



Gresford Public School Newsletter

www.gresford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

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Issue 3

1st March, 2012

Principal's Message

Our school is being well represented at **swimming classes** over the past 8 days. Teachers report children trying their hardest and generally behaving well. Special thanks must go to the older students who have been buddied up with younger students and keep a very watchful eye over them on the bus and assist with looking after belongings and packing bags. Good luck to all as they are tested on their progress.

Next Monday (5th March), will see a **very important survey** going home to all families to apply for our school to be placed on the Priority Schools Program (PSP). Our school was on this program a number of years ago and this resulted in a considerable amount of extra funding and support being available to the school. Admittance to the program is based on the social and economic circumstances of families and is **completely anonymous**. It is returned in a sealed envelope and is not opened at school. It is imperative that these surveys be returned to school by next Friday, (9th March). It is important not to overstate educational qualifications or job status. We have a reward system in place to encourage children to bring back their surveys. The P&C has been generous in assisting with the rewards and in helping parents complete and return surveys. If you require support in filling out the

survey or would like further information, you are invited to attend **an information afternoon next Thursday** where parents and staff will be there to assist. Alternatively you can phone the school for assistance. **Please look out for this all important envelope next Monday.**

Also going out next week to our Year 6 students are **expressions of interest for high school placement for next year**. These need a prompt return also to inform our high schools for 2013 preparation. I commend Dungog High to all Year 6 families where there is an excellent transition to high school program in operation and where academic excellence is a strong school focus. Reports from our Year 6 students from last year are testimony to the pleasure the children are experiencing in their new educational setting.

Our appreciation is expressed to the P&C again for their support of our **Robotics Program**. They have generously funded the purchase of a set of beginner robots called 'Bee Bots' for our infants children and a state of the art Lego Mindstorm robot for use by primary students. We are combining with Dungog High and all partner schools to embark on a literacy program which uses technology to engage students in learning. This program has been built on a highly successful program which originated between our school and Dungog High last year. The program has been given

regional support and our participation would have been difficult without the support of the P&C. I am sure you will see some great things from our students in robot technology this year.

The numbers have swelled significantly in our **After School Care Program** this fortnight. The program now looks to be ongoing which is very encouraging. Features of the program are the healthy afternoon tea provided and the homework sector which is capably run by our School Learning Support Officer, Mrs. Tammy Crouch. Vacancies still exist and casual vacancies are welcome. Simply ring the school on 4938 9304 for a booking.

The school has signed up for a **Mozzie Awareness Program** run by Hunter New England Health. A representative from the program will visit the school to talk to senior students and distribute educational material which will be shared across the school. A follow up visit will track students' learning with regard to this important health issue.

Professional learning for staff this fortnight was in the areas of science, student welfare, robotics and maths.

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"A drop of ink
may make a million think."*

Byron

Community Page



Gresford Tennis Club

Coaching begins tomorrow

2nd March 2012 at East Gresford Tennis Courts

Beginners / Juniors / Primary children

6.00pm to 7.00pm

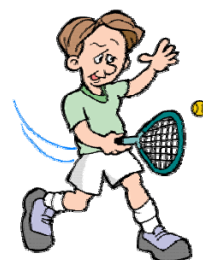
Seniors / Primary / High School

7.00pm to 8.00pm

Cost \$5.00 per week

New enrolments most welcome!

Please contact Ken Turnbull on 4938 9199 for all enquiries.



FREE Child restraint safety check

You can have your child car restraints, harnesses and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit. Children's car restraints will be inspected by RTA Authorised Restraint Fitters.

DATE: Saturday 24th March 2012

TIME: 10.00am to 2.00pm

LOCATION: Stockland Greenhills carpark
(underneath Autobarn)

Attention All Movie Makers

LAST CHANCE to get your video in to the Gresford Show. We're still looking for home movies, documentaries, dramas, comedies for all ages. As for animations, well, the more the merrier! Go to the Gresford Agricultural Show website for details.

Entries close Friday 2 March.

Ring John O'Brien on 4938 9292 if you have any questions.

Maitland Hockey

Hotline - 0421 831 309

www.maitlandhockey.org.au

Hook in 2 Hockey

Only \$40

Includes all equipment to keep
+ 2 week skills introduction

Wednesday nights - 5pm
from Feb 29

Register online or by phone

Kookaburras

Under 7's & Under 10's

Only \$65

Includes rego. and all games
Wednesday nights from March 21

Under 13's and 18's - Mixed

Tues. & Wed. nights from 6pm

Women's Comp - Sat. from noon

Men's Intercity Comp - Weekends



Values Awards

Madeleine Wrigley

Riley Atkins

Liza Edwards



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Amber Smith

2/3

Carl Thompson

4/5/6

Charlie Hojer



Library Award

Jack Hill



**Alysha Cowley
&
Latia Hipwell**

March 2012

Friday 2nd -	Clean Up Australia Day at school - bring gloves P & C Disco 6.00pm to 8.00pm on school hardcourt
Friday 9th -	Gresford Show excursion (whole school)
Thursday 8th -	Binless Day
Friday 16th -	P & C meeting - 10.00am
Thursday 22nd -	4/5/6 Lara Nursing Home excursion
Friday 23rd -	School X Country

After School Care

Our **after-school care program** is enjoying a resurgence with the addition of several children. Fourteen children were supervised by Tammy Crouch on 20 February – a big change from earlier weeks.

The group running the program (the local Anglican parish) last week applied to Centrelink to be a registered child care provider. If approved, this would entitle parents of children enrolled in the program to a benefit of \$26.88 per child per week. This benefit is not means tested.

The parish has also just applied to be an approved child care service for child care benefits. If this is successful, parents would be entitled to \$160.65 per child per week; this benefit is subject to an income test.

The program has already been approved by DOCS and registered as an authorised provider of out of school hours care.

Any primary school-age child, whether a student of GPS or not, is very welcome. The program runs from 3-6pm on Mondays and Tuesday and provides supervised periods of sport, play time, homework and other activities developed in conjunction with Mrs Mitchell.



School Disco

FRIDAY 2nd March

(tomorrow night)

6.00pm to 8.00pm on the Hardcourt

Entry \$2 per person or \$10 family

Sausage sandwiches \$2.50 - Ice Cream Cones - 50cents - Drinks \$1

