



Gresford Public School Newsletter
www.gresford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Phone Number: 4938 9304
Mobile Number: 0447 389304

Issue 19

24th November, 2011

Gresford receives top prize in the NSW Government Trade & Investment & the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer's Competition!

What wonderful news for Gresford School we are now able to announce! Our school's Science Program under the dedicated mentorship of Dr. Wright has been awarded **top prize in the NSW Government Trade and Investment and the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer's competition for Innovation in Science and Mathematics Education**. This prize carries with it a cash prize of \$5000 to be used to support science and mathematics learning at the school. It also carries with it recognition for just one of the many high quality programs that children at Gresford have access to. Dr. Wright and I were invited to the presentation at Government House yesterday where the Deputy Premier of NSW, the Honourable Andrew Stoner and Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, Governor of NSW, presided over the Awards Ceremony. This award is testimony to the outstanding work of Dr. Wright who gives of her time willingly each week to present lively and engaging lessons in science to all Gresford children. Not only does she volunteer her time here each Monday, she spends hours researching experiments and scientific topics of high interest to children as well as co-ordinating speakers and excursions which align with our studies. She deserves our warmest congratulations. Please read our children's comments about Dr. Wright's science lessons further on in this newsletter.

Other fantastic news for Gresford School this fortnight has been in the area of movie making with **our school promotional movie being awarded**

first prize in the Newcastle Movie Makers' Organisation Competition. Our movie was awarded first prize in the schools' section. This prize also comes with a cash component to further movie making skills in our students.

Our school was well represented at the **Gresford Community Armistice Day Service** last week at the cenotaph where students respectfully remembered those who have served in the defence of our country. Memorable presentations were delivered by Alex Cant, Cameron Hipwell and Saban Bevan who had researched family members who had served in the Great War. These presentations will appear in the next edition of the Gresford News. Many thanks to all those who sent in flowers. The floral tributes were amazing and we thank Mrs. Isaac for her skill in creating the wreaths and arrangements.

Our final **Kindergarten Orientation** has been held this week with a beautiful group of students coming to learn with us next year. I had the pleasure of meeting with their parents last week and we sincerely welcome them to our school community. Hopefully lots of them will join our enthusiastic band of P&C workers next year.

Our senior students head off to Dungog High this week for their second **Orientation Session** with Year 5 joining in also. A third session for Year 6 and their parents is scheduled for 5th December.

Next week we will be hearing from our

prospective school prefects and captains for 2012 when they will present their speeches to the students and staff. Speeches will be held over 3 days, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with voting on Thursday. The results will be announced in Friday's assembly 2nd December. Parents are welcome to attend on any of these days and students have been given their day to deliver their speech.

Next week we will be inviting any students who wish to be considered for the **John Lill Music Scholarship** to write a brief outline of how they would benefit from the scholarship. Applications will be completed at school on Friday, 2nd December and assistance in preparing their responses will be given. This scholarship carries with it a prize of \$300 to be used to assist in the musical education of the recipient. Please remind your child should you wish them to apply.

Teachers are currently preparing **student reports to be sent home on 16th December**. Extensive data collection and interpretation goes into the compilation of these reports and we encourage you to read them with your child.

Professional learning for teachers this fortnight has been in the areas of early childhood learning, middle years learning, work health and safety, leadership and strategic planning.

Kind regards,
Pauline

*"Bloom where
you are planted."*

The Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree

Bring the kids for a fun filled afternoon of dancing, games, and an appearance from Santa.

Finger foods and slushies will be provided.

Have kids bring in a their letters to Santa and put them in Santa's mail box.

Where:

**Gresford Bowls Sports
&
Recreational Club**

When: Sunday 11th December

Time: 3.30pm till 6.30pm

Raffles to follow with six hams up for grabs. RSVP not necessary but would be appreciated for catering purposes.
Phone: 4938 9368 or 0427 007680

Dates for your Diary

December

- Tuesday 6th - Year 3/4 excursion
- Tuesday 6th - Year 6 Farewell 6.00pm
- Monday 5th - Year 6 to Dungog High
- Wednesday 7th - Ensemble to Lara Nursing Home
- Tuesday 13th -
Presentation Night 6.30pm**
- Friday 16th - Last day of Term 4 for students

3Ball Junior Basketball League 2012

3Ball Pty Ltd will be forming a junior league that will commence in February 2012 and conclude early in April 2012. 3Ball League offers slightly modified rules and calls for only 6 players per team. 3Ball covers many areas, so that smaller towns that do not have competitions, or numbers to create competitions may participate. It is our view that everyone should have the chance to form a team and the 3 Ball League will create the opportunity without it being a long drawn out experience and allow kids to meet new people through basketball.

