



Gresford Public School Newsletter
www.gresford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
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Issue 7

19th May, 2011

Principal's Message

The term is buzzing along with lots of happy children in classrooms and great learning programs in place. An insert in today's newsletter outlines **the range of support programs** we have in place at our school to assist student learning. It is intended over the next few newsletters to outline in detail a number of these programs in order to inform parents of the range of opportunities we offer to enhance children's literacy, numeracy and personal development experiences.

Our wonderful scientist in residence, Dr. Lesley Wright has resumed her **science lessons** with all students last week and an awareness of the dangers of sunlight to human skin is being studied across the grades. We have some interesting experiments to carry out over the next few lessons. **We would ask parents to ensure that children have a hat every**

day so that they may fully participate in playground and sporting experiences no matter what the weather or season.

Our cross country athletes headed off to Tocal last week and bravely ran a very long course. Congratulations go to all who competed but special recognition must go to **Shaneakia Nikora** for her great finish in 4th place. We wish her well when she competes at the regional event next week. K/1/2 have commenced their **Active After School Sports Program** with lessons by specialists in basketball and Tae KwonDo. Playing sport on our wonderful new resurfaced hardcourt is now much safer for children. The cost of this resurfacing was met through submission to the **Premier's Sporting Fund.**

Year 5/6 have again been involved in a pre-recorded

video conference at the invitation of the Centre for Learning Innovation. Our students were able to talk directly to the well known children's author, Morris Gleitzman and ask him about the craft of writing. This will be available on the Department's website for all schools to see.

Years 3 and 5 are relieved to have completed **the NAPLAN tests**. These tests are a diagnostic tool designed for teacher and system analysis. They provide a snapshot of student learning on one occasion and should be read in conjunction with other assessment data available. Results will be sent home early in September.

Our school is currently involved in learning about the **art of movie making.**

unexpected labour shortage
With the expertise of Mr. in the canteen last week.
John O'Brien, Years 3 to 6 Also thanks to the school
have created, scripted and staff, including Mr.
are currently directing a Redhouse who rallied around
movie starring all Gresford to heat pies etc. at the last
students. The movie minute.

showcases the great things
the children have selected
about our school. When
completed, it will be entered
in a DET competition titled,
'The Great Schools' Show
Off.' It will also be placed
on our school website as a
promotional tool.

Last week was **Volunteers' Week** and we would like to
take this opportunity to
thank the many wonderful
volunteers we have in our
school which help to make it
such a special place. From
our invaluable parent tutors,
to classroom helpers, to
canteen workers, to our
hard working P&C and
scripture teachers, we say a
special thank you. We could
never provide the range of
programs without your help.
A special thank you goes to
Kim Everett and Anglea
Kelehear for filling in so
quickly when we had an

**Don't forget our special
parent meeting tonight at
5.30** with the highly
recommended speaker,
Wendy Birrell who will
present on parenting your
pre-teens child. **Please note
this presentation is
designed for parents, not
children.**

Professional learning for
staff this fortnight has
been in the areas of
technology and writing.

Kind regards,
Pauline

*"A person who never
made a mistake,
never tried
anything new."*

Albert Einstein

Contacting Teachers

Parents are invited to
contact the school
should they have any
concerns about their
child's learning or
behaviour.

Teachers are available for
interview at usually the
following times:

Mrs Tickle:

Thursday: 12.35pm -
3.00pm

Mr Taylor:

Tuesday: 12.35pm - 3.00pm

Mrs Dillon:

Tuesday - Thursday
9.00am - 9.30am

Mrs Mitchell:

Monday from 12 noon
Friday from 9.00am

Please contact the office
first to book an appointment
on 4938 9304.

Dates for your Diary

MAY

- Thursday 19th May - Wendy Birrell Parenting Workshop 5.30pm
- Thursday 19th May - P & C meeting 6.30pm all welcome!
- Friday 20th May - Walk Safely to School
- Tuesday 24th May - ICAS Computer test
- Friday 27th May - Regional X Country

JUNE

- Thursday 2nd June - Musica Viva from 1.55pm
- Thursday 16th June - CWA project due 5/6
- Thursday 16th June - P & C meeting 6.30pm all welcome!
- Tuesday 21st June - ICAS Spelling & Writing tests

Did you know?

Your risk of developing skin cancer is related to the amount of UV radiation you are exposed to over your lifetime, particularly in childhood.

