



Gresford Public School Newsletter

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Issue 5

29th March, 2012

Principal's Message

With our term drawing to a close, I would like to thank the **parents and community** for their continued support of the school in typical Gresford style. Your efforts in supporting the learning of our students do not go unnoticed. In particular, I would like to extend thanks to the members of the P&C who this term alone have installed new air conditioners in the computer lab and senior classroom; funded transport costs for Swim School; supported the school maths program through joint funding with Maitland City Motors of the Mathletics online resource; pledged financial support for the senior excursion to fitness camp in Term 3; purchased robots for the school Robotics Program; and purchased softfall for the fixed equipment areas.

Excursions and learning beyond the classroom have been a feature of this last fortnight with Years 4/5/6 travelling to the Lara Aged Care Facility to demonstrate their Rhee Taekwondo skills which the residents overwhelmingly appreciated. A visit to St. Anne's church by the same class furthered their studies of the early history of Gresford. Our school captains travelled to Sydney with Mrs. Graham to attend the Young Leaders Conference and heard some inspiring speakers. Questacon visited the school with an exciting science show and the primary classes participated in a robotics video conference. Year 2/3 are visiting the shops in the local community next week as part of their community studies. Our senior class has been involved in a Mozzie Education Program run by Hunter, New England Health to teach children about the health risks of mosquito bites. We have had one visit by an educator and a return visit is scheduled for next term.

All these experience enrich and extend curriculum learning.

On the sporting scene, our school cross country event is to be held tomorrow at 10 am and parents are most welcome to cheer the runners on. We have had a great term of sport in the two older classes with Rhee Taekwondo and tennis classes presented as part of the Active After School Sports Program with delivery by excellent facilitators. Qendon, our Taekwondo leader commented that of all the schools that he works with both now and in the past years, Gresford students are amongst the best he has taught. Our cricketers had one game called off due to the state of the grounds and lost bravely to St John's, a much older and stronger team.

Our Annual School Report for 2011 is now ready for release and a note will come home shortly for parents to indicate how they would like theirs supplied. It will be up on the school website next week, technology permitting, but can be emailed individually to parents should they wish or we can send home a hard copy. This document is a summary of the rigorous evaluation conducted last year and provides direction for the next three years at Gresford Public School. It also celebrates the many achievements of students, parents, community members and teachers throughout the year.

Mr. Bryan Campbell, **our school director** visited the school last week and was very pleased with school progress. He enjoyed a Rhee Taekwondo lesson he looked in on with Year 2/3/4 demonstrating their skills.

Year 2/3 will have the opportunity to work with a **student teacher** from Newcastle University, Ms. Sara Spring from the beginning of next term. This represents a great chance to have an

extra adult working with children and we will welcome her to Gresford. We thank **Mrs. Graham** for her dedicated work with K/1 in Mrs. Tickle's absence.

On the first day back for students in Term 2, Tuesday, 24th April we will be holding our **school ANZAC service** to which parents are invited. We will advise the starting time when confirmed and ask that children bring donations of flowers for wreaths to be made for this service and for the service the following day at the Gresford cenotaph. We hope that as many students as possible attend the town service in uniform, assembling at Everetts Garage at 10.15 am.

Our Easter scripture service is scheduled for Thursday, 5th April at 2 pm in the school library and parents are cordially invited to attend.

Mrs. Crouch, our After School Care Co-ordinator has asked that parents **collect their children in person** from her care. This is to ensure that children are kept safe.

Professional learning for teachers this fortnight has been in the areas of writing, maths, leadership and science. On the school development day next term, all staff will be working on behaviour management.

Enjoy the holidays with your children and we welcome them back on **Tuesday, 24th April**.

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"The happiest people
don't necessarily have
the best of everything.
They just make the best of
everything."*

Community Page

School Holiday Fun @ Maitland City Library April 2012

Adventures under the Sea

Hunt for underwater information

Thornton Library

Thursday 12 April 10.30 am – 11.15 am

Free Ages 4 – 8

Explore Art - Clay Workshop

Mould your own clay sculpture

East Maitland Library

Friday 13 April 10.30 am – 11.30 am

\$5.00 Ages 8 – 13

Booking and payment prior to events is essential. Booking and payment may be made in person at any Maitland City Library branch or by phoning 4933 6952.

