

Gresford Public School

Newsletter

www.gresford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Issue 16

14th October, 2010

Principal's Message

Welcome back everyone! We trust you had a safe and memorable holiday with your families and that you are enjoying the beautiful spring weather!

Mrs Mitchell relieving at Glen William Public School

As Mrs Mitchell informed you late in Term 3, she has taken up the Relieving Principal position at Glen William Public School for Term 4, as requested by Mr Graeme Valler, School Education Director. I will be filling in for Mrs Mitchell for Term 4 here and look forward to your continued support.

Welcome back Mrs Graham

During Mrs Mitchell's absence, Mrs Graham will be part of our school staff and will be stepping into Mrs Dillon's position teaching K/ 1 on Monday afternoons, Maths with Years 2, and 4, Library and Technology for all classes and teaching K/ 1 on Fridays. As you know, Mrs Dillon will now be teaching Year 4/5/6 full time for Term 4. It is great to have such flexible and hardworking staff who are great team members.

Video Conference Debating

We have had two video conference debates so far, winning both competitions. The first encounter was against Rathmines Public School and the most recent debate was against Charlestown East. We debate again in

Week 2 this term on the topic 'That children should not be allowed to watch TV on week nights.' We are the negative. The debate will be held in the new library on Thursday 21st October at 12.15pm. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend. A large group of debaters is experiencing the joy of debating through the video conferencing system and we are enjoying the use of this 'state of the art' technology.

New Captains' Board

Our school has a beautiful carved timber Captains' Board but with space running out there was no further room for our recent Captains' names. I contacted local carpenter and joiner, Mr David Ney from Hilldale and asked him to make us a new board identical to the current one. Not only has Mr Ney done this but he has chosen to donate his time and materials. We have now acquired a new Captains' board at no cost to the school! A huge thank you to Mr Ney for his generosity (see advertisement in this newsletter).

University Prac Student working with 4/5/6 and Mrs Dillon

We are fortunate to be hosting another university student, Jessica Macintyre, from Dungog who will be completing a 4 week Practicum on Year4/5/6. Under the guidance and skilful direction of Mrs

Dillon, Jessica will be able to develop her method and techniques ready for the teaching profession.

AASP commences in Week 2

We are again lucky enough to be able to run Active After School Sport sessions this term, commencing in Week 2. Due to Federal Government funding this program will allow K/1 to learn gymnastics with Tara Lawrence and Lu McQuillam will run dance classes for Year 2. In Week 5, these sessions will reverse for the 2 groups. These sessions will provide an excellent skill base for further learning and involvement in the sport at a later stage.

Wangat Lodge

The ever popular excursion to Wangat Lodge will take place on Thursday 28th October for 4/5/6 students. Don't forget to return permission notes as early as possible to assist with organisation. Mr Ken Rubeli, acclaimed environmental educator, will be presenting sessions to the students throughout the day with a focus on environmental sustainability. This excursion has been kindly subsidised by the Begg family with further assistance from the Drought Fund.

Continued over



Principal's Message continued

Welcome back Mrs Jasper

Welcome to Mrs Jasper who is back in the office after a period of Long Service Leave in Term 3. She was capably relieved by Mrs McCabe and Mrs Carter during her absence. Mrs Tammy Crouch also replaced Mrs Carter on occasions when required. Thank you Mrs Crouch. A reminder for late arrivals, students need to be taken to the office to get a pink slip which they then present to their teacher. The same procedure applies to early departures

Shakespearean Festival

27th October will see Year4/5/6 participating in the Shakespearean Festival with Rutherford High School visiting Gresford School and enjoying the great play, Hamlet.

Student Led Conferences

Student Led Conferences will run in the week beginning Monday 25th October (see separate letter with details for your child). Please ring Mrs Jasper at the office to reserve a timeslot that would suit you to come to your child's classroom and share in their learning achievements. We encourage you to take this opportunity to be involved and share in your child's learning and development.

Cattle Club Success

Congratulations to Eric and Clare Richardson on their recent success at the Singleton Prime Stock Show at Singleton. Clare won her Paraders' class and Eric placed 2nd. Well done to these consistently high performing

students in the Cattle Club who have supported many events this year.

Thanks to Sandi Skaines

Not only is Sandi Skaines preparing the senior students for the Year 6 Farewell but she very generously offered to take care of our school hens over the break. Special thanks to Sandi for this and also to Gus Lawrence and Rowena Dillon and their families for caretaking on previous occasions.

Art Carnival

The Art Carnival was held last term with 85 visiting students and the entire population of Gresford school joining together to enjoy a large variety of art and craft workshops including clay, animation, book making, paper making, paper capering, print making, puppet building, painting and more.

Many thanks to everyone involved, including the professional artists and the community volunteers. Our appreciation goes to Dotti Hilliard and the CWA ladies who were so generous with their time, the parents on canteen and those who helped out in varying roles and to Emily and Laura from Dungog High who so capably ran the Drama Workshop. The students all had an amazing day and went home with some very creative works under their arm.

P&C Meeting

A reminder that the next P&C Meeting will be held on Thursday 21st October at 6pm in the new library. Please note the change of time. Mrs Dillon will give a short

presentation at this meeting on the 2010 NAPLAN results.

Thank you to all our helpers

A special thanks to all the parents, relatives and friends who help maintain our school programs through their voluntary assistance at school. In particular, our appreciation goes to Mrs Jennifer Hipwell, Canteen Manager, and her loyal band of canteen volunteers who consistently provide healthy food options at our school canteen for the benefit of students.

