



VERNEY ROAD SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 19th
Tuesday, January 31st, 2017

Last Day for Students
First Day of Term 1 for Students, 2017



Hello and welcome to our fortnightly newsletter.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY-

At our Whole School Assembly today we presented awards to our Outstanding Achievers for Term 4 and Great Attenders for Term 4 and the whole year.

Outstanding Achievers where:

Being SAFE

Tyson Allinson ,Ashlee Hadden , Christy Carter

Being RESPECTFUL

Jhett Knorpp, George Stockdale, Jye Lowden

Being RESPONSIBLE

Chelsea Milczarek , Ben Fothergill, Eliza Brodie

Being a LEARNER

Tristan Fothergill, John Duncan, Jonno Mauger

Music– David Langworthy

Art– Sean Moss

Physical Education- Ella Kerrins

100% Attendees for the Year were:

**Jasmina Meka
Caleb Johnson-Brown
Jye Lowden
Normie Watts
Joshua Symes
Dragon Watts
Georgia Still
Daniel Morley
Corey Doherty**

Congratulations on making
'Every Day Count'



LAST DAY OF TERM- for students will be Monday, December 19th. School will finish at 3.00pm on this day so buses will run as normal.

Classes for students will commence on Tuesday January 31st, 2017



MANY THANKS- to everyone at Verney Road School for your continued support throughout the year. To the teachers, assistants, parents, volunteers and students may I say thankyou for all of your efforts in what has been a great learning year. Wishing you all a safe and Happy Christmas.

Janet Gill Kirkman
Principal

Janet Gill Kirkman

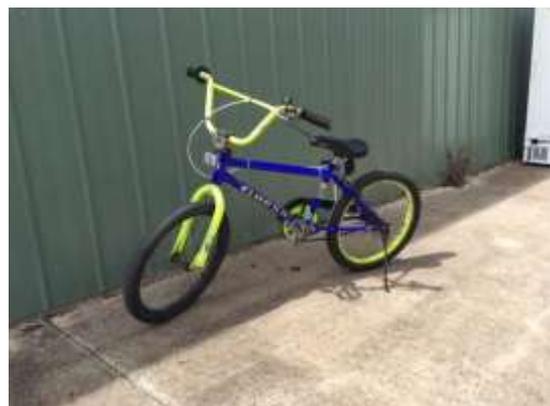


BIKES

**Following our recent Bike Audit we
now have several bikes
available.**

**A donation to our
Grounds Improvement would be
appreciated.**

Please see Graeme or Cal.



FAREWELL PRUE

Reflection on a GREAT time

I always wanted to be a teacher

My cousins constantly remind me, that every Sunday, when I was young, and we gathered at my grandparents, Miss Prue, would have them sitting around doing Reading, Writing and Number.

After teachers college in Melbourne, coming home to marry Geoffrey, teaching at St Georges Rd PS, 3 beautiful boys, and then CRT work, my good friend Heather Watts suggested I join her at the new Goulburn SDS as her Teacher Assistant- in Early Intervention- all care and no responsibility- What a change in my life's direction.

The next year, in 1984, I took over her job as the teacher. I drove a bus, bought by the parents to pick up and return the kids each morning (this was the start of our school bus fleet- used then by the 25 SDS students during the day). I visited families as soon as diagnosed even in hospital eg with Downs Syndrome, visited them at home fortnightly until 1 year of age when they started in the Early Intervention Program. I worked with the kids during the morning and then in the afternoon visited families and kindergartens or in with the school age students.

I have loved every minute and still really feel privileged to be part of families- It's an honour to know and work with a family for 16-18 years or longer. This is one thing I will really miss. There have been many changes to EI/ EEP and school over the years, with more to come under NDIS -but I couldn't be leaving EEP in better hands than with Jan and Carolyn.

We have weathered many changes to attitudes, supports, curriculum and funding over the years. There have been many highlights (other than the kids) but top would be the building of the new school- Verney Road and the China Program (what an amazing opportunity for students).

There many committees/groups that I have been involved in outside school- Regional and State working parties, conferences, talks, Lobby groups, Parent organisations etc- too many to mention but all with the one aim of improving opportunities and life for children with special needs.

I have also loved every part of my time in Special Ed as a teacher- it is still a worthwhile and rewarding profession. VRS is a great example of that and despite the cliché, it does attract a certain type of person- one who is dedicated and has a sense of humour. The Staff are an amazing lot of people who care and laugh.

VRS is a great school that provides stability, encouragement and support for both children and families

I will always be proud to have been part of its history.



Early Years Break Up!



On Tuesday, we went to Moama for a day of fun at Jurassic World Splash Park!



Check out some of the fun we had on our movie on Facebook!



FAREWELL ANN



When I first began working at Goulburn SDS , around 20 years ago my first impression was how well the staff worked together and supported each other , always with the student's needs and welfare the primary consideration. Every staff member knew every student and was willing to step in to assist when needed.

Following the amalgamation of the SDS and Graham St Special School great changes took place. Verney Road School was born and the new present site was constructed. Many changes have occurred over the years as the school has grown to what it is today.

I have had the pleasure of being involved in curriculum development specifically for Special Schools in the areas of Mathematics and Independent Living Skills.

Probably the most outstanding new innovation to me would be the introduction of the use of AAC to assist with student's communication. One of the most frustrating things for our students is their inability to communicate their thoughts, needs and emotions. AAC has given many students a voice for the first time and I envisage exciting things ahead as staff and students continue their journey with this exciting new development .

Over the years I have had the pleasure of getting to know many students and their families who have been supportive so that we have been able to work together as a team to provide the very best outcomes for students.

Staff have come and gone over the years and during that time I have enjoyed the comradeship, support and friendship of many dedicated people.

I wish all at Verney Road the very best for the future as I enjoy this next phase of my life.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

