



Gresford Public School Newsletter

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6th December, 2012

Principal's Message

Welcome to this, our last newsletter for 2012. It is hard to believe that we are at the end of another year. With that comes the many expressions of appreciation owing to members of the school community who give of their time, resources and energy to make our school such a great place to be. Please join us if you are able, for our **Volunteers' Morning Tea** to be held in the school library on Wednesday, 12th December at 11 am.

Parents are also invited to this Friday's assembly at 12.30 on the hard court when our **school captains for 2013** will be announced. Candidates have been making their campaign speeches and the line up of prospective captains is strong. At this assembly also, will be a **R h e e T a e k w o n d o** demonstration involving our students.

Thanks to all families who contributed to our **Christmas hampers**. These were well stocked to help those less fortunate than ourselves this festive season.

Getting into the Christmas

spirit are our creative canteen co-ordinators who have planned a **Christmas Canteen Day** next Wednesday, 12th December. Lunch order bags have gone home and there is a prize for the best decorated bag. To add to the day, children are invited to wear something festive such as a Christmas T shirt, Santa hat, Christmas colours or anything to remind us of Christmas. Also on this day is our **Year 6 Farewell** commencing at 6 pm at the Therese Doyle centre. If you are attending, there is a \$5 charge to cover costs which is not payable by the Year 6 students. Please send this in to school as soon as possible. Many thanks to the small dedicated band of Year 5 parents who are making this event possible.

We are rewarding our **Gold Students** with an excursion to the Hunter Valley Zoo on Tuesday, 11th December. These are students who have worked diligently throughout the year, completed their homework tasks and consistently shown good manners and respect to all. Well done all these children!

Another special event is our

Christmas Breakfast Club celebration which will be held on Friday, 14th December at 8.30 am. One of our Breakfast Club sponsors, the St Vincent De Paul Society is hosting this morning for all students to be involved in, at no cost. Come along and start the day with a festive breakfast. It will be a great way of saying thank you to the wonderful volunteers who have made Breakfast Club possible throughout the year.

Don't forget **Presentation Night** on 18th December at 6.30pm on the hard court. This is another time of celebration to acknowledge the whole school's achievements for 2012. It is a proud occasion for us all and we hope everyone can join us.

Presentation
Night
Tuesday 18th
December
Starting at
6.30pm
on the school's
Hard Court

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The Dungog Chronicle will be at school the next day to photograph award winners and we would ask that students wear their school uniform that day. **Reports** will be issued on Friday, 14th December.

Next Monday, interested students will be invited to apply for the **John Lill Music Scholarship for 2012**. John Lill is a world acclaimed pianist who has a special affinity for the Gresford district. He performed here a number of years ago and raised much needed funds for our school music program. The wonderful instruments our school owns are testimony in part, to his support. He donates a scholarship to the value of \$300 to a worthy recipient for music education. Any student may apply and they will be assisted in writing a short submission outlining why they wish to be considered for the scholarship. The decision will be made by a small committee comprising myself, Mr. Taylor and a nominee of Mr. Lill. Please discuss this with your child should you wish them to apply.

Our school sampled some exciting South American music last week when we enjoyed another **Musica Viva**

performance by the group Tigramuna. These concerts are preceded by a series of classroom lessons introducing children to the musical concepts presented in the performance and are a wonderful way of exposing children to the magic of live music.

Our junior classes participated in a **video conference** last week also, linking science and art. The video conferencing facilities at our school are a wonderful way of broadening educational opportunities and have been well used throughout the year. Next year we are embarking on an exciting project for our senior class involving learning **French** via video conference and other electronic media. We will be linked with the Leichhardt Senior College in Sydney where students will be tutoring our children over a period of 2 terms. This will further enrich our literacy and geography learning.

Science learning was enriched this week with a visit from Dr. Geoff Luiluis, a research biologist from Newcastle University. Dr. Luiluis spoke to children about his work as a scientist and the type of research he is currently involved in. He had prepared an engaging presentation on life at the level of cells which

linked well to our current science unit. We thank Dr. Wright for organising this visit. If you have not already done so, we would appreciate a small donation towards a gift for Dr. Wright to recognise the outstanding work she does with our children, to ignite their scientific curiosity.

Professional learning for teachers this fortnight has been in the areas of English, maths, leadership, behaviour management and planning. The last day for students to attend school is Wednesday, 19th December. Teachers will continue for two more days to ensure programs and classes are organised for the commencement of the school year which for students will be on **Wednesday, 30th January, 2013**. New Kindergarten students will commence on 31st January, 2013.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all and thanks for a great year!

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"It is only possible
to live happily ever
after on a day
to day basis."*

Events of the Year



Farewell Year 6. Best of luck for your future years.



A SNAPSHOT FROM DUNGOG HIGH SCHOOL

Hello Year 6,

I am really looking forward to Week 7, Term 1 next year, when we will go on an exciting adventure together to the Great Aussie Bush Camp. This camp is a tradition for Year Seven students at Dungog High School. The camp will have loads of fun activities planned for all of us. It will help us get to know each other and ourselves better. For three days we will be participating in activities such as kayaking, rock climbing, archery, and my favourite the Giant Swing, which I am sure, will set more than one pair of knees shaking!



