Our end of year celebrations are in full swing and we are finishing the year on a happy and proud note. Our presentation night, whilst hot and windy, was well attended and we were able to congratulate all students on their great efforts in so many ways throughout the year. The student entertainment that was planned for the evening will be staged tomorrow, 13th December at 10.15am during the PBL Assembly and we are hoping for another great roll up of parents, relatives and friends. This will be followed by a thank you morning tea at 11.00am from the staff to all our valued volunteers to whom we owe so much. Please come along so we can say thank you for all your contributions in so many ways throughout the year.

Congratulations to Bella Sellens and Jaxon O’Connor on their election as school captains for 2020. They, together with Year 5 students who have all been elected as prefects, will be our student leaders for next year.

The appointment of Ms. Michelle Crowfoot as relieving principal for Term 1 next year has been finalised. Michelle is the current relieving principal at Mt. Kanwary and will be a welcome addition to our staff whilst I am on leave. Also finalised is the appointment of Ms. Katie Dunn as our Kindergarten teacher for Term 1 and later in the year sharing with Miss Mac who plans to return part time from maternity leave. We will welcome both these new staff members to the school when they visit next Monday.

Congratulations to Lara Silver who was the successful winner of the John Lill Scholarship. Lara impressed the panel with her application which outlined her musical aspirations and love of music.

Gresford School was informed this week that we had won the NSW Government Award for Diversity in STEM Education. We are very proud of our little school and its achievements. We have also been selected to be a pilot school for High Potential and Gifted Education, along with other schools in our Dungog District Community of Schools; and a trial school for piloting technology devices for teachers to support curriculum delivery. It’s going to be a busy year ahead!

Have a joyous festive season and happy holiday with your children. See you all next year!

Kind regards,
Pauline

“If you want your children to turn out well, spend twice as much time with them and half as much money.”

School Planning Snippets

Our school plan for 2020 has been mapped out with adjustments made to our existing Strategic Directions. Reading will have a greater focus with L3 being reviewed and adjusted. PBL will be under review with Restorative Practice being trialled. Digital citizenship and critical and creative thinking will be a new priority. There will be teacher professional learning and parent information sessions to support these adjustments.
**PBL AWARDS**
Elijah Chandler, Maggie Maroulis, Winnie Maroulis, Lucas Hill, Norton Bynon, Pearl Farley, Pearl Ropata

**SCHOOL MERITS**
Daniel Hodges, Jake Osmond, Layla Turnbull, Josie Hodges, Jackson Wells, Nina Maroulis, Ryan Thiecke

**SPORTS AWARDS**
Bailey Caukwell, Jackson Davis, Amilia Gillies, Mathilda Joliffe, Annabelle Chesworth, John Hodges, Ewen Mitchell

**LIBRARY AWARDS**
Piper Conn, Madelin Cremer

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**
Charlotte Marsh, Benji Spencer, Kammi Conn, Elizabeth Venter, Lexie Hill, Chilli Bynon, Ewen Mitchell

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**DECEMBER**

**Friday 13th**
- PBL Assembly 11:15am
- Volunteer helper morning tea 11:00am

**Wednesday 18th**
- Students last day

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**JANUARY**

**Tuesday 28th**
- Staff Development Day

**Wednesday 29th**
- Years 1 to 6 return. Kindergarten interview and Best Start begins. Interview times will be sent home soon.

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**February**

**Monday 3rd**
- 2020 Kinder start

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

**Friday 13th December**
Ang Kelehear & Karleen Kelehear (last day of canteen for 2019)

*Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a fantastical New Year.*

Thank you to all of our volunteers for your amazing efforts over the past.

To the Year 6 parents farewell. It has been great having you help in the canteen over the last 7 years. Wishing you all the best for the future.

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**Tucker Box & P&C News**

**Uniform news**
Please contact Lyndell if you have any enquirers about uniforms regarding sizing or purchasing.

**Calling all Volunteers:**
Could all tea towels please be returned to school as soon as possible.

*Please note: Friday 13th December is the last day of canteen.*

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**Merry Christmas!**

We thank you for your support in the past year and hope that you have a great holiday season and a prosperous New Year.
Before and After School Care
This outstanding service for parents is in danger of folding.
It is currently running at a loss and its viability is in question. The service has been given until the end of Term 1, 2020 to increase patronage or combine with another centre. Please consider using the service, even if only on a casual basis as it assists busy and working parents. Remember subsidies apply for working parents. Enrolment forms available at the school.

Outside School Hours Care

Have you paid your school fees?
There are still quite a few families who have not paid their 2019 school fees. As the costs incurred from the non-payment of these fees have had to be taken from other educational programs, we ask that the accounts sent home last week be settled immediately.
Thank you to the families who has done so already.

Professional learning for staff has been in the area of school planning and our pupil free day on 19th December will be spent reviewing our science continuum and aligning it with a technology and design thinking scope and sequence.

Spellathon Fundraiser
Thank you to all children and parents for your help in raising money to save the Koalas. If you haven’t already sent in your sponsorship money please send it in as soon as possible.

Farewell Year 6
We have loved having you and wish you all the best for your future.

Spellathon Fundraiser
Goodbye and good luck Miss Grace.

We will all miss you!

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**Wishing all the best to Mrs Davies on the expectant arrival of her new baby. We can’t wait to meet him or her.**

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**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

Free Lunch with all the trimmings.
Sing Carols and meet Santa

11am – 2.30pm 25th December at Dungog Public School

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**The presenters of**

**Bring to you**

**Bethlehem Rhapsody**

*A musical look at Christmas!*

(See it on YouTube - Bethlehemian Rhapsody)

- We need children to perform with the hand puppets.
- Practices at Gresford Public School (during lunch)
- Performance at St Anne’s Gresford on Thursday 19th December, 6pm (the day after school breaks up).

Organised by the Ministry Team at Gresford Paterson Anglican Church