



Term 1 Parent Calendar



Wednesday 6th February 2019

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday 13th Feb	Years 1-6 Assembly, 2:20pm
Monday 18th Feb	P&C Meeting (AGM), 9:15am
	Meet The Teacher Kindergarten, 6pm to 6:45pm
	Meet The Teacher Stage 3, 7pm to 7:45pm
Tuesday 19th Feb	Swimming Carnival for Years 2-6, 12:30pm
	Meet The Teacher Stage 1, 6pm to 6:45pm
	Meet The Teacher Stage 2, 7pm to 7:45pm
Monday 25th Feb	Homework Starts
Thursday 28th Feb	Scripture Starts
Friday 1st March	P&C Chipmunks Play Centre Fundraiser
Wednesday 6th March	K-6 Assembly, 2:20pm
Thursday 7th March	Zone Swimming Carnival
Monday 18th March	School Photo Day

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- P & C Report
- Chipmunks Fundraiser

Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Morning Teas - Welcome to Vardys Road

Welcome to all the new families of Vardys Road Public School! We have a wonderful school community that we would love you to be a part of.

We are inviting all Kindergarten parents to Café Bayala for morning tea (provided by Wesley Mission), so that you can get to know other parents, learn more about the school community and start to feel at home here. You can meet and speak to Mr Daniel Tuckwell, our Community Wellbeing Officer and Ms Diana Lloyd, our Early Stage 1 Assistant Principal.

We will be hosting these morning teas every Thursday during Term 1, straight after school starts from 9:15am to 10am at our new Yarning Circle just inside our front gate. We hope you can join us for at least one of these morning teas as we are looking forward to getting to know you!

When Does Homework Officially Start?

Homework at Vardys Road will undergo a review in 2019. To allow our teachers to explain how this review and trial will work at the upcoming parent information nights, the official starting time for homework will be in Week 5 of this term, a bit later than previously advertised.

Classes 2019

It took a little over three days, but eventually our growing numbers settled and allowed us to form our new classes. As mentioned in an earlier note, the classes for 2019 are as follows:

EARLY STAGE ONE

K Buttercup Mrs Brigitte Harrison

K Marigold Mr David Bartlett

K Daffodil Ms Diana Lloyd

K Wattle Miss Nicole Sclavenitis

K Sunflower Mrs Claire Sachdev

Team Leader: Ms Diana Lloyd

STAGE ONE

1/2 Apple Miss Lyndall Fuller

1/2 Shamrock Miss Sarah Dunkley

1/2 Fern Mrs Carolyn King (M, T, W)

 Mrs Jaime Davies (Th, F)

1/2 Mint Mrs Samantha Barker

1/2 Clover Miss Lisa Tabone

1/2 Jade Miss Jenean Hafza

1/2 Emerald Mr Brett Murphy

Team Leader: Mrs Belinda Barber

STAGE TWO

3/4 Cherry Miss Nasha Kapadia

3/4 Ruby Mr Timothy Uren

3/4 Poppy Ms Chantelle Bartolo

3/4 Scarlet Mrs Catherine D'Chong

3/4 Crimson Miss Alicia Rankine (M, T, W)

 Mr Timothy Bromhead (Th, F)

3/4 Rose Mrs Rachel Bernays

Team Leader: Mrs Catherine D'Chong

STAGE THREE

5/6 Aqua Miss Rebecca Anderson

5/6 Sapphire Mrs Pam Parkinson

5/6 Indigo Mrs Megan Guerrero

5/6 Cobalt Miss Heather Grosvenor

Team Leader: Miss Rebecca Anderson

Classes 2019

This year Vardys Road has incorporated many composite classes into our class structure.

This decision was made to allow the grouping of children with similar needs, strengths and areas to develop. It facilitated student welfare programs, helped moderate class sizes and allowed increased flexibility for students to work towards challenging, differentiated and achievable goals. The structure also allowed us to better align class programs to the stage based curriculum.

All the syllabus documents are stage based with children working through a cyclical program over two years. For example Year 1 and 2 students work through the same units of work, as do Year 3 and 4 students as well as Year 5 and 6 children. Every class in a stage works through the same content, however they attack the curriculum at different levels. This would occur in a straight or a composite class.

While research has repeatedly shown there is no discernible difference in student performance or outcomes between straight and composite classes, composite classes sometimes cause concern with parents.

