



Gresford Public School Newsletter

www.gresford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Phone Number: 4938 9304 Mobile Number: 040749389304

Issue 2

17th February, 2011

Principal's Message

We are now well into the swing of Term 1 learning with students engaged in a variety of educational experiences. Our all important **Swim School** commenced this week, with the cooler weather of course. Staff report that all children are trying hard and responding well to their instructors.

A visit from the **National Parks and Wildlife Services** ranger was well received by the children of Years 3 to 6. Both classes are studying environmental units so the visit was of great interest, especially the stuffed owl! The ranger remarked on the knowledge our children had about the environment, the probable result of living in the country and being in touch with nature.

Our wonderful **Science program** will commence next Monday with our Scientist in Residence, Dr. Lesley Wright. This year the focus will be on scientific inquiry as we work through a CSIRO science education program. This is yet another benefit from being

part of the Scientists in Schools Program and having the mentorship of Dr. Wright. We are indeed a lucky school.

The **Active After Schools Sports Program** also begins this week with specialised coaches working with Years 3-6 in Taekwondo and basketball. Our junior class will spend time in these sports next term.

We have a **cattle judging team** going off to Maitland Show tomorrow to learn the finer points of beast selection. We have an experienced member in Clare Richardson and welcome Michaela Lawrence and Emily Dent to the team. Go girls!



Thanks to all parents who availed themselves of the opportunity to talk with

teachers at our **Parent Information Evening** held last week. Teachers reported good attendance and were able to explain the class curriculum and organisation as well as meet new parents.

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Badge Presentation

at
Friday's Assembly
on
4th March

**At the new time
12.50pm**

- ❖ Peer Mediation
- ❖ SRC
- ❖ House Captains
&
Vice Captains

All welcome!

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Congratulations to the newly elected **Sports Captains for 2011.**

Those elected were,
Paterson Captains:

Boy Captain -

Ziz O'Brien Cavanough;

Vice Captain -

Rhys Legge;

Girl Captain -Mia Quirk,

Vice Captain-

Charlotte Wrigley.

Allyn Captains are:

Boy Captain- Jesse Farr;

Vice Captain- Paul Locke,

Girl Captain-

Emma Hooper

Girl Vice Captain-

Acelyn Towers-Brown.

Good news for our hardcourt! Through submission, we have received a grant from the Premier's Sporting Challenge to resurface the playing area with a synthetic covering designed to make the court a safer area for children to engage in physical activity. Hopefully we will have less bumps and grazed knees etc. Through the generous support of the **Dungog Lion's**

Club, we have received a specialised public address system designed particularly to assist special needs students. However the system will be of great benefit to all students and we are very appreciative of the efforts of this service organisation.

Thanks to everyone who so generously supported **Maroon Day**. This day was designated nationally for school students to raise funds for their Queensland counterparts. We are pleased to announce that the sum of \$141.00 will be forwarded from the children of Gresford to the Schoolaid DET fund which is earmarked for the restoration of educational facilities in Queensland.

Please give thought to attending our **P&C meeting tonight** which will be our AGM. This small body of hard working parents does so much to support the learning of all Gresford children. It would be impossible to present the quality and breadth of programs we offer here without the P&C support. As in many organisations, the bulk of work seems to rest on the shoulders of a few. It would be wonderful to welcome some new faces.

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"The beautiful thing
about learning is
nobody can take
it away from you."*

Below: Picture of our Maroon Day





Values Awards

Claire Lawrence
Hannah Redhouse
Ellen Hodges
Carl Thompson
Gemma Hawkins
Jesse Farr



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Liza Kelehear
Bryce Chapple

2/3/4

Amy Skolyszewski
Gilbert Hunt

4/5/6

Courtney Lawrence
Acelyn Towers-Brown



LITERACY AWARD

Nicholas Wrigley
Riley Atkins
Rhianna Legge-Brown
Katharina Lawrence
Shakiah Towers-Brown
Alex Cant



Library Award

Henry Hunt
&
Gemma Hawkins



Children's Stories

RANGER BECK

Today Ranger Beck told us about the magnificent animals and plants in the rainforest. These animals were amazing. I never knew some of these animals were in grave danger of becoming extinct.

There is this butterfly called the Purple Cooper. The Ranger tried to show us a picture of one. You could only see one in person. Thank you Ranger Beck for coming in.

By Mia Groves

By Mia Groves



☺ All Cars Should Be Red ☺

For many years cars have come in all the colours the rainbow. I strongly believe that all cars should be red.

Red cars are bright and easy to see. This would make less accidents. It would also make you see the car better than before.

