



Gresford Public School Newsletter

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Principal's Message

Our term is half way through and we are busy gathering data for student reports, annual school reports as well as setting the wheels in motion for our important end of year activities such as presentation night, Year 6 farewell and other **end of year events**. Please check your children's bags as well as the newsletter for notifications of these.

Please feel free to attend our brief **Remembrance Day** service at 10.50 this coming Friday. Donations of flowers and greenery for wreaths will be most appreciated. It is hoped that many of our students will attend the town service at the cenotaph in Gresford at 11.00 am on Sunday, 11th November.

It was great to welcome a big intake of Kindergarten students for 2013 to our **Kindergarten Orientation** this week. We look to forming a straight Kinder class next year which makes our future school numbers look very promising. Our newest students will attend another 2 sessions to further get to know our great school.

At this time of year, teachers spend a significant amount of time evaluating the **school targets** set down in our management plan. To do this thoroughly, we are interested in feedback from parents and students to help determine directions for 2013. To collect such data, we will be sending home several surveys which will help inform the School Evaluation Committee. This committee has staff and parent representation. Findings will be published in the annual school

report. We would appreciate these being filled in and returned to school at your earliest convenience.

All classes will be completing evaluation tasks over the next 2 weeks in preparation for the completion of **student reports** which will be issued on 14th December. These reports are a summary of the semester's learning and aim to keep parents and students well informed about students' progress.

Years 2-6 have been involved in two **video conferences** this week. The first further developed their knowledge about robotics and the second gave an insight into chemistry. This technology puts an enriched curriculum in the easy reach of schools such as ours which are some distance from larger cities. Our school has also been used as a research school for the University of Technology, which is assessing the effectiveness of video conferencing as a learning tool.

Our school vegetable garden is looking very healthy despite the dry conditions. This is due to the efforts of Misha Moon who has been helping students to plant and weed on a regular basis and to the care of our Environment Team who water it regularly. We should have some great produce soon. We now have a roster of keen parents who have generously offered their time on a regular basis to continue to support students in learning about the benefits of growing your own produce. Our thanks also go to the Locke family who kindly cleaned out our chook run last week. **We appreciate all our**

parent volunteers.

We welcome **Cyril Redhouse** back to our school staff again as our amazing general assistant. Mr. Crocker has decided on a change in direction in his career and we thank him for his efforts whilst working with us. Cyril always said how much he enjoyed working here and we are very lucky he can spare the time from his busy schedule to keep our school in tip top shape.

A number of our students from Years 2-6 have been lucky enough to be accepted for specialised workshops in **creative arts and movie making**. Such workshops provide great opportunities to extend our students who are already demonstrating talent in these areas. Well done again to **our highly skilled debating team** who won their recent debate against Vacy. They received excellent feedback from the adjudicator.

Professional learning for staff this fortnight has included learning support, maths, technology and behaviour management.

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"We cannot direct
the wind
but we can
adjust the sails."*

Dolly Parton

A SNAPSHOT FROM DUNGOG HIGH SCHOOL - NO. 1 & 2

Hello Year 6,

I have enjoyed meeting all of you over the past few weeks during my visits to your schools. I thought that I would provide you with some regular information about what's happening at Dungog High and what you have to look forward to in 2013. Remember that if you have any questions feel free to contact me at the school on 49923022.



This year we have had many successes in the sporting arena, including students representing the school at zone, regional and even state levels in swimming, cross country and athletics. We have also had many teams participating in the Combined High Schools Knockout competitions (soccer, netball, touch football, rugby league, tennis, lawn bowls and others). We have also had some great lunchtime competitions; Indoor Soccer and the Mixed Netball Competition. School sport is held on Thursday afternoons, with many different activities to choose from such as yoga, football, cricket, fishing, table tennis, ten-pin bowling and many more. Year 7 will participate in Peer Support during sport time in Term 1 and then you will be able to choose your own sport from Term 2 onwards. Remember that a Year Advisor's Award will enable you to select your sport choices before other students. So, make sure you strive for your best and start collecting merit awards.

I am sure that if you are interested in participating in sporting activities, there will be something for you, whether it is for fun, fitness, health, competition or all of these!