Parental concern often centres around students falling behind academically, not being catered for and teacher workload limiting individual attention.

The research however finds the opposite. Composite classes often focus more on achieving individual learning goals rather than class or grade based learning outcomes, with differing learning styles and academic abilities addressed. Composite classes can help both older and younger students gain confidence, help develop collaborative learning skills and also foster independent working habits. Leadership, tolerance and cooperation are other important skills that are better developed in composite classes. Most importantly, a child being in a composite class or a straight class will make no significant difference to teacher workload or student outcomes; the teacher will need to be catering for individual differences in either model.

Rather the most important factors on student performance and welfare are teacher/student relationships, clear success criteria, comprehensive formative and summative assessment and quality explicit teaching.

A child's growth will be maximised if they know where they are on their learning journey, what they are aiming for and how they are going to get there... irrespective of their class structure.

With the work we have done over the last 18 months on setting clear success criteria, setting challenging and achievable goals, strengthening learning support and Gifted and Talented Programs along with building the capacity of our teachers to cater for individual differences, Vardys Road will consistently support, challenge and care for every student. We make sure every child strives for their best, thrives in a supportive environment and engages in their work. Our learning programs in all our classes, straight or composite, are planned and delivered to achieve that goal.

Parents who have any remaining concerns are asked to come and see their class teacher, Assistant Principals or myself. We can then further discuss their concerns and the staff member will show how our hard working, student centred teachers will continue to develop confident, respectful and enthusiastic learners.

Parent Information Night

A great way to meet your child's new teacher and get the year started is to attend the upcoming parent information nights. These all-important Meet the Teacher Nights will be held on 18th and 19th February at the following times.

Early Stage 1:	Monday 18th February, 6:00 to 6:45pm
Stage 1:	Tuesday 19th February, 6:00 to 6:45pm
Stage 2:	Tuesday 19th February, 7:00 to 7:45pm
Stage 3:	Monday 18th February, 7:00 to 7:45pm

These sessions are a great opportunity to find out the routines and procedures of the class and hear about what will be taught this year.

More information will be sent home soon. We look forward to seeing you there.

Permission to Publish

To ensure the safety of all our children and families, the school takes care in managing the publication of student photos. Vardys Road maintains a database of which families have given permission for their children's photos to be published.

We are in the process of updating this data base. As part of this process we will be sending home a note requesting information along with permission to publish student photos. The Department of Education's Social Media Policy governs this process and provides strict guidelines around privacy and photo management.

The school needs to publish all newsletters and notes on the internet, as well as utilizing such social media platforms as Facebook, and because of this the note will seek your permission for your child's photo to be posted on any of these media platforms.

The school asks you complete the Permission to Publish Note that will be sent home shortly.

Vardys Road Mascot

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, over the next term we will be asking the children and the community to put their thinking hats on and start to create a picture of a mascot or symbol for our school. The mascot or symbol will not replace our traditional logo or emblem. Instead it will eventually become an image that represents our school values, aspirations and future directions.

To collect as many ideas as possible, the Student Representative Council will be running a competition, asking children and community members to draw their idea and explain how their plant, animal or symbol encapsulates the Vardys Road values, aspirations and spirit.

Look out for the application. It is coming soon.

Extra Curricula Activities

Vardys Road has traditionally offered many extra curricula activities and 2019 is no exception. The activities currently on offer include the following with some other activities being developed. Our String Ensemble is being reviewed to ascertain the level of interest and its viability.

Auditions for these groups are currently being run. Children are encouraged to participate.

STAGE ONE: Choir, Girls Dance, Boys Dance

STAGE TWO: Choir, Drama , Dance, Ukulele Beginner, Ukulele Performance, Technology Group

STAGE THREE: Choir, Drama, Shakespeare Drama, Dance, String Ensemble (to be confirmed)

Ian Short
Principal

PSSA Zone Trials

Seven Hills / Wentworthville PSSA Zone Trials

On Friday 15th and 22nd February 2019 our Zone will be holding Zone Representative trials for a number of sports. These trials are held to select teams to represent our Zone at the Sydney West PSSA Championships. Children in Years 5 and 6 are eligible to attend these trials. Last year, we had a number of children who represented our Zone at the Sydney West Championships. Trials will be held at Binalong Oval and will run from 9:30am to 12:30pm approximately. Basketball will be held at Toongabbie School. Children can trial for multiple sports on the same day if chosen.

