



Gresford Public School Newsletter
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Issue 9

16th June, 2011

Principal's Message

Our term is marching on with teachers now busily preparing **student reports**. These reports are based on data gathered from class learning situations, teacher observations as well as recent tests administered. Together these form a comprehensive picture of learning for Semester 1 and are the basis for the reports which will be issued on the last day of term. Follow-up 3 way conferences will be scheduled early next term to discuss progress and learning goals which children have decided upon.

Last Monday, we held our 'binless lunch' at school which is one of the **environmental education** strategies outlined in our school plan. Thanks to parents who supported this and who continue to do so by sending 'nude food' to school. Our aim is to build knowledge in the importance of reducing wastage in our environment and children seem keen to participate. We plan to hold these binless days on a regular basis. Year 5/6 participated in

a water conservation video conference last week and is keen to adopt strategies here at school to help save water.

As part of teacher professional learning this fortnight, the staff has been working on a student welfare aspect of our technology policy with raising student awareness on **cyber bullying**. Whilst we hope our students will not encounter this, particularly in the primary years, we need to have a policy in place to deal with this should it occur in the school situation. Teachers have had additional professional learning in this area from the Legal Branch of the Department. Their advice is that children under 13 should not be accessing social networking media such as Facebook. The draft policy will be presented at the P&C meeting this Friday at 9.45 am.

Kind regards,
Pauline

*"The way I see it,
if you want the
rainbow, you gotta put
up with the rain."*

Dolly Parton

**P&C
Meeting
Friday
MORNING
at 9.45
(after Scripture)**

Lots on:

The big racing carnival fundraiser in November
Volunteering blokes for concreting duty
Canteen action
And more ...

Get involved and help
make a great school even
better!

Wednesday Book Sight Word Program

All Year 1 and Year 2 students participate in the Wednesday book sight word program. This program is based on the Holdaway sight words, which are the 200 most commonly used words. Each week, every student is allocated 10 words, based on their reading ability/ level. These words are presented to the student in isolation and in context, in sentences.

The aim is for each child to practise reading these words/ sentences so instant recognition and fluency is achieved. After practising at home to a parent/ carer over the period of a week, books are then returned to school each Wednesday.

A volunteer parent (currently Mrs Jo Locke) listens to every child read from their Wednesday Book. New word lists are then allocated and so the process is repeated. This program aims to build every students' bank of sight words and contribute to the students' reading confidence and overall fluency.

A special thanks must be extended to Mrs Locke (and past volunteers) for their contribution to this very significant and worthwhile literacy activity.

Help Your Child Play it Safe in the Cyberworld

For years, young people spent much of their free time talking to friends on the phone. Today's young people aren't so different. They just have more ways to communicate.

Facebook is an issue that parents and schools are constantly managing. As a community we need to work together to ensure young people are not participating in or being exposed to inappropriate material on the internet.

What's My Child Doing on Facebook?

Young people use Facebook to connect with friends—through chat, personal messages and sharing photos, videos, links and other kinds of information. They use Facebook to announce achievements, wish each other a happy birthday and communicate socially.

Start a Conversation

Parents don't need to be social media experts in order to ask questions and begin an ongoing dialog with your young person. Have conversations about safety and technology early and often, in the same way that you talk to your kids about being safe at school, in the car, riding public transportation, or playing sports.

One of the best ways to begin a conversation is to ask your young person why services like Facebook are important to them. Discuss what's appropriate information to share online and what isn't. Ask them about privacy settings, and suggest that you go over them together, regularly. Set ground rules, and enforce them. Once information is posted on the internet it is in cyberspace for ever.

When signing up to Facebook the following Restrictions and Security applies to the user:

- Must provide real name / information and must commit:
- Not to provide any false personal information or create an account for anyone else without permission
- Not to create more than one personal profile
- Not to create another account without permission if Facebook disables your account
- **Not to use Facebook if under 13 years**
- Keep contact information accurate and up-to-date
- Not to share password or let anyone else access your account.

Parents / Caregivers need to remind their young person that:

- Facebook requires its users to be at least 13 years old before they can create an account.
- Providing false information to create an account is a violation of the Statement of Rights and Responsibilities.

Facebook state they will promptly delete the account of any user under the age of 13 that is reported to the site administrator.

Dates for your Diary

JUNE

- Friday 17 June - P & C meeting 9.45am all welcome!
- Monday 20th June - Year 5/6 CWA Iceland 10.30am
- Tuesday 21st June - ICAS Spelling & Writing tests
- Friday 24th June - Field Events held at school (weather permitting)
- Tuesday 28th June - 3/4 visit to Lara Nursing home & Debate Gresford v Vacy at Vacy
- Thursday 30th June - Sports Carnival at Gresford Sporting Complex (weather permitting)

JULY

- Friday 1st July - Last day of Term 2

All students return TUESDAY

19TH JULY 2011

Junior Golf Coaching Program

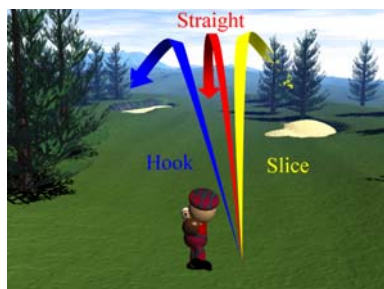
On Saturday 23rd July, 2011 Paterson Golf Club we are holding a registration day for junior boys and girls aged between 7 and 18 Year of age.

Coaching clinics will be conducted by a professional golfer, trainee cadets as well as low handicap members of Paterson Golf Club.

There will be no cost and all equipment will be provided for juniors to use.

On registration day a short coaching clinic will take place from 1.00pm and future dates and times for clinics will be advised.

Yours in golf,
Club Captain
Tom Goodman



Schools Sports Carnival

Thursday
30th
June

at
Gresford Sporting Complex
(Weather permitting)



Values Awards

Liza Edwards
Harmon Russell
Ben Urquhart
Hayden Wilson
Gilbert Hunt
Cameron Hipwell



MERIT AWARDS

K/1/2

Shaelyn Crouch
Alysha Cowley

3/4

Jamie Hickey
Clare Richardson

5/6

Ziz O'Brien Cavanough
Thomas Hojer



LITERACY AWARD

Claire Lawrence
Shakiah Towers-Brown
Charlotte Wrigley
Ryan Skolyszewski
Hannah Redhouse
Courtney Lawrence



Library Award

**Emily Dent
&
Ella Duncan**

