

Gresford Public School Newsletter

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Issue 01

3rd February, 2011

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2011 school year, parents and friends of Gresford School. I am very happy to be back with the fantastic Gresford children, staff, families and friends. I certainly enjoyed my time at Glen William but there is no place like "home." Working in small schools such as ours makes one realise how lucky our students and we are, to be learning and working in such an idyllic atmosphere.

The term has started well with all children happy and enthusiastic to be back. **Welcome to our new students**, Charlotte and Nicholas Wrigley, and Gilbert Hunt. We also welcome our delightful new Kindergarten members, Hayden Wilson, Liza Kelehear, Katharina Lawrence, Jack Hill and Emily Dent. Mrs. Tickle is very happy with how quickly these students have settled in.

We have organised a **Parent/Teacher evening** for Tuesday, 8th February and cordially invite you to attend to find out about the year ahead in your child's class. Year 5/6 meeting will be from 6.00-6.45; K/1/2 from 6.45-7.30 and 3/4 from 7.30-8.15.

Swim School has been organised for 14th February to 25th February and notes have been sent home. Please fill these in and return to school as soon as possible should your child be a non-swimmer or

need to strengthen their water skills. Student assistance is available should finance be a problem. Please phone the office if this is the case. Swimming is an important life skill and we strongly encourage attendance where necessary.

This year it has become necessary to raise our **school fees** from \$30 to \$33/family to cover increased costs across the board. Invoices for school fees and text book costs will be sent home shortly. Please telephone the school if financial support is necessary. All requests will be treated confidentially.

In response to the **devastating floods in Queensland**, the Department of Education is inviting schools to contribute to a national fund raising venture on Thursday, 17th February. This has been titled "Maroon Day" and students in all NSW schools are being invited to wear maroon as part of an out-of-uniform day. Last year when bushfires ravaged Victoria, our school supported the fund raising activity here at school magnificently and we are hoping the generosity of the Gresford community will again prevail. All funds raised in NSW schools from donations on Maroon Day will go into a "Schoolaid" fund and will be directed to the reconstruction of educational infrastructure and

resources in Queensland. **Please help us to help our Queensland kids.**

On an organisational note, we would ask that all parents ensure that their contact details are up to date, especially mobile phone numbers and emergency contacts. We would also request that messages for the "bus board" are current and that if any daily changes or additions are to be made to children's afternoon arrangements, that these be communicated to the school in writing where possible. If not we ask that you telephone changes through as soon as possible on the day and certainly before 2.45. We thank you for your co-operation.

Kind regards,
Pauline

*"The secret of
getting ahead
is getting started."*

Agatha Christie

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 8th February - Parent teacher interviews

Monday 14th February - Swim School begins

Thursday 17th February - P & C AGM

Friday 25th February - Swim School Ends

THURSDAY 17TH FEBRUARY

P & C

Annual General Meeting

6.00pm

EFTPOS

***is now available
for payment of fees and
excursions at the front office.***



Gresford Vacy Football Club Registration

Under 6's to All Age

Paterson - Monday 14 February, 2011

at St Paul's Church Hall - 3.15pm - 6.00pm

Vacy - Wednesday 16 February, 2011

at Vacy School of Arts Hall - 3.15pm - 6.00pm

Gresford - Friday 18 February 2011

at Gresford Sporting Complex - 3.15pm - 6.00pm



Bring along:

- Birth Certificate copy (new players only)
- Doctor's name and phone number
- 18 years / All Age must provide a passport photo
- Registration fees (as below):

5 - 9 years \$80 with free training ball

10 - 18 years \$90 with free training ball

Family rate for 3 or more - 1/2 fee for youngest applicant (s).

All Age \$170

Training starts Wednesday, 16 March from 5.00pm. First session all teams meet at Gresford Sporting Complex. Session includes team allocation meeting and sausage sizzle. For more information ring Tammy Crouch on 4938 9101 (after hours).





OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS



There are quite a large number of school library books overdue from last year. If your child received a note or if you locate any Library books please return them as soon as possible. As you appreciate, replacements are costly.

Attendance at School

Did you know?

1. For every day a child misses school, it will take them 2 days to catch up.
2. If a child misses 7 days each term from K to Year 6, they will have missed a whole year of schooling by the time they reach High School.

Regular attendance at school is very important

1. If students miss the basic skills in the early years of school, they often have problems later on.
2. Attending school every day makes learning easier.
3. Attending school every day helps build and maintain friendships.

Research shows that children who begin school with good attendance are more likely to continue that pattern and more likely succeed in later life.

Get them there on time

- The first lesson of the day is considered vital learning time
- It is essential that your child is at school on time and settled into class, to maximize their education potential

Your child must be at school every day unless he/she

- Is too sick to go to school
- Has been injured
- Has to go to a special religious ceremony
- Has an infectious illness (eg. Mumps, chicken pox, measles)

It is important to let the school know when and why your child is away from school

- Written note outlining the reason for the absence
- Alternatively, you could telephone or visit the school but written advice must also be provided.

Sport and other Exercise is needed for healthy physical development of children

- Sport is part of normal school activity and children must attend
- Appointments with people like doctors or dentists should be made for before or after school where possible.
- Hats are required for outdoor learning activities.

Your Legal Obligation

- The Education Reform Act 1990 states that: All children between the ages of 6 & 15 are required by law to attend school regularly.
- Families should try to arrange holidays in school vacations.
- If your family is planning to take leave for a period of time, you should notify the school in advance.

Maitland Youth “Glee” Choir

Rock, pop, jazz, gospel, folk and traditional music

Ages 7- 16 years

First rehearsal- Wednesday February 9, 4.30- 6pm, Maitland Public School Hall

Registrations from 3.50pm

maitlandyouthchoir@live.com.au

BELL TIMES for 2011

9.00am - Class begins

11.00am - Lunch begins

11.15am - Bell to play

11.50am - Lunch ends

1.35pm - Recess

2.00pm - Recess ends

2.55pm - Bus lines

Assembly Friday 12.50pm

These changes are being trialed to maximise learning time in class and minimise time spent in the playground during the hottest part of the day.

Please note new assembly time.

YOGA

Tuesday evenings general class with Donna Cavanough

10 years experience teaching locally

5.30pm - 7.00pm (during school term)

(class is suitable for beginners, please ring first)

Cost: \$13 per class if paying by the term or \$16 casual \$13 concession

Where: Dungog RSL in the air conditioned games room

How call Donna on 4938 9292

Improve your posture, strength, flexibility and stamina. Manage stress or a bad back or just feel better!