Week 3: Friday 15th February

Rugby League (11yrs & Opens)	Scott Laidlaw (Beresford Rd) 9.30 – 11.30am
Netball	Lucy Allen (Kings Langley) 9.30 – 11.30am
Touch Football (Girls)	Alyssa O'Neill (The Meadows) 10.30 – 11.30am
Touch Football (Boys)	Anthony Moyes (CCPS) 10.30 – 11.30am
Soccer (Boys)	Pablo Gonzales (Lynwood Park) 10.30 – 12.00pm
Soccer (Girls)	Michael Howe (Toongabbie) 9.30 – 11.00am

Week 4: Friday 22nd February

AFL	Jo Lobb (Beresford Rd) 9.30 – 11.00am
Basketball (Girls)	Mary Costello / Cameron Duraisamy (Toongabbie) 10.00 – 12.00pm
Basketball (Boys)	David Hayman (Kings Langley) 10:00 – 12.00pm
Softball (Girls)	Sarah Wickens (CPPS) 9.30 -11.00am
Softball (Boys)	Matthew McDonald (Vardys Rd) 9.30am – 11.00am
Cricket (Boys)	Cathy Ryan (Lalor Park) 9.30 – 11.30am

Basketball to meet at Binalong Reserve before heading to Toongabbie Public School

Venue: Binalong Oval / Toongabbie Public School

Tennis Blacktown/St Marys are also involved, Venue and Date TBC

It is our Zone's policy that we only send children who are talented athletes in these sports. A number of students whose ability in certain sports we know will be invited to trial. However, please contact Mr McDonald as soon as possible, preferably by email, (matthew.mcdonald3@det.nsw.edu.au) if you would like your talented child to attend one of these trials. Please be aware that we are limited to how many students we may send to these trials and that these numbers vary for different sports.

Throughout the year, there will be an opportunity to trial for various other sports eg golf, water polo, tennis, hockey, rugby union etc. If your child is talented at one of the above sports, please contact Mr McDonald for details.

Matthew McDonald
Vardys Road Sports Co-ordinator

Welcome to Vardys Road Public School From the Vardys Road Parents & Citizens Association

We welcome you to our school community and look forward to sharing a rewarding and wonderful time with your family.

What is the Vardys Road P&C Association?

Vardys Road Public School is a great place due to the support and involvement of parents. The P&C provides the forum for parents, teachers and citizens to collaborate to continuously improve the school. Parents elect P&C office bearers each year. We are always looking for, and welcome, new faces in our P&C.

Research has shown that parent/carer involvement in a child's education makes a significant contribution to a child's success at school.

All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend the P&C meetings held every week 4 and 8 of each school term. Just come along and participate!

Please also follow us on Facebook to be kept up to date - <https://www.facebook.com/vrpspc>

What parent volunteer opportunities are available?

In addition to specific roles on the P&C committee, there are a wide variety of opportunities for you to make a difference!

HAVE FUN ON THE EVENT AND FUNDRAISING SUB-COMMITTEE

Organising the social events and fundraising drives which help create and bond the school's vibrant community spirit is the responsibility of the P&C. Regular fundraising efforts include end of term sausage sizzles, Easter and Christmas events, trivia night and a combined school event.

Joining the P&C for Fundraising and Social activities is a great way to become part of the school community, with any degree of involvement welcomed, from bringing a new idea to a meeting to being a coordinator of an event.

HELP OUT AT THE UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is open every Tuesday and Wednesday morning 8.30 - 9.30am and on extra days at the start of the school year.

Online ordering and printable order forms are available from the P&C webpage - www.vrpspc.org.au if you require uniforms outside of regular times.

A Uniform Shop Sub-Committee handles the ordering and manages stock levels. At certain times of the year, extra hands are needed so please drop in, say Hi and add your name to the help roster.

I actively encourage you to consider joining our P&C Association. If you would like to get involved, you can complete and return the membership form (found on our website), or simply come along to one of our meetings. I hope you will consider attending at least one P&C meeting to get an idea of what we are all about.

Welcome again to our school community. I trust you and your children will find Vardys Road Public School a great place in which to be a part.





RECENT P&C ACHIEVEMENTS

If you join our P&C Association, or can help in any way, here's a taste of the great things that your efforts will result in for your children.

