

Gresford Public School

Newsletter

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

Issue 9

10th June, 2010

Principal's Message

The end of term is rapidly approaching and the exciting learning experiences continue. Some of these experiences have been enjoyed in **our new library** which is now fully operational with the computers finally connected up this week. Borrowing will now resume. We are awaiting extra shelving which the school has had to purchase and the installation of our second connected classroom. **Our video conferencing facilities** are being well utilised with the junior school enjoying an interactive session with the children's author Cameron Daddo and the older students travelling to the Australian museum for a session on Australian dinosaurs which is part of our science studies this term. Year 4/5/6 have also had an interactive session with Lochinvar Public School as part of our Drug Education studies. Children are becoming very confident in using this tool for learning.

Other **learning experiences outside the school** include the Junior School excursion to the dairy, the bakery and Johnston's Farmgate as part of their learning about healthy eating. 2/3/4 visited our friends at the Lara Nursing Home and entertained them with drama and musical performances and Year 5/6 travelled to Dungog High today to get a taste of high school life and to view the brand new school.

Our musical experiences were enriched this week with a wonderful performance from the **Musica Viva group, the Humming Birds**. This is a female singing group who use their amazing talent to teach a range of musical skills. Children and adults alike thoroughly

enjoyed the performance. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances our Ensemble will not be able to participate in the Music Festival this year. We will be performing for the Lara residents on 24th June.

Congratulations again go to our debating team for their win this week against Paterson. Mrs Judy Daly adjudicated and commented favourably on the skills of both teams. She gave important feedback and ideas for further development of skills. Our team comprised Courtney Lawrence, Rowena Dillon and Alex Cant with Olivia Everett as team advisor. Ellen Hodges presided as chairperson and Ella Duncan was the official timekeeper. The next debate will be against Glen William as part of Round 2.

Due to the wet weather, our scheduled soccer and netball games against Paterson have been postponed until next term. Our juniors are enjoying their soccer and yoga lessons and training has begun for our **athletics carnival**. Dates for this are 30th June for the field events and 1st July for the athletics. Parents are welcome to attend both. Further information will come home as the dates approach.

We welcome **Elysha Jordan** to our staff for the rest of the term as a practising teacher. Elysha is working with Mrs. Tickle and K/1 and will gain some valuable experience.

A number of our senior students are

being trained in the important skill of **mediation**. This supports our student welfare policy and gives students the skills to resolve their own issues and assist their peers to do likewise. Student Welfare Consultant, Mrs. Ronda Cousins is assisting with this program which is part of our student leadership training.

Relieving School Education Director, Mr. Brian Campbell visited our school last week and met with children and staff. He was impressed with our new library and with the beauty of our rural school.

Professional learning for staff this fortnight has been in the areas of office administration, literacy, drug education and education for special needs.

Regards,
Pauline

"In any situation, the best thing you can do is the right thing; the next best thing you can do is the wrong thing; the worst thing you can do is nothing."

Theodore Roosevelt

DATES TO MARK IN YOUR DIARY

June

Tuesday 15th June - 5/6 Coal Mine excursion

Friday 18th June - P & C meeting 9.00am (note new time)

Tuesday 22nd June - ICAS Spelling & Writing tests

Wednesday 23rd June - Year 2/3/4 Church excursion

Thursday 24th June - Ensemble excursion to Lara Nursing Home

Wednesday 30th June - Field Events

July

Thursday 1st July - Sports Carnival - from 9.00am at Gresford Sporting Complex

Friday 2nd July - Last day of Term 2

Tuesday 20th July - All students return to school.

SATURDAY September 11th ~ Tropical Cruisin

Year 6 Fund Raiser

Year 6 will be selling tickets next week for a beautiful hand made scarf, kindly donated by Betty Richardson. Funds raised will support the Year 6 end of year gift to the school.

Tickets will be on sale next week for \$1 each or 3 for \$2.

Winner will be drawn at assembly on the last day of term.

