



Gresford Public School Newsletter

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

Phone Number: 4938 9304

Mobile Number: 0447 389304

Issue 15

13th September, 2012

Principal's Message

With this being our last newsletter for Term 3 **there are many highlights to reflect on.** Most memorable of these include our school's performance at the Maitland Music Festival; the Language Development Program in the junior school; participation in the CWA International Day by our senior class; our continued visits to Lara as part of our Community Outreach Program; our strong performances in public speaking and debating; a successful camp at Myuna Bay for Year 5/6; Education Week recognition for our technology program and school and community workers; 'Science in the Streets' during National Science Week; the Art Carnival; participation in the Premier's Spelling Bee and Olympic Day at Dungog. These great happenings showcased the quality learning and quality students we have at Gresford Public School. Well done all!

Well done to all the support staff who work hard behind the scenes to make busy and enriching terms such as this go ahead. Last week was **'School Administrative and Support Staff Week'** when we

recognise the good work of staff such as those in the office, learning support officers, general assistants and cleaners. Without such staff, quality learning could not happen. With the very recent announcement of severe cuts to the education budget at the state level, we are very concerned about the loss of such personnel, particularly at administrative levels beyond the school. Cuts to the education budget at any level translate to loss of services at the classroom level.

Our Art Carnival held last week was a great success with the school population tripling for the day and with budding artists enjoying expert tuition in a wide range of creative pursuits. Despite the blustery conditions, outdoor workshops went ahead and a picnic atmosphere prevailed at lunch time with an attractive, nutritious lunch being organised for so many by our wonderful canteen staff. Well done ladies! Well done also to the organising committee comprising Donna Cavanough, Misha Moon, Elly Laurie, Bernadette Jasper and Esther

Isaac. This committee worked hard for months to make the day happen and they deserve our hearty congratulations. We are grateful to Xtrata Coal for their generous sponsorship of the day. All funds raised will go to the school's literacy and creative arts programs.

This week sees the conclusion of our **Language Development Program** which has operated throughout the term in the junior classes. Mrs. Tickle is high in her praise of the program and speaks of the invaluable support provided by Renee, our speech pathologist on a weekly basis. Mrs Tickle will give a summary of the program at the next P&C meeting.

Congratulations are in order for our school representatives at the **Premier's Spelling Bee** held this week. Students were selected for their excellent spelling results and all performed very competitively. Well done to Kayden Atkins, Michaela Lawrence, Clare Richardson and Will Shoobridge.

(continued next page)

(Principal's message continued from page 1)

Our big day this week has been the **annual talent quest** organised by the Student Representative Council.

An opening performance by the Dungog Ukulele Ensemble opened the talent quest where we again welcomed our Lara friends who swelled the audience and assisted with judging.

Well done all competitors, I'm sure the judges again had a big task in deciding winners.

Our juniors have enjoyed their gymnastic lessons with Lu and basketball with Mitch and Ben as part of the **Active After School Sports Program**. Our older students are looking forward to their sessions with both sports next term. **Well done soccer players** who made it through to the second round of the Small Schools Soccer Competition. Unfortunately Peats Ridge were too strong for us but all tried and enjoyed their participation.

Further on in our newsletter is **an important reminder about dropping off and picking up students to and from school**. After the recent tragedy in Singleton, resulting in the death of a student and serious injuries to others, it is timely that the

rules about buses, cars and children are again brought to parents' attention. These rules and recommendations have been drawn up with children's safety as being paramount. They were drawn up in consultation with the parent body and conform with RTA regulations. Please take note and help us to keep your children safe.

NAPLAN results will be sent home with students next week. Teachers will be carefully analysing these as a diagnostic tool to assist in designing programs based on need. Please remember they are only one test at one point in time and should be read in conjunction with reports sent home from the school. Should you have any questions relating to the tests please feel free to contact staff.

The **Olympic Day** planned for last term has been rescheduled for Thursday, 20th September. The venue has remained the same, Bennett Park Dungog and similar transport arrangements will apply. Dungog School Canteen has previous lunch orders and will supply lunches as ordered.

Classes have continued to benefit from our **video conferencing facility** viewing

science programs with the Australian Museum. We are also involved in a research project with the University of Technology, Sydney where the educational benefits of video conferencing are being assessed. Year 5/6 are attending a **Science and Technology Challenge Day** organised by the University of Newcastle next week where they will use the skills they have been acquiring in our weekly science lessons to solve a variety of scientific challenges. Dr. Wright is accompanying us on this excursion. **Professional learning** for teachers this fortnight has been in the area of Work Health and Safety, dyslexia, the national curriculum and leadership.

Happy holidays to all! School finishes on Friday, 21st September. Please note that there is no school development day at the beginning of Term 4 with students commencing school on Monday, 8th October. The Life Education lessons are scheduled for this day.

Kind regards,

Pauline

"The easiest way for children to learn about money is for you to not have any."