What is a Bay? Until I arrived at Dungog High School I had never heard of the term bay used in reference to where people sit. You may or may not have heard about it yourself. At Dungog High students tend to sit in their friendship groups in different little areas of the playground which are called 'Bays' during lunch and recesses. When you are in Year 7, there is a special area set out specifically for Year 7s. It's a great place to start out if you do not have somewhere to sit, or don't know anyone else that you would like to sit with. You never know you might find some new friends and end up sitting there for the rest of the year! Another great place to start out in is in the Barn. It has lots of seats and is undercover, so you won't get wet when it rains and you will be protected from the sun. Of course you can move around the playground and sit with different people when you like, there is somewhere for everyone!

Not long to go now! Yesterday you visited the High School, met some of the other 2013 Year Seven students, some of the teachers and your Peer Support Leaders. You should have a good idea about what to expect next year. I'm sure you have mixed emotions about leaving your primary school and coming to Dungog High. Remember that there are many people here at the high school that will be around to help you out if you need them. Good luck for the new adventure ahead of you. I hope that you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday season and I look forward to seeing you on your first day of Year Seven at Dungog High School in 2013!

Mrs van de Scheur

The Tucker Box End of Year 'Wrap Up'

Who can believe there is only 4 canteen days left now until the end of the school year. How time flies when we're having fun!

Christmas Canteen Day – Wednesday 12 December

We will be holding a special Christmas themed day on Wednesday 12 December to finish off the year.

The lunch order bags were sent out this week. Please see your teacher if you have not received one.

Again there will be prizes for the best decorated lunch bags so get creative and have some fun. Please note the regular Tucker Box menu will still apply on this day if you don't want a Christmas order.

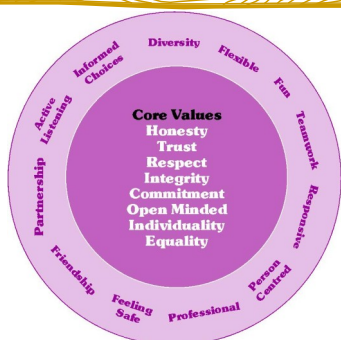
LUNCH ORDER BAGS WILL NEED TO BE RETURNED BY

FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER PLEASE

To our dedicated volunteers we cannot thank you enough for all the precious time and energy you continue to put in week after week. Your generosity allows the canteen to operate successfully and in turn benefit the student body. We believe the canteen is a vital part of our school environment and the school experience for the kids and we are much appreciative of your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you all again in the new year. Have a safe and happy Christmas.

To the kids of Gresford Public School thank you for all your smiling faces throughout the year and for really getting behind your canteen. We will see most of you next year with some more exciting things planned for you. For the Year 6 kids, have an awesome time in high school!

Healthy and Happy Eating, Sylvia and Kristy xxx



Values Awards

Madeleine Wrigley

Legend Nepia

Shaelyn Crouch

Jada Laurie

Jake Hipwell



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Taylah Joliffe

2/3

Claire Lawrence

4/5/6

Legend Nepia

Michaela Lawrence



Library Award

*No awards
given
due
to
stocktake*



Emily Dent

Jada Laurie

Legend Nepia

Michaela Lawrence

DECEMBER 2012

Tuesday 11th - Gold recipients' excursion
 Wednesday 12th - Volunteer Morning Tea -11.00am
 Wednesday 12th - Year 6 Farewell - 6.00pm
 Friday 14th - Christmas service at St Anne's
 Tuesday 18th - Presentation Evening - 6.30pm
 Wednesday 19th - Last day Term 4 - Presentation night
 photos school uniform required

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

Eggs for Sale

**from our school
hens.**

\$5.00 per dozen



Return of Books

Could all library books be returned to school as soon as possible as we are now conducting a library stocktake.

Thank you.



FUN & GAMES

Gresford After School Care Program operates from 3.00pm to 6.00pm at Gresford Public School on Mondays and Tuesday during term.

We're keen to find out if there's enough interest in expanding it to also run on either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday afternoons next year.

You can claim a Government child care benefit so you will receive a payment to cover the attendance cost. (This is subject to the family's income, the number of children in care, and whether the family meets a work, training or study test).

Interested? Please let the school know by the end of term.

Supervised creative learning and fun and games for all ages.

Kids Christmas Party

Sunday 9th December

3.30pm till 7.00pm

Disco Dance and a visit from Santa

**Gresford Bowls Sports
& Recreation Club**



Volunteers for Breakfast Club Needed

Volunteers are being called for our 2013 Breakfast Club. If any parent, caregiver, grandmother or grandfather, aunt, uncle or older brother or sister (not at school) could spare half an hour one morning a week to help support our Breakfast Club it would be greatly appreciated.

The Breakfast Club is a great way for children to start the day by having a nutritious breakfast so they can work through their morning successfully.

If you can help or know someone that can, ring the school on 4938 9304.