NOW

**AVAILABLE
AT 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**

School News

CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 2 WEEKS 9 & 10

Friday 11.06.10 - Linda Hodges & Renee Russell

Monday 14.06.10 - Public Holiday

Wednesday 16.06.10 - Ros Iverach & Need Volunteer

Friday 18.06.10 - Kelly Thompson & Deborah Faulk

Monday 21.06.10 - Ros Iverach & Ruth Iverach

Wednesday 23.06.10 - Jennifer Hipwell & Virginia Begg



Debating Success

Congratulations to our debating teams on two successive wins recently. The first encounter was with Glen William on the topic "That all students should have to learn a foreign language". The team for that debate was Ella Duncan, Alex Cant, Rowena Dillon and Ellen Hodges.

Yesterday, the team debated against Paterson on the topic "That mobile phones should be banned at schools".

On this occasion the team consisted of Courtney Lawrence, Alex Cant, Rowena Dillon & Olivia Everett. Our Chairperson was Ellen Hodges and timekeeper was Ella Duncan. Mrs Judy Daly very capably adjudicated the debate. Everyone is really enjoying the debating experience and there are future debates on the calendar. Other interested students will be included in the squad. Well done, debaters!
Beth Tickle - Debating Coach

K/1/2 Excursion

On 31st May, K/1/2 travelled by Sexton's coach to Dungog to participate in a Science excursion. This trip was planned to enhance learning in the Science unit 'What's for Lunch' relating to healthy food and where it comes from.

Our first stop was the Dungog Bakery where students sampled a variety of sandwiches on wholemeal and multigrain bread, as well as enjoying a milkshake of their choice. The manager of the bakery, Natasha Bosworth, addressed the group and explained the workings of a bakery and the variety of food for sale. A special thanks to the owner of the bakery, Mr Simon Beisler for allowing our visit and supplying free sandwiches.

We then proceeded to Johnson's Farmgate at Glen William where the owners, Cathy and Carl Johnson, took us on a tour of their vegetable gardens, orchards and poultry run. Students sampled freshly grown oranges, grapefruit and the very popular Jersey milk. This stopover was very interesting for everyone as Johnson's Farmgate has a shop front which sells a variety of produce including free range eggs, honey, homemade jams, pickles, a range of dairy products and smallgoods. Cathy and Carl answered many student questions and were very generous with their time.

A feature of the day was a lunch stopover at Glen William Public School where we were warmly welcomed. Students ate lunch together and then participated in a variety of indoor games (due to the bad weather).

Our last engagement was the visit to Jan and Keith Watkins dairy at Main Creek, Dungog. This was a great educational experience for everyone as 430 Friesian cows are milked daily in a 'state of the art' computerised dairy. Students were totally 'mesmorised' by this farm activity and thoroughly enjoyed every minute.

A special thanks to all the people who hosted our visits and also Mrs Jennifer Hipwell and Mrs Linda Hodges who assisted on the day. Congratulations to all students, whose manners were excellent.



Values Awards

Lucy Wright
Henry Varley
Amy Skolyszewski
Will Hickey



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Brooklyn Bidner
Jada Laurie

2/3/4

Zhane Duncan
Hannah Redhouse

4/5/6

Eric Richardson
Coogan Brown



LITERACY AWARD

Ryan Skolyszewski
Ziz O'Brien Cavanough
Rhys Legge
Shaelyn Crouch
James Jenkins
Harmon Russell



Library Award

Jalen
Morrison



Musica Viva



K/1/2 Excursion





**Hunter
Mobile
Preschool**

HUNTER NEW ENGLAND
NSW HEALTH

Gresford Eat Well Program

FREE

Nutrition program coming to Gresford!

If you would like to learn how to **improve your own and your family's nutrition** or if you have **high cholesterol, high blood pressure**, or would like to **reduce your weight**, then we would like to invite you to our Eat Well Program!

Learn how to:

- choose a healthy, balanced diet
- keep your heart healthy
- manage your weight
- increase physical activity
- read food labels
- make recipes healthier
- choose healthy takeaways
- pack a healthy lunch box

Venue: Gresford School of Arts Hall

Date: 18th of June

Time: 9:30am to 2:30pm (this includes an hour lunch break: 11:30am-12:30pm as the program is free of charge we kindly ask you to supply your own meals)

No doctor referral is necessary, however **places are limited so bookings are essential.**

To book your place or for further information please contact Caitlin Thompson or Sharon Lawrence, Gresford Eat Well Program Dietitians, on 4931 2013.