- Although UV radiation is not as strong in winter, it's still possible to damage skin - it just takes longer.
- Thick cloud provides a good filter, but UV radiation can penetrate thin or scattered cloud.
- Many factors affect UV radiation levels, including time of day, time of year, geographical location and altitude so it can be tricky to decide if sun protection is needed on any given day.

You can't just step outside and check the weather to see if UV radiation levels are dangerous. The easiest and most accurate way to work it out is to check the UV alert at www.cancercouncil.com.au/sunsmart and remember:

When the index is 3 or above, skin damage can occur, so sun protection is important.

P&C & Pizza! **TONIGHT** **Thursday 19 May** **in the library**

This month's P&C meeting starts immediately after the Betwixt And Between talk (about 6.30pm) and includes free pizza!

It's turning into a big year. Please get involved and make a difference.

Bike Safety talk
with
Mr Allan Shrimpton
at
tomorrow's
Assembly
12.50pm
All welcome!

Lambton Road, BROADMEADOW NSW 2292 Year 2-6: (02) 4952 3297 Year 7-12: (02) 4952 3355 Fax: (02) 4956 2428

2012 - YEAR 2 – 11 AUDITIONS

Hunter School of the Performing Arts offers a unique educational environment, being NSW's only fully-selective public Performing Arts School. The school's Junior (2-4), Middle (5-8) and Senior (9-12) schools deliver outstanding developmental programs, with a gifted and talented focus in Dance, Drama and Music. In addition, academic, welfare and sporting programs complement the delivery of a comprehensive academic Year 2-12 curriculum, that caters for students' individual abilities. Enrolment is by audition only with applications for 2012 enrolment being accepted in Years 2-11. The School welcomes applications in these years. However, please be aware that the School is responsive to continuing patterns of enrolment and that the majority of vacancies do occur in the junior and middle years (Years 2-8). Year 2-7 students undertake compulsory studies in Dance, Drama and Music as part of the Junior and Middle School Curriculum. Year 8-12 students undertake major and minor studies in the Performing Arts as elective subjects. This can include the study of more than one Performing Arts field. Applications for Enrolment Auditions are available from:

HSPA's School's Website: www.hspa.nsw.edu.au

Enrolment applications close: Years 2 - 61.00 pm 15th June, 2011 For further information regarding the junior, middle or senior school, please contact: (02) 4952 3355 or 4952 3297 or huntperfor-h.schools@det.nsw.edu.au

Gifted and Talented Class

All students in Year 4 wishing to apply for a Year 5 Opportunity Class (*Gifted Class*) in 2012 need to fill in an application form online. The address is <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement> and parents can enter data from 9th May. The test will be on the 27th July between 9-11.15 am. All students will be tested in centres established at High Schools. Parents will be advised of this and other relevant information by Weds 13th July. Our nearest OC is at Rutherford PS. Anyone wishing to apply should let Pauline know as the school also has to enter data.

Kids, always check with an adult before downloading anything new to the computer.

Websites for kids

Number Invaders helps to learn times tables. So why not try out these website?

<http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html>

For all the art lovers why not try this website:

http://www.crayola.com/gamesfun/index.cfm?n_id=2

Active After –School Communities Program

The Federal Government in the Budget decided to continue funding for the Active After-school Communities program which we run, to keep kids involved in sport and physical activities.

This means we will have the chance to participate in the program in 2012.

The success of the program depends on the commitment and hard work of the staff, teachers, parents and community and sporting coaches who deliver it and I thank everyone involved for their efforts.

Minister for Sport, Mark Arbib, is encouraging parents to consider building on the great work of the After School program by having their child join a local sporting club. Joining a club and playing sport doesn't keep kids healthy and active it also helps to teach them self discipline, resilience and team work.

While a lot of kids are already members of sports clubs, the Government has developed a website that can assist parents in locating sporting clubs in our local community: ausport.gov.au/findaclub

The making of our new surface for our hardcourt



Children playing on our new hard court surface



Mrs Robyn McKerihan our Regional Education Director &
Mr Graeme Valler School Education Director visiting our school.





Values Awards

Katharina Lawrence

Bob Butler

Emma Hooper

Jada Laurie

Michaela Lawrence

Ben Urquhart



MERIT AWARDS

K/1/2

Liza Edwards

Ryan Skolyszewski

3/4

Jake Edwards

Charlie Hojer

5/6

Cameron Hipwell

Rhys Legge



LITERACY AWARD

Jack Hill

Harmon Russell

Saban Bevan

Carl Thompson

Kiara Quirk

Gus Lawrence



Writer's Award



Paul Locke