Smart Science

The how and why of science matters

Thornton Library

Tuesday 17 April 1.30 pm - 2.30 pm

\$5.00 Ages 7 – 12

Pirate Treasure Hunt

Search for treasure in the shelves

East Maitland Library

Wednesday 18 April 11.00 am - 11.45 am

Free All ages

Explore and discover the Titanic

All aboard for a journey of discovery

Rutherford Library

Wednesday 18 April 10.30 am – 11.30 am

Free Ages 6 – 10

“Back to the River”

Family Festival

Sunday 29th April

9.00am to 2.00pm

Kooragang Wetlands (Ash Island)

Horse and Cart Rides, ‘Croc Stars’ Reptile Show

Fishing Clinics, Bush Art Workshop, Nature Watch Activities

Plus much, much more!

Come along for a unique opportunity to record your stories and memories of Ash Island

For further details call 4964 9308



Gresford Playgroup



Gresford Playgroup is now up and running and meeting every Wednesday at East Gresford School of Arts Hall from 10.am until 12.pm.

Anyone with pre-school children are welcome to attend.

Ring Angela Kelehear for more information on 4931 7196



Values Awards

Charlize Tucker

Jada Laurie

Jamie Hickey

Tess Hartigan

Henry Hunt

Mia Quirk



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Ozzy Towers-Brown

Jack Laurie

2/3

Ryan Skolyszewski

Liza Edwards

4/5/6

Ruby Varley

Paul Locke



Library Award

Alex Butler

&

Ruby Varley



Liza Kelehear

Claire Lawrence

Kiara Quirk

Leila O'Connor

Will Shoobridge

Term 1 Happenings



Term 1 Happenings



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March 2012

Friday 30th - School Cross Country 10.am start
(weather permitting)

April 2012

Thursday 5th - Easter Service 2.00pm - in new library.
- Last day Term 1

Tuesday 24th - All Students return
- ANZAC Service at school

Wednesday 25th - ANZAC Day - Public Holiday -
Gresford Service 10.15am

Thursday 26th - Zone Cross Country at Tocal
All students return Tuesday 24th April

**Flowers Needed for
ANZAC Service**

**Please send in any flowers for
our school service on
Tuesday 24th April**



**It's Crazy Hair
Time!!!**

**Tuesday 3rd April
Gold coin donation
Year 6 Fundraiser**

S.R.C. Easter Service at Gresford School

The teachers of SRE at Gresford School would like to invite all parents to come to our Easter Service on Thursday 5th April at 2.00pm in the new library. This is a great opportunity to see what your child is learning and experiencing in Scripture lessons of a Friday and also a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the story of Easter in a new way. Hope you can make it.

Mike McClure, Jill Enright, Denise Jordan, Coleta Somerville, Lib Archer, Fr Stephen and Mary Horn

Canteen News

Volunteers Wanted!!!!!!

We are struggling to fill canteen roster for next term. We are seeking support from all parents - fathers welcome! Parents with younger children are more than welcome. We encourage you to do at least one Wed/Friday a term - your kids would love to see you there.

Canteen financially supports various activities which include Swim School, student injury insurance and major excursions etc.

Please find attached the canteen roster form. Could you please complete and return to the front office before 5th April, 2012?

Canteen Tea Towel Drive

The canteen is in need of tea towels. For each tea towel donated to the canteen, 25 house points will be earned for your child's sports house. A volunteer is also needed to wash and return tea towels on a weekly basis. Please contact Kristy Duncan on 4938 9738 or 0431039063 if you can help.

New Winter Taste Testing

On Tuesday 3rd April, 2012 the new winter menu taste test will be held in the school's canteen at 11.00am. Come along and have a try and have your say!

Name Our Canteen Competition

The Canteen Committee is holding this competition for students to name the canteen. The student who wins, will win a \$20.00 canteen voucher. Entry forms are with today's newsletter.