Mrs van de Scheur J

Hello Year 6,

When you come to Dungog High School next year you will study many different subjects (in many different rooms and with many different teachers!). The subjects you will study are: English, Maths, Science, PDHPE, HSIE, Design and Technology, LOTE, Music, SRE and Visual Arts. This gives you a chance to find out which subjects you really enjoy and are good at. In Year 8 you will get to have some choice in your elective subjects. There will be lots of people around to help you work out your timetable so that you know where you are meant to be and where you should be going. Don't be afraid to ask for directions or assistance. Students and staff will be more than happy to help. There are 8 periods in the day, plus DEAR (see next week's Snapshot) two recesses and lunch, so there is a lot to fit into the day!

It's a great idea to use your diary to keep a copy of your timetable in, write down any homework or assessments and to remind yourself of anything else that is happening that is important to you.

If you like to sing, dance, act, draw, paint, or construct we have something for you. Dungog High School students are known not only for their academic achievements but also for their involvement in extra-curricular activities. This year we have had many students participating in extra activities, to extend themselves in their interest areas and academic abilities. These include activities such as: Maths and Science competitions, displays for Science week, Engineering challenges, Public Speaking, Debating, High Achievers Camp and Short Story competitions.

We also participate in Starstruck each year, Drama competitions / camps, Music performances at local events and assemblies, Cattle Judging, Improvisation Challenges, and fundraising events. Whatever your interests may be, there is a wide range of activities available for you to extend and enrich yourself.

Mrs van de Scheur J

The Tucker Box News

What a fun day we had last Wednesday for Halloween. There sure was lots of spooky food and scary lunch bags floating around!! It was a really tough choice on deciding who would be the winners of the best decorated lunch bags as they were all so fantastic. Jamie Hickey took out first prize, and received a big box of chocolates. Then the two winners of the \$5 canteen vouchers were Liza Edwards and Liza Kelehear. Congratulations kids on your effort and creativity and a huge thank you to you all for your continued support of the canteen. We would also like to acknowledge Lyndell Osmond and Kerrie Challinor for your amazing help on the day. Look out for our special Christmas day coming soon.

Happy and Healthy Eating,

Sylvia and Kristy.





Values Awards

Charlize Tucker
Connor Seach
Zhane Duncan
Chelsea Abra
Liza Edwards
Michaela Lawrence



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Emily Dent
Bria Hooper

2/3

Jada Laurie
Carl Thompson

4/5/6

Will Shoobridge
Sharneakia Nikora



Library Award

Bryce Chapple
&
Claire Lawrence



Chelsea Abra
Liza Edwards
Saban Bevan Moon
Madeleine Wrigley
Alysha Cowley
Shaeyln Crouch
Michael Challinor

NOVEMBER 2012

Wednesday 14th - Kinder Orientation

Friday 16th - P & C meeting. All welcome!

Wednesday 21st - Kinder Orientation

Friday 23rd - Musica Viva

**** Please note that our Presentation Evening will be on Tuesday, 18th December from 6.30pm****

Library Closure

From 30th November the library will be closed for stocktake purposes. Could all books be returned before this date?

Material Needed

If you have any building material suitable to be used to extend our chook pen, such as star picket posts/steel posts or wire netting, we would greatly appreciate them.

Special thanks to the Locke family for cleaning out the chook pen recently.

The Lockes have kindly offered to build the extension to the pen when we have sufficient materials.

Christmas is Coming!

Once again we have decided to support those families less fortunate than ourselves by gathering goodies for Christmas hampers.

This initiative is being run by the Samaritans who will oversee the distribution to families in need.

Each class has a clothes basket which we hope can be filled with food items to brighten another family's Christmas.

Your donations of such items will be gratefully accepted.

The Staff and Students of Gresford Public School



Calling for expressions of interest

We are hoping to start a club in the Hunter which will enable people with additional needs to enjoy the benefits of football. While our focus is on having fun and participation players will also benefit from physical, emotional, and social skills that often help to build confidence and self esteem that can last a lifetime. Our comp will run on Saturday afternoons at the same time and same venue each week.

- The club is ideal for players with a disability or additional need who are just starting out or prefer to play in a safer and less competitive environment.
- We are still in the process of setting up our competition however any volunteers who will be able to help on game days or in achieving behind the scenes goals will be greatly appreciated.
- In order to keep costs to a minimum for families we would love to hear from any sponsors who may be able to help.

FOR ALL EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST PLEASE CONTACT Alex Threadgate- **0406883020** or email- **maitlandfootballforall@live.com.au** Or **FIND US ON FACEBOOK- Maitland Football For All**