Red is already a popular colour. Many fast cars like Ferraris are only red. In my family we have 2 red cars.

If all cars were red it would be cheaper to fix them after accidents. Panel beaters would only have to have red paint and red spare parts.

I know all cars should be red!

By Charlotte Wrigley



Children's Stories

Swimming

So far in swimming I have learned that you have to keep your arms straight when you do freestyle or backstroke. Swimming is really fun and I think that everyone has and will learn lots about the sport.

Everyone loves swimming just by the look on their face. When everyone walks in the door, everyone's eyes light up and smiles are everywhere.

By Thomas Hojer

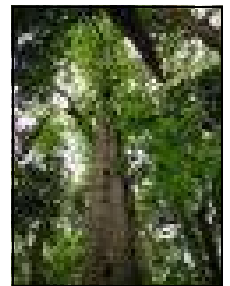


Ranger Beck

From Ranger Beck's talk I learnt about all the different layers in the rainforest. The top layer is called the emergent layer, the second is the canopy layer, the third layer is the understorey and the last layer is the rainforest floor.

I also learnt that the rainforests at the top of Australia are called the tropical rainforests, the rainforests at the bottom of Australia are called the cool temperate and the rainforests in the middle of Australia are called the sub-tropical rainforests. I thought the talk with Ranger Beck was really good.

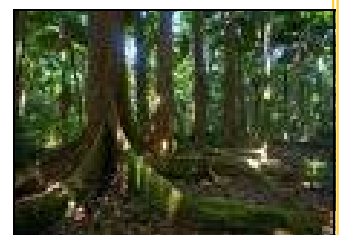
By Jesse Farr



Ranger Beck's talk

I learnt about all the levels of the rainforest. The top of the rainforest is called the emergent layer and then below is the canopy. After is the understorey and last is the forest floor with the leaves on it. I also learnt about the special rat poison that doesn't harm an animal that eats the rats.

By Ziz O'Brien Cavanough



Dates for your Diary

- Monday 14th February - Swim School begins
- Thursday 17th February - P & C AGM 6.00pm
- Friday 25th February - Swim School Ends

Please Note: First day back of Term 2

Thursday 28th April - School Photos

TONIGHT

at 6pm:

P&C first meeting of the year:

Annual General Meeting followed by an ordinary meeting.

Come along and get involved in the school community: fundraising, supporting your kids, discussing issues that matter.

Such as:

- ❖ Priorities for spending
- ❖ Canteen
- ❖ Disco
- ❖ Excursions
- ❖ Billy Cart Derby
- ❖ The new year.

See you there!

Enquiries to John O'Brien 4938 9292.

Family Nutrition Questionnaire

Researchers at the University of Newcastle are studying Family Diet Quality. They are looking for parents and care givers with a child aged 8-12 years to answer questions about their usual food intake and physical activity levels and come to the University of Newcastle on two occasions over a 5 month period to have some body composition and health measures taken.

In between the visits the parents do some extra measures of their usual food intake and then have a blood test at the end of the study. The children do not have a blood test. A small contribution to travel costs is provided. For more information about the study and to see if you are eligible interested families should call Ms Caitlin West on 4921 5405 or Diet-Quality-Study@newcastle.edu.au.

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

It's not too late!

Paterson River Netball Club still has a few vacancies in some of their teams. As a small club we are able to offer plenty of support for players. If you would like further information please contact Sue on 49385545.



Cute Corgi Jack Russel Cross Puppies available for cost of micro chipping and vaccination.

Phone 4938 5229

5TH ANNUAL HUNTER ANIMAL RESCUE PETS PICNIC 10AM - 3PM SATURDAY 19TH MARCH 2011 SPEERS POINT PARK

Friendly, vaccinated pets on leads welcome!

**Market stalls, Raffles, Competitions, Giveaways,
Sausage Sizzle, Face Painting and lots
more!**





CONTACT DETAILS UPDATE

Could all parents/caregivers (except new kindergarten parents/caregivers) please fill out below all their details so that everyone's details are up to date.

Child/ren Name: _____

Parent/Caregiver 1 Name: _____ Home Phone Number: _____

Mobile Number: _____ Work Phone Number: _____

Parent/Caregiver 2 Name: _____ Home Phone Number: _____

Mobile Number: _____ Work Phone Number: _____

Correspondence Address: _____

Emergency Contact 1 Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

Emergency Contact 2 Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

Any allergies: _____ If yes what sort: _____

Action needed: _____

Consent for photograph to be taken and used in media: Yes / No (please circle)

After completing please send back with your child ASAP

Thank you