



Gresford Public School

Newsletter

www.gresford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
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Issue 3

3rd, March, 2011

Principal's Message

With our term already half way through, we have embarked on a number of **new initiatives** this year and have re-established worthwhile programs from previous years. Such new programs include a regional video conferencing network, a schools movie making competition and the inclusion of Taekwondo and basketball as Active After Schools Sports (AASS).

Our AASS facilitators have both independently commented on the **outstanding behaviour of Gresford students**. They teach in a number of schools so see a range of children and their behaviours. Another worthy compliment came from our swimming instructors at Singleton who remarked on several occasions as to the attentiveness and co-operation of Gresford children. They are to be congratulated for this. Our swimmers not only behaved beautifully but worked very hard in the pool to improve their skills. Well done all!

The school has been the recipient of an excellent PA system thanks to the **Dungog Lions' Club** and a submission written by Mrs. Donna Griffiths, our itinerant teacher for the hearing impaired. Donna works regularly with two of our students and this wonderful resource will not only benefit them but all children in the school making whole school presentations much more audible. The system was presented to the school this week by Mr. Kim Wright on behalf of the Lions Club.

This Friday's assembly will see the

recognition of our **sports captains and Student Representative Council (SRC) delegates**. Badges will be presented and we welcome parents to attend. See the list of captains and SRC representatives further on in the newsletter. Our SRC has had their initial meeting and have elected their office bearers for the year. Under the guidance of Mrs. Isaac and Mrs. Jasper they are planning their activities for the year. The first of those is organising school participation in Clean Up Australia Day. SRC involvement and leading sports teams are excellent ways for students to demonstrate leadership. Our Leadership Training Program will commence shortly.

Our **Cattle Judging Team** represented the school credibly with Clare Richardson achieving a first and second place. Michaela Lawrence and Emily Dent gained much valuable experience.

The **ACARA My School website** is due for release on 4th March and will contain information of interest to all parents. Included with this newsletter is information from the government on what is contained on the website and a fact sheet for further guidance as well as support materials available online.

We are currently finalising our emergency contact register for 2011 and ask that you **please send in immediately any changes to your own contact numbers or those of your emergency contacts**. We have had occasions

already where we have been unable to contact parents with important messages. A reminder to all parents also that our Mobile Phone Policy directs that students bringing mobile phones to school should take them to the office for safe keeping upon their arrival at school. Phones can be collected just prior to home time.

A reminder also that the **Newcastle Permanent Building Society** has generously offered to donate \$300 to the school should the school be mentioned when either personal or home loans are taken out. The school has already benefited from this scheme and the funds are gratefully received to support literacy and numeracy programs.

Teacher professional learning for this fortnight has been in the areas of writing, technology, behaviour management and leadership.

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"Lack of money is
the root of all evil."*

George Bernard Shaw

Sports Captains for 2011

Allyn

Girl Captain - Emma Hooper

Girl Vice Captain - Acelyn Towers-Brown

Boy Captain - Jesse Farr

Boy Vice Captain - Paul Locke

Paterson

Girl Captain - Mia Quirk

Boy Captain - Ziz O'Brien-Cavanough

Girl Vice Captain - Charlotte Wrigley

Boy Vice Captain - Saban Bevan



Sports Captains

From left: Ziz O'Brien Cavanough,
Mia Quirk, Jesse Farr & Emma
Hooper



Sports Captains & Vice Captains

Back from left: Ziz O'Brien
Cavanough, & Paul Locke

From left: Charlotte Wrigley,
Mia Quirk, Emma Hooper, Jesse
Farr, Acelyn Towers-Brown &
SabanBevan.



Values Awards

Jack Hodges
Paul Locke
Emily Dent
Michaela Lawrence
Mia Groves
Kiara Quirk



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Jada Laurie
Jack Hill

2/3/4

Bob Butler
Bekky Farr

4/5/6

Ziz O'Brien Cavanough
Charlotte Wrigley
Courtney Lawrence



LITERACY AWARD

Hayden Wilson
Latia Hipwell
Jake Hipwell
Olivia Everett
Kayden Atkins
Clare Richardson
Gus Lawrence



Library Award

**Bekky Farr
&
Liza Kelehear**



Gresford School P&C presents our second big



Family Disco & Sizzle Up!



