

Gresford Public School

Newsletter

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

Issue 7

13th May, 2010

Principal's Message

We are well into the learning planned for Term 2 with a number of notes going home to inform parents and caregivers of impending **learning experiences and excursions**. As always, we thank parents for their support of these experiences which are selected to build on syllabus outcomes. Should financing any of these be a concern, please phone the office to apply for financial support. All enquiries are treated in strict confidence.

The Year 5/6 excursion to Point Wolstoncroft, scheduled for 6th to 8th September has been rescheduled for 24th to 27th August. We have been able to renegotiate a time with the organisers to allow for a 3 night and 4 day program at no extra cost to parents. This will allow for a greater outdoor experience for children. We are grateful to our P&C body for their generous financial support for this program. The Federal Government Drought Assistance Program has also reduced the cost considerably. Please note these changed times in your diaries.

Another important date for your diary is Tuesday, 10th August when our School Ensemble will be performing at the **Maitland District Music Festival**. This is a great opportunity for our children to demonstrate their musical talent and we hope as many ensemble members as possible will be able to take part. It will be held at Francis Greenway High School from 6.30 to 8.30pm and tickets will be available for sale at the school at \$2 each. Entry will be strictly by pre-purchased tickets. There will be no ticket sales at the door. As there is limited seating, we are asking for expressions of interest for ticket purchase so that we may order a set of tickets for the school. Please fill in the expression of interest form enclosed with this newsletter to order the number of tickets your family will require. There is no need to send money yet.

Years 3 and 5 have been working well in

their **NAPLAN** preparation and have completed their last test today. Results will be available for parents on 13th September.

We welcome Mrs. Tickle back after her period of long service leave and thank Mrs. Sue Graham for filling in so capably in Mrs. Tickle's absence.

Our **Science program** with Dr. Wright has commenced this term across all grades and children have been focusing on protein in the early years and botany in the middle and upper school. This is a dynamic program and we are very grateful to Dr. Wright for her continued input for our children. Mr. Noel Jupp from Riverdene Nursery addressed the older children last week and outlined the importance of caring for our native heritage in plants and animals.

Our **Active After School Sports Program** has resumed in K/1/2 with soccer and Yoga extending to these classes. We wish our **Zone Cross Country** squad good luck at Tocal tomorrow. Our **Debating Team** competes for the first time this year on Monday at Glen William School. Thanks go to Isabella Wilson, an ex-student and outstanding debater herself, for her time in coaching the team as well as to Mrs. Tickle for her organisation and preparation.

We are looking forward to a visit and workshops for all students by the recognised **Aboriginal artist** Les Elvin, on 25th May. These workshops will support our Visual Arts and Aboriginal Education Programs and will allow for some preliminary work by the students in preparation for the Create Art Show later in Term 3. Notes have gone home to parents in relation to these workshops.

Last Friday was **'Walk Safely To School Day'** and the children were given important road safety messages by our new constable for Gresford, Constable Lea Hughes. It was great to

meet our new constable and for the children to hear road safety messages directly from her.

Thanks to all parents who have supported our **Deafness Foundation Appeal** through the purchase of butterfly badges. These have become a feature of our school uniform lately and it is great to see so many children supporting this worthy cause. We sold out on the first day and have since sold out our second order. Thanks also to all who supported our **Mothers' Day Stall**. We succeeded in raising \$70 for the school's literacy program. Well done everyone!

The most exciting news of all is that we have taken possession of our wonderful **new library**. We are still waiting on shelving and our video conferencing facilities so it is not fully functional yet but we are assured it should not be long. Be sure and attend our next **P&C meeting** on 20th May which will be held in the new building. We will be presenting an update for parents on the 'Good for Kids, Good for Life Program' at 5pm, prior to the meeting. An invitation will be sent home closer to the date outlining this presentation.

Professional learning for staff this fortnight has been in the areas of technology, writing, anti racism and learning support.

Regards,

Pauline

"My mother had a great deal of trouble with me but I think she enjoyed it."

Mark Twain

DATES TO MARK IN YOUR DIARY

May

- Friday 14th May - Zone Cross Country
- Thursday 20th May - Year 2/3 visit to Lara Nursing Home
- Thursday 20th May - P & C meeting
- Tuesday 25th May - ICAS Computer test
- Thursday 27th May - Public Education Day
- Monday 31st May - K/1/2 Science excursion to Dungog

June

- Tuesday 1st June - Year 5/6 Coalmine excursion
- Thursday 3rd June - Year 5/6 Open Day at Dungog High School
- Tuesday 8th June - Musica Viva at 11.50am in computer room
- Wednesday 9th June - ICAS Science test
- Friday 11th June - Netball - Gresford v Paterson
- Tuesday 22nd June - ICAS Spelling & Writing tests
- Thursday 24th June - Ensemble excursion to Lara Nursing Home
- Wednesday 30th June - Field Events
- Thursday 1st July - Sports Carnival - from 9.00am at Gresford Sporting Complex

**Keep the Night Free
mark it in your calendar**

Party Of The Year

A Night of Tropical CRUISIN'

New date: 11 September

From the Create Carnavalé Gresford P&C people

Lifeboats Cocktails Island-life Laughs

Smorgasbord Coconuts Dancing

Ocean-liners Prizes

Captains-table Auction

Opportunity Classes

Parents of Year 4 students seeking opportunity for placement in an Opportunity Class for Year 5 in 2011 are invited to apply online at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement>.

Parents may also contact the school for an application form and further information.

School News

K/1/2 Science with Dr Wright

On Monday 10th May K/1/2 did some cooking with Dr Wright. We are doing a science unit called "Whats for Lunch?". K/1/2 made cottage cheese by heating up 2 litres of milk to 50 degrees Celsius and adding half a cup of vinegar. After stirring for 2 minutes the milk curdled. We all observed it and Dr Wright strained the mixture with a colander and tea towel.

We added herbs, quarter of a cup of cream and a quarter of a teaspoon salt. The cottage cheese was put in the fridge overnight and on Tuesday everyone sampled it. Most people liked it, and some even asked for second helpings.

As well as making cottage cheese, everyone made their own jelly. It was fun doing this cooking and we all now know that both cottage cheese and jelly contain protein, which is so important for our growth and development.

By the students of K/1/2

NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL

Long Cargo pants are now available for sale through the office

Sizes 6 to 16

\$20.00 each

Logo school shirts are also available

Sizes 6 to 16

\$15.00 each

CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 2 WEEKS 4 & 5



Friday 14.05.10 - Kelly Thompson & Deborah Faulk



Monday 17.05.10 - Sandi Skaines & Need Volunteer

Wednesday 19.05.10 - Jennifer Hipwell

Friday 21.05.10 - NO CANTEEN

Monday 24.05.10 - Ros Iverach & Ruth Iverach

Wednesday 26.05.10 - Kim Everett & Virginia Begg



Values Awards

Paul Locke
Jack Hodges
Latia Hipwell



MERIT AWARDS

K/1 Claire Lawrence

2/3/4 Riley Atkins

4/5/6 Jesse Farr



LITERACY AWARD

Thomas Hojer
Carl Thompson
Kiara Quirk



Library Award

Courtney
Lawrence