As well as organising fun events like the School Fun Run, and applying for grants, the P&C has recently provided funding for the following:

- contributions towards the building of the new outdoor classroom
- continuing contributions to Learning Support resources
- bright comfortable flexible learning furniture for Library
- 4 new gazebos to provide shade at sporting events
- 33 iPads for Stage 3
- 8 giant sized outdoor games for structured play
- PDHPE software and athletic equipment
- tear drop flags for sporting events
- K-2 home readers
- air conditioning in the school hall
- audio equipment for the school hall

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM includes the presentation of audited accounts and annual activity reports and the election of all office bearers and committees.

Date: **Monday 18th February 2019**

Time: **9:15am**

Location: **Jigsaw OOSH Building**

Our AGM will be followed by the first P&C General Meeting of 2019.

Membership of the Vardys Road P&C Association is open to all parents and guardians of pupils attending the school and to all citizens. Vardys Road P&C Association is always keen to welcome new members and particularly members who access or have an interest in the services provided by the P&C Association, such as our Uniform Shop.

The election of office bearers at our AGM will include the executive roles of President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary and various non-executive roles. All positions will become vacant and will be filled by nomination, and where necessary, by ballot of members. All nominees shall be members of the association.

Descriptions of the 2019 Executive and non-Executive Roles as well as a nomination form are located on our webpage - www.vrpspc.org.au

All parents and citizens are invited to attend.

Newcomers to Vardys Road Public School are also most welcome.

If you cannot attend the meeting you may nominate or accept a nomination for a role in writing to the secretary prior to the meeting. Nomination forms are also available on our website. Please email your intentions to vrpspc@outlook.com

Please consider how you can be involved.

Priscilla Fragar

2018 President

Vardys Road Parents & Citizens Association

Vardys Road Parents & Citizens Association
presents...

CHIPMUNKS FUN NIGHT

\$15 per child
includes snack

Adult
Supervision
Required

Remember
your socks!

(NO socks, NO play)



CHIPMUNKS

Playland & Café

JOIN US AT
1 Rowood Road
Prospect

Friday 1st March 2019

5:30pm - 8:30pm

Book your tickets online at
www.vrpspc.org.au/collections/chipmunks



ST BERNADETTE'S NETBALL CLUB INC



Would you like to play a social, team sport in 2019?
Come and play for St Bernadette's Netball Club!

Games:

Saturdays
International Peace Park (behind
Blacktown Aquatic Centre).
During school terms

Training:

Tuesday nights
International Peace Park
Juniors 5:30pm to 7pm,
Seniors 7pm to 9pm

Players over 5 years of age, and of all abilities, are welcome!

Important Dates

Registration Help Day and Uniform Try On: Saturday 2nd February 2019,
12 to 2pm, St Bernadette's Parish Hall, Lalor Park

Mandatory Grading: Tuesday 26th February 2019 5:30pm, Int. Peace Park

First Training: Tuesday 12th March 2019, International Peace Park

First Game: Saturday May 4th 2019, International Peace Park

All registrations are to be done online. Follow the registration link on our website or Facebook.

More details including online registration how to guide, fees and how you can claim a government rebate via the Active Kids Rebate program are available below:

Website: <http://stbernadettesnc.nsw.netball.com.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stberniesnetball/>

For all questions, please contact our Club President Kim Myers on 0408 025 512 or email sbncinfo@gmail.com

STARLIGHTS NETBALL CLUB



Register to play netball in 2019

We have junior & senior teams

Registrations Fees for 2019:

NetSetGo Skills (5-7yrs) \$120
NetSetGo Comp (7-9yrs) \$180
Juniors (10-17yrs) \$195
Seniors (18 yrs +) \$260

Active Kids Vouchers can be
used - apply via Service NSW

Competition starts on
4 May 2019

Register on-line from 1
January 2019 via
mynetball.com.au

Rego Day - Sunday 17
February 2019, 10am-2pm
Toongabbie Sports and
Bowling Club



New to netball?
Come along to our
Come and Try
Netball Day
or
Bring a Buddy to
Binalong

Sunday, 10
February 2019
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Binalong Park,
Binalong Road, Old
Toongabbie

Please get in touch via starlightsnetballclub@hotmail.com or send us a message on our Facebook page