It's back! After last year's big dance-a-thon, it's time for another **NIGHT OF NIGHTS** for kids & families.

Friday 18 March
6.00pm-8.00pm

On the **HARDCOURT** at Gresford School.

*Kick start the year with a doof doof doof
(and a little bit of Nutbush...)*

Only \$2 a head for children and adults.
No slipping off to the pub – stay around
for the **fun, prizes & chatting.**


We especially want to welcome NEW PARENTS & KIDS – families from the Preschool are also very very welcome.

Sausage sizzle; ice-cream cones with
sprinkles; drinks.

Red Hot Raffle with top notch prizes.

The same unforgettable DJ as last time!!!

ALL PROCEEDS go to the new campaign to replace the old air-con in the classrooms and COOL THE SCHOOL.



Australian Curriculum, Assessment And Reporting Authority

On 4th March 2011, the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) will launch the My School 2.0 website (www.myschool.edu.au).

The website provides profiles on each school, including ours, and includes information about the school such as numbers of students and staff, attendance rates and results from the national literacy and numeracy tests. For the first time, the website now also includes information about school finances and student gain in NAPLAN.

The website shows comparisons between our school's NAPLAN results and those from schools serving students from statistically similar backgrounds across Australia. From this, we can see in what areas our school is doing well and where we need to look to make improvements. The website also now shows student gain information, so that we can acknowledge how our students have progressed over time. Financial information for our school is also shown, with 2009 recurrent income and capital expenditure displayed broken down by source of funding.

There is a lot of information contained on the website, and we encourage parents, carers and other interested members of the school community to view the website. If you have any questions you can go directly to the ACARA information desk (at 1300 895 563), or please contact the school. A useful list of support material and a Fact Sheet is attached to this newsletter.

Dates for your Diary

- Friday 4th March - Badge Presentation at Assembly, 12.50pm
 - Clean Up Australia Day - at school
 - (all children to bring gloves please)
- Friday 11th March - Gresford Show visit (whole school)
- Friday 18th March - P & C Disco
- Monday 28th March - Young Leaders Conference - School Captains
- Thursday 7th April - 5/6 visit to Lara Nursing Home

Please Note: First day back of Term 2

Thursday 28th April - School Photos

ICAS Competitions

All Year 3-6 children received a separate note on these competitions at the beginning of the term.

If you wish your child to enter any of these competitions in Computer Skills, Science, Spelling, Writing, English and/or Mathematics, please contact the school as soon as possible so entries can be made.

Computer Skills - Tuesday 24th May

Science - Wednesday 8th June

Spelling - Tuesday 21st June

Writing - Tuesday 21st June

English - Tuesday 2nd August

Mathematics - Tuesday 16th August

Clean Up Australia Day

Friday 4th March

You will need:

Sun Safe Hat, Gloves, Water & Sunscreen

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



PET PARADE AT THE GRESFORD SHOW



Saturday 12th March

9am sharp for entries

Nancy Dent 49317117

1. Best St Patrick's Day Pet
2. Too Cute for Words
3. The Longest Tail
4. The Softest Pet
5. Most Unique Pet
6. Best Hair Style
7. Best Behaved Pet



HELPERS NEEDED

If any parents could assist with setting up the Children's Pavilion at the Show on Thursday 10th March 2011 from 10.00am - 2.00pm please contact Rosalie Lawrence on 4931 5257.

**W
a
n
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e
d**

Kind homes for cute puppies

We are available now to go to kind homes for the cost of vaccination and vet fees.

We are 9 week old male kelpies who may work with the right training - but at the moment we are cute, playful and loveable and would make great pets!

Phone:0419595949 or 49389432

Swim School

