



Gresford Public School Newsletter

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Issue 15

15th September, 2011

Principal's Message

This is our last newsletter for Term 3 and in looking over the learning experiences for the term, one can see the variety and quality of experiences provided and efforts and achievements attained by students. All newsletters are placed on the **school website** for viewing each fortnight. Photos are renewed regularly and our school promotion movie, after some technical difficulties should now be there. I would encourage you to visit the site regularly to keep informed. The Department has a link for parent information which could also be helpful and it is www.schoolatoz.com.au

NAPLAN results have been sent home to parents this week and we would encourage you to look at these with your child. This national assessment records the results of student attainment in the areas of literacy and numeracy. These are the results of one test at one point in time and should be viewed alongside information provided by the school in semester reports. An analysis of these results will be provided at the P&C meeting in October.

This week Years 5/6 are in **Canberra** visiting the many national sites there as part of the unit of work being studied this term on government. This is an exciting excursion with memorable learning and fun times away with school friends. Years K-2

are scheduled to culminate their learning about **transport** next week with real experiences of a range of transport means. Year 5/6 enjoyed an interesting video conference last week on **sustainable energy** which formed part of the science unit currently being studied. K-2 will be visiting **Lara Nursing Home** next week to share their learning with our friends there.

Congratulations are again in order for our **debating team** which competed strongly against last year's winners, Hinton. We were again victorious with great strength in the quality of our speakers and their arguments. Speakers were, Paul Locke, Ella Duncan and Alex Cant. They were assisted by Cameron Hipwell, team adviser, Gus Lawrence, chair person and Courtney Lawrence, time keeper. We wish our school spelling champions the best of luck next week when they compete in the **Premier's Spelling Bee**. Our representatives are: Alex Cant, Paul Locke, Kiara Quirk and Gilbert Hunt. They have been training very hard for this event.

Our rescheduled date for **Grandfriend's Day** was this week and hopefully visitors had an enjoyable day of sharing with our younger students. Literacy and Numeracy were the focus of this visit as well as welcoming parents, grandparents and friends to our

school.

We now have a **new school education director** with the retirement of Graeme Valler. Our new director, Bryan Campbell visited the school last week and coming from a high school background, said he is looking forward to learning about education in the primary school setting as well as the functioning of small schools. We welcome **Mrs. Dillon** back after her long service leave and wish **Mrs. Jasper** a happy holiday as she takes long service leave next term. **Mrs. Carter** will be relieving in her absence. **School resumes for teachers and students on Monday, 10th October.** **Professional learning** for staff this fortnight has been in the areas of maths, strategic planning and office administration.

Have an enjoyable holiday with your children.

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"It's not what you do
once in a while,
It's what you
do day in,
day out that
makes a difference."*

by

Jenny Craig

P&C Meeting

**This Friday 16
September
at 9.45 am**

- Up-coming fundraiser
- New uniform-making arrangements
- Year 6 farewell
- Canteen major review
- And more.

**Hope to see
you there.**

Grand Friends Day with Doug The Reading Bug

A wonderful morning was enjoyed by all when grand friends participated in Reading sessions with K-4 students. A highlight was an appearance by Doug, the Dungog Reading Bug, who shared a story and left exciting reading sample bags for all students.



CANTEEN REVIEW and workshop

Come along and be a part of the new mandatory review of our canteen menu with nutrition consultant Branka Ivanovic from Hunter New England Health. Learn about green, amber and red foods, nutritional content and exactly what people mean when they say 'sometimes'! Then help us make the big decisions. 9.30am Thursday 22 September at the school.

All parents welcome.