News Items

A reminder that there are short articles about Gresford Term 3 achievements in both the Gresford News and this week's Dungog Chronicle. Also featuring in the Gresford News is John O'Brien's very entertaining recount of the 'Cruisin' on the Hardcourt' fundraiser.

Staff professional Development


Recent professional development for staff focused on the A-E marking scale in assessment of student writing samples and maintaining 'consistent teacher judgement' across schools.

All the best for a rewarding and productive Term 4.

Kind Regards,

Beth

T.E.A.M. ~ Together We Achieve More



Dates for your Diary

Friday 15th October - Year 6 High School testing 9.00am - 11.00am

Thursday 21st October - P & C meeting - 6.00pm start

Monday 25th October - Student Led Conferences begin

Thursday 28th October - Year 4/5/6 excursion to Wangat Lodge

Tuesday 2nd November - Kindergarten Orientation

Tuesday 9th November - Kindergarten Orientation

Tuesday 16th November - Kindergarten Orientation

P & C meeting
Thursday 21st October
6.00pm start
All Welcome!

Eggs For Sale

**On most days we
have school
eggs for sale
@ \$4.50
per dozen
Please ask at
the office.**



D J Ney
CARPENTER JOINER
No job too small
Phone 4995 6039

Big Breakfast for Breast Cancer Research

John Tucker Park Paterson
SUNDAY 24th October 2010

Starts 8.00am to 2.00pm

**BBQ Breakfast for sale with bacon eggs, steaks,
juice, fruit and more!**

Special guests from NRL football clubs.

Wanted

Coles has started a program that will assist schools in purchasing new sporting equipment. All you have to do is spend \$10 in any Coles store to receive a Coles Sports for Schools voucher, then send it into the school. Closing date for this program is Sunday 31st October, 2010.

So start collecting and send them in to the school.



Values Awards

Ellen Hodges
Shaelyn Crouch
Beau Redhouse
Acelyn Towers-Brown



MERIT AWARDS

K/1	Ryan Skolyszewski Shaelyn Crouch
2/3/4	Kiara Quirk Jono Davies
4/5/6	Mia Quirk Charlie Begg



LITERACY AWARD

Gus O'Brien Cavanough
Colby Davies
Jalen Morrison
Gus Lawrence
Kelsey Hawkins



Library Award

Gemma
Hawkins



Wanted

Old hay/ straw suitable for hen's nesting boxes.

Any donations would be most appreciated.

Thank you

From The Environment Club

Needed

Parent/grandparent or community member with an interest in vegetable gardening. Opportunity to work with keen student gardeners in lunch hour/s of your choice. (1.10-1.45pm). Gardening tools supplied and funds for seeds/ seedlings available.

If interested, please contact Bernadette at the office.

Thank you

Support a young talented designer at her Spring Fashion Collection Parade an afternoon to see the talent of a young 10 year old fashion designer.

Alora Swanson

at the Dowling Street CWA Rooms

Saturday 16th October @ 1.30pm

Cost: \$10 adults \$5 concession

Primary children free but must be accompanied by an adult.

Afternoon tea will be served. Enquiries ring Lois on 49964331

CREATIVE BOOKMAKING

with

DAWN THOMPSON

on Saturday

30th October

Bookbinding and making with a difference. Learn creative ways to make your own books to use as visual diaries, travel journals, photo albums, gifts. With simple but effective techniques you can make books at home. You will finish a book on the day. Workshop fee \$80 full day, including materials and morning tea. BYO lunch. Please bring along any scraps of paper or fabrics, buttons, feathers, leaves or other found objects you wish to include in your work.

SHILOH ART STUDIO

303 Dungog Road,

Martins Creek

Ph 49388142

www.berniemeyers.com

SAFE DRIVING AROUND SCHOOLS

SPEEDING – IS IT WORTH THE RISK?

According to a recent Federal Government report the annual economic cost of road crashes in Australia is enormous - conservatively estimated at about \$30 billion per annum - and the social impacts are devastating. Besides lives cut tragically short, debilitating injuries often result in pain, grief and suffering that have lifelong impacts on victims, families and communities.

The reality of risk or the illusion of safety? (It is always your choice)

In a 50km/h Zone (residential areas)

EXCEEDING THE SPEED LIMIT BY (KM/H)	MAXIMUM TIME SAVED PER KM (IN SECONDS)	INCREASE IN THE RISK OF A SERIOUS CRASH
5	5	200%
10	9	400%
15	12	800%
20	15	1600%
25	18	3200%

Eg. Most School Zones are less than 0.5km in length. So that means if you are driving at 60km/h in a school zone you are about 16 times more likely to have a serious crash. And all you save is about 7 seconds. You have to ask yourself **IS IT WORTH IT?**

So **SLOW DOWN** and protect our children in residential areas and near schools. **THINK** about the consequences.

Less than 5% of pedestrians hit at 30km/h are fatally injured, but over 90% of pedestrians hit at 60km/h will die.

IN AN 100KM/H ZONE (COUNTRY ROADS)

EXAMPLE: If you drove from Dungog to Maitland, without any need to slow down, at 120km/h instead

EXCEEDING THE AVERAGE SPEED BY (KM/H)	MAXIMUM TIME SAVED PER KM. (IN SECONDS)	INCREASE IN THE RISK OF A FATAL CRASH
10	3	200%
20	6	400%
30	8	800%
40	10	1600%
50	12	3200%

of at 100km/h you would save a maximum time of (50x6secs.) 5 minutes. But because of the towns, intersections and other traffic you are really lucky

to save more than a minute or 2. **IS IT WORTH IT?**

Contributed by Allen Shrimpton, Road Safety Officer, Dungog Shire Council