISSION NOTES
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. Permission notes should be sent back within the time frame stated on the note. We will no longer be accepting late replies.

All notes that are applicable to all K – 6 students can be found on our website at: http://school.schoolenews.com.au/vineyardps/
If you require the user name and the password, please contact the school office.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS
To streamline the process when students are returning permission notes and payments for school activities, we have installed a letter box in the school foyer for students to place their permission notes and money.

All money and permission notes must be in either a sealed envelope or a snap lock plastic bag with the student’s name and then placed in the letter box by the returned date as per the school note.

We have placed envelopes on the office counter for your convenience.

ATTENDANCE
Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. Parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children and school staffs are responsible for the monitoring of part or whole day absences.

If your child is absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence. To explain an absence parents and carers can send a note to school or contact the school via electronic means such as fax or email, telephone the school or visit the school.

The Department may take action where children of compulsory school age have recurring unexplained and unacceptable partial or whole day absences from school.

Justified reasons for absences may include if the students ha; has an unavoidable medical to dental appointment, is required to attend a recognised religious holiday, is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as a funeral), is sick or has an infectious disease.

SCHOOL CANTEEN
The school canteen will be open on a Monday and Thursday each week. Students will be able to order their lunch on these days. A new price list of items which will be sold at the canteen has been sent home. Please ensure that lunch orders are placed prior to 9.10am. Students can leave their completed lunch orders at the School Office on arrival at school.

SCHOOL CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS
The school canteen committee are seeking parents, caregivers and community members who are interested in volunteering their time to work in the canteen on Mondays and / or Thursdays. If you are able to assist, could you please speak to Vicki or let the school office know of your availability.

Each child is also asked to contribute a box of tissues to class supplies.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Happy Birthday to all the students who celebrated their birthdays over the holidays.

Tara – 11 years        Maddison – 10 years        Billy - 7 years
Jack - 6 years        Bligh – 5 years

FACEBOOK
Vineyard Public School now has its own official Facebook page. Like us and keep up to date with the information as it happens. Your can find us at www.facebook.com/vineyardpublicschool.
EMAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS – IPHONE, IPAD AND ANDROID APPS

We are pleased to inform you that you can now subscribe to receive newsletters, notes and year specific information via email and also access these via an app for your iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Instant alerts are sent to your smartphone after you install the app ensuring that you don’t miss important notices.

Receiving the news electronically has many advantages including:
- easy and direct reminders straight to your email account;
- simple to use mobile apps with alerts;
- your child can’t forget or lose the newsletter or notes;
- access to the newsletter and notes if your child is absent from school; and
- reduced photocopying and administration time costs to the school; and

Subscribe for email updates
- Visit our website at www.vineyard-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
- Click the “Newsletters and Notes” heading (top menu)
- Click on “Subscribe to receive newsletters and notes.”
- Under the “Subscribe” heading, tick on the “Newsletters List” and “Notes and Notices”.
- Enter in your name and email address.
- Click Subscribe

IMPORTANT: An email will be sent to your email address, you MUST click the “Activate Now” inside this email that is sent to you.

Get school news via an app
- Download the free app called “School Enews” by typing in the web address below in Safari or Chrome or Internet on your device. Open the app and search for “vine”.
  - iPhone and iPod Touch app: http://iphone.schoolenews.com.au
  - iPad app: http://ipad.schoolenews.com.au
  - Android app: http://android.schoolenews.com.au
  - All other phones: http://webapp.schoolenews.com.au

To access the ‘Notes and Notices’ you will need to enter the password, please contact the office to be given the password that is required.

There is NO COST to download this app.

Excellence – Opportunity – Success

CLASS AWARDS

POSSUMS
Lilyarna – Setting a great example for younger class members.
Jon – An excellent start to the year.

ECHIDNAS
Timothy – Being an excellent role model and leader.
Maddison – An outstanding start to Year 3.

PICK OF THE BUNCH AWARDS

Montana – Yellow

Timothy – Green Level 2