Values Awards

Noah Street
Shaelyn Crouch
Jake Hipwell
Bria Hooper
Charlotte Wrigley



MERIT AWARDS

K/1

Kaitlin Horn

Chelsea Abra

2/3

Liza Edwards

4/5/6

Zhane Duncan

Michael Challinor



Library Award

Kayden Atkins
&
Charlotte Wrigley



Taylah Joliffe
Jayden Street
Ruby Varley
Liza Kelehear
Clare Richardson

D
A
T
E
S

R
E
M
E
M
B
E
R

**SEPTEMBER
2012**

**Thursday 20th -
Whole school excursion to
Olympic Day at Dungog
Friday 21st - Last day Term 3**

**All students return
8th October
(no staff development day)**

**School Uniform
Shop**

**Open every
Wednesday
&
Friday
9.00am
to
10.00am**

Breakfast Club

Proudly brought
to you by



Kellogg's

Bakers Delight
We're for real.

BI-LO

coles
Save everyday

FOODWORKS
The new way to shop



Gresford Public School
thanks our volunteers and
sponsors.
Breakfast available every
morning for a gold coin
donation.

Mulch Needed



**The gardeners at our school, urgently require a
donation of old hay/straw to mulch the
vegetable gardens. If you are able to help, would
you kindly contact Bernadette at the office on 4938 9304.**

Many thanks

A SAFETY MESSAGE FOR ALL PARENTS AND CARERS OF GRESFORD CHILDREN

Please be aware of the following:-

- ♦ Durham Road is for bus pick ups only. Children should not be collected in cars here.
- ♦ Parents parking in and around bus stops are causing congestion and are a danger to children.
- ♦ Pick up point for students not travelling on buses is Glendonbrook Road.
- ♦ Parents picking up students at 3pm are welcome to park on Glendonbrook Road and walk into school to meet their children.
- ♦ A teacher supervises children each afternoon walking to Glendonbrook Road gate.
- ♦ Be aware of the **No Stopping** areas that come into force 8am to 9.30am and again from 2.30pm to 4.00pm.

Also there are some areas close to the school that are **No Parking At Any Time**.

Thank you for your urgent attention to these matters so that all students remain safe.





Gresford Junior Cricket Club

Milo In2Cricket replaced the program formerly known as MILO Have-A-Go Cricket that has been delivered through our cricket club in past years. The Milo In2Cricket program is run as an introductory cricket program for boys and girls aged 4 to 9 years old. The program looks to educate children in a range of fundamental motor skills important to children's physical development as well as teaching basic movements such as hitting, catching, throwing, running, balance and co-ordination for varying individual skill and age levels. Important social skills including teamwork, co-operation, communication, and fair play are outcomes of the program.

Typically our program breaks the kids into groups using soft rubber and tennis balls and small and medium sized plastic bats:

Have-A-Go is for: * 4-6 yr old Boys and Girls

Have-A-Game: * 7-12 yr old Boys and Girls, which uses lightweight pads and wooden bats.

All participants receive:

- * A structured 13 week program (1 hour per week), which seeks to provide each participant with the opportunity to develop cricket skills, physical fitness, social skills, sportsmanship and understanding of the game of cricket.

- * An exciting giveaway pack exclusive to the program which includes a cricket bat, cricket ball, hat, T-shirt, activity book, Sticker Stumps, MILO sample, DVD and more.

By being involved in the Milo In2Cricket program, children begin to enjoy Cricket and one day may become a Test star like Michael Clarke, there is no better place to start.

We help each child to progress with their cricket and have programs starting at U/10 & U/12 to continue playing Cricket.

Cost to participate is \$30 and registration Day is Sunday the 16th of September at 12noon at the Gresford Sporting Complex. Come along and register and have a sausage sizzle with us. Or Alternatively call Bernadette Collison on 0408922263 or Dave Jefferson. On 0429389586.

JOIN A GUIDED TOUR IN THE BARRINGTONTOPS NATIONAL PARK

The Barrington Tops National Park north of **Dungog** is worth a visit at any time of the year. So, why not join a local volunteer guide for a fun and informative journey along either the Blue Gum Loop track

on the upper Williams River or the Jerusalem Creek Walk not far from Chichester Dam. **BRING:** hat, sunscreen, plenty of water, snacks and please wear fully enclosed footwear **COME AND SEE YOUR WORLD HERITAGE LISTED FOREST SCHEDULED TOUR TIMES: (allow 2-3 hours of walking)**

Jerusalem Creek —10 am Weekends Blue Gum Loop —10 am Wednesday

Arrangements for other times can be made with the Dungog Shire Visitors Information Centre.

TOUR PRICES: \$10 adult / \$8 child / \$25 family

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.

CALL THE DUNGOG SHIRE VISITOR

INFORMATION CENTRE ON 02 4992 2212



Office of
Environment & Heritage
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service



GRESFORD'S CREATE ART CARNIVAL