Dates for your Diary

September

Friday 16th - P & C meeting 9.45am in the new library

Tuesday 20th - Infants excursion to Newcastle, Stockton, Williamtown Fighter World and RAAF Base

Thursday 22nd - K/1/2 visit to Lara Nursing Home

Last day of Term 3 Friday 23rd September

All students return Monday 10th October

Newcastle Area National Parks presents: 'Spring 2011'

Glenrock State Conservation Area

- Junior ranger 'Fossil Forest Ramble' - Wednesday 28th Sept
- Junior Ranger 'Wild Water Warriors' - Tuesday 27th Sept
- Twilight Creatures of Glenrock's Forest - Thursday 6th Oct
- Wild World of Rock pools - Friday 7th Oct

Hunter Wetland National Park (Ash Island)

- 'Bush Art' - Tuesday 27th Sept
- 'Bush Foods' - Tuesday 4th Oct

Awabakal Nature Reserve

- 'Awabakal Wildflowers' - Thursday 6th Oct

Blue Gum Hills Regional Park

- Biodiversity Day - Friday 30th Sept - Celebrate Biodiversity - FREE for the whole family - walk, talks, discovery activities, information stalls & prizes
- Junior Ranger 'Nature Diary and Story time' Wednesday 5th Oct

Bookings are essential. For enquires phone National Parks on 4946 4112

Maitland City Library

October Holiday Activities

Wind in the Willows as told by Mr Badger

Maitland City Library Tuesday 4th Oct

10.30am - 11.30am \$5.00 Ages 3+

Mr Badger, in the guise of storyteller, presents a delightful performance of Kenneth Grahame's classic story The Wind in the Willows

Science @ Home - Rutherford Library

Wednesday 7th Oct 11.30am - 12.15pm

\$5.00 Ages 5-12 Chemistry in the kitchen, physics in the lounge room, biology in the bathroom, maths in the home cinema. Explore fascinating science in and around everyone's home with Newcastle University's SMART science show.

Lantern Making Workshop East Maitland

Library - Friday 7th Oct 10.30am -

12.00pm \$5.00 Ages 10-12(or younger with

parental help) Build a working lantern using bamboo and gluey paper, lit with a tea light.

Decorate anyway you like. Guaranteed to get messy!

Tai Chi Workshop Thornton Library

Thursday 6th Oct 10.30am - 11.30am Free

Ages 6-12 Children of all ages love the movements imitating animals and nature. Everywhere in the world children love the relaxation, imitation, visualization and imagination involved in Tai Chi.

Bookings for all event are essential and can be made at any of the Maitland Branches:

Phone 4933 6952 or on line (except tai Chi) at www.maitland.nsw.gov.au/library



Northern NSW Football has partnered with PCYC NSW to provide Futsal competitions across the Northern NSW region starting in October 2011.

NNSWF is committed to the ongoing development and growth of Futsal within our region, with the appointment of a dedicated Futsal coordinator and our partnership with PCYC NSW heralding a new direction for the game in NNSW.

Futsal is the only form of 'indoor football' that is officially approved by FIFA and Football Federation Australia. It is a great skill developer, demanding quick reflexes, fast thinking and pinpoint passing, requiring players to make quicker technical and tactical decisions.

Futsal places significant emphasis on technique, movement, skill, tactical awareness and fitness and it is an exciting game for children and adults.

Futsal is an excellent way to keep active during the summer months, and a great way to improve the skills for the upcoming football season.

Team Registrations are now open with competitions starting October 10, get in early to register your team at a centre near you.

For more details visit www.northenswfootball.com.au and follow the Futsal link on the main menu.





Values Awards

Katharina Lawrence

Jake Edwards

Thomas Hojer

Kayden Atkins

Gilbert Hunt

Gus Lawrence



MERIT AWARDS

K/1/2

Claire Lawrence

Emily Dent

3/4

Sharneakia Nikora

Kiara Quirk

5/6

Emma Hooper

Ellen Hodges



LITERACY AWARD

Hayden Wilson

Hannah Redhouse

Alex Cant

Alysha Cowley

Riley Atkins

Ella Duncan



Library Award

Emma Hooper

&

Ryan Skolyszewski