Each team will play at least 2 games each game day and will be play at central venues.

For more information contact David Richards via his email 3ballacademy@hotmail.com.au

The Slushies Return!

The Slushies are back, 100% fruit juice.

The old high price has been reduced to only 50 cents per slushy!

One day only, Monday 28th November

It's a Year 6 fundraiser and the money raised will go towards the Year 6 present at the end of the year!

So don't forget your money, kids!

Yours Sincerely, Year 6 Committee.

**Community education is coming to
Dungog Shire.**

Is there a course you would like to do or teach in 2012?

Please fill in our on-line survey at dins.org.au. For more information contact the new education project officers Jane Richens or John O'Brien on education@dins.org.au or on 4992 1133.

Brought to you by the Dungog Shire Community Centre.

Science through the eyes of the children

- We get up close and you get to do all the experiments. The experiments are always fun and exciting. We are always learning something different. We are lucky that Dr. Wright has been coming every Monday.

Cameron

- I think that this opportunity for us primary students is amazing to actually have a person that was a scientist and knows everything there is to know about science. The thing that impresses me is that not only learning about science, we also get to do hands on science experiments with an actual scientist. This means a great deal to me because Dr. Wright teaches us many extraordinary facts which will help greatly for preparing us for high school and showing us that if you're a scientist, it is an extremely interesting job. Alex

- I have learnt a lot from science and it is amazing what we get to do with Dr. Wright. She is so clever and every week we are all so excited to see what Dr. Wright has for us to do. Some weeks it may be making a diamond with marshmallows. We always do something fun and by far she is the best science teacher I have ever had!

Ella

- I think this was a fantastic opportunity for all primary students of Gresford Public School and we all love Dr. Wright coming to our school because she does not show us, she lets us do it. Mia G.
- We are lucky because Dr. Wright has taught us all kinds of science like magnets, solar energy and lots more. It surprised me that she knew all of this. Ziz

- The best thing about science is you get to do fun things and study certain things each term such as solar power, water, the human body and much more. The best thing we've ever done in science was going down to the river and testing the water. Also having lots of guests to show us more about a certain thing.

Paul

- I love science because it is usually hands on activities and it is always fun especially when we get to eat yummy food. I also love learning about DNA. I would love to take up science as a career because you can make up poisons, wear really cool lab coats and make discoveries. Science is awesome! Thomas

- I love science because you get to do fun things and everyone gets involved. All of us love it when Dr. Wright has chocolate day and when we get to create something that we would not think of being able to build or create. I sure think that everyone has so much fun doing science. Emma

- I think that the Scientists in Schools Program has really benefited me and helped me discover more about how we connect to nature. My favourite bit is DNA as you get to discover how you are made and the biology behind it. The Scientists in Schools Program has really helped me understand the surroundings around me. Because I enter the university tests, the Scientists in Schools Program helps me heaps in the science test. If I didn't have this program I wouldn't achieve the level that I get. Courtney

- Dr. Wright is fun. She shows us many different science things such as DNA, water projects and separation with water and salt. Dr. Wright always teaches us new experiments which are fun and they can help us in everyday living. I like the water filter experiments, the magnet experiments, growing plants and the water turbine experiments. I have learnt a lot about science with Dr. Wright. I enjoyed looking through the microscope to see the magnified objects. Acelyn



Values Awards

Jack Hill
Sharneakia Nikora
Cameron Hipwell
Shaelyn Crouch
Jake Edwards
Paul Locke



MERIT AWARDS

K/1/2	Hayden Wilson Bryce Chapple
3/4	Shakiah Tower-Brown Riley Atkins
5/6	Rhys Legge Thomas Hojer



LITERACY AWARD

Liza Edwards
Zhane Duncan
Saban Bevan
Jayden Street
Elizabeth Challenor
Acelyn Towers-Brown



Library Award

**Jayden Street
&
Paul Locke**

