

Term 3 Newsletter ~ 22nd August, 2013

## GRESFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

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[www.gresford-p.school.nsw.edu.au](http://www.gresford-p.school.nsw.edu.au)

### Principal's Message

With Term 3 half way through we are already starting to plan for the new school year. Our numbers are looking promising for next year and we are very keen to expand the school. If you know of any new students likely to enrol next year, please encourage them to contact the school so we can plan our classes accordingly. **Kindergarten Orientation dates** have been set for 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> November.

**Congratulations** are in order for another talented Gresford pupil, **Kayden Atkins** who gained a distinction in the University of NSW Spelling Test held recently. These tests are very challenging and to achieve a score well above the state average is outstanding. Great work Kayden! Kayden will be representing Gresford at the Premier's Spelling Bee to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> September, along with Alysha Cowley, Latia Hipwell and Clare Richardson who are also excellent spellers. **Go Gresford!** Spelling is one of our school targets and this year it was decided to hold a spellathon to encourage accuracy and pride in spelling. Money raised from the spellathon this year will go to the Devil's Ark Project which is aimed at preserving the endangered Tasmanian Devil. This project is the focus of our current science program where we are studying endangered species and conservation of the environment. As the project is operating in the Barringtons, quite near to us, we are hoping for a visit from a ranger to talk to the children and perhaps bring a Tasmanian Devil to show. Sponsorship cards have gone home with a note outlining the spellathon organisation.

Another project the school is involved in, is a competition to be staged by Hunter Valley Gardens whereby schools are invited to design and make a **gingerbread house** for Christmas decorations at the gardens. The competition is not until next term but classes are preparing their designs now so that we will be ready to start our major project next term. Sylvia Lawrence and Toni Creak have kindly offered to assist children assemble their project. This will form part of our visual arts program.

Years 3-6 enjoyed an excellent video conference this week on **Antarctica** where they were able to talk to Antarctic explorers and see some of the wonderful sights. This connected with a science topic of great interest that these classes studied last year. Years 4, 5 and 6 are using video conferencing and iPads to link with Leichardt High School to learn **French**. This is an exciting project which the children are enjoying immensely and they are becoming very fluent.

This week is **Book Week** and whilst we celebrated it as a school in Education Week with the Book Fair, we can never underestimate the power of reading in a child's education. Please encourage your child to borrow regularly from the school library and share books with them at home. Home reading is another important way parents can assist children master the early mechanics of reading. Learning to read is one of the most difficult tasks a child will undergo in his or her lifetime so they need all the practice they can get.

**Active After School Sport** continues on Thursdays and Fridays with a changeover of classes between Years 3/4 and 5/6. Touch Football and Rhee Taekwondo are proving popular and active sports. This Friday we are sending a cricket squad of 23 students to an Active After School Cricket Fun Day to be held in Maitland. The day is being run by coaches from the Maitland Cricket Association and should be an active day of fun in learning the basics of the game.

Teachers are lucky to be working alongside Gai Chambers, an outstanding literacy consultant who is working in our school this week. She has been assisting teachers to improve their teaching of writing and will be returning to school throughout the year to continue her support. We are able to access such specialised support through the **Priority Schools Program**. Other training and development for staff has included office management and leadership.

Kind regards,

*The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go."*

Pauline

Dr. Seuss

"

### MEDICAL UPDATE FORMS

Have you sent your medical update form back yet? If not please send it back asap. If you have misplaced yours please either come into the office or ring the office for a new one.

# Awards

## Values



**R**espect  
**I**ntegrity  
**T**eamwork  
**S**ustainability  
**S**ervice

Daniel Craig  
Harrison Sellens  
Madeleine Wrigley  
Hannah Redhouse

## School Merits

**K -**      **Rose Kelehear**  
             **Jake Cropp**

**1/2/3 -**   **Madeleine Wrigley**  
             **Kayden Atkins**

**4/5/6 -**   **Jake Edwards**  
             **Jake Hipwell**

## Good Listener Award

**Brodi Huckstadt**  
**Michael Challinor**  
**Latia Hipwell**  
**Chelsea Abra**



## Spelling Champions

**Sam Hartigan**  
**Taylah Joliffe**  
**Clare Richardson**  
**Cameron Jupp**  
**Emily Dent**  
**Jamie Hickey**

## LIBRARY

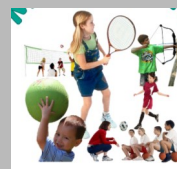
### AWARD

**Sam Hartigan**  
**Tess Hartigan**  
**Madeleine Wrigley**



## Sports Person of the Week

**Juvenile ~ Josie Hodges**  
**Junior ~ Kayden Atkins**  
**Senior ~ Charlie Hojer**



## **VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED**

Our school has the opportunity to earn some funds for our kids' education by helping to man the canteen at Gresford Rodeo and Campdraft on August 30 and 31. More volunteers are desperately needed to fill all shifts. If the suggested three-hour shifts are too much for you, the P&C is happy to adjust the roster so you can do a one-hour shift. Every minute of your time would be appreciated. The shifts are 9am-noon; noon-3pm; 3pm-6pm; and 6pm-9pm on the Friday and Saturday. If you can help contact P&C secretary Julie Hartigan on 4938 9134.

## **TRIVIA NIGHT**

**SATURDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER**

**Farmers Hotel, Vacy**

**\$20 per person includes Asian Finger Food**

**Tables of 10**

**Bus available for pick up. Gold coin donation.**

**For more information and ticket sales, please contact Famers Hotel, Vacy on 4938 8106 or Nicole Carter on 0400 148 586**

## **Gresford's P & C**

### **BULL'S HORN BALL**

**Saturday, October 19**

**Gresford Bowling Club**

**“Wild West Theme”**

**Tickets still available. Please contact Julie Hartigan on 4938 9134.**



## **Home remedy of Lice**

Coconut oil + apple cider vinegar to treat head lice.....

Coconut oil dissolves the lice's outer skeletal shell instantly.

So once you put it on someone's head you can have them shower and rinse it off right away and all the lice will be killed and gone! Plus there are no chemicals!

## **Come and Join**

### **Doug the Reading Bug**

for his Mad Scientists Story Laboratory

**On Saturday 24th August at  
Dungog Library**

**10.30am to 12.00pm**

Share stories with Doug the Reading Bug

Sausage sizzle, jumping castle, face  
painting

Interactive Science Experiments

## The simplest way to eat more fruit and veg.

Here are a few ideas for how to make eating the recommended 2 serves of fruit and 5 serves of veg easier:

- ◆ Canned and frozen fruit count. Stay healthy with canned fruit in juice not syrup, and canned veg with no added salt.
- ◆ Legumes are vegetables too. Try adding dried peas, beans and lentils to meals.
- ◆ Juice only counts once. 125ml of 100% fruit or vegetable juice is 1 serve, but doesn't contain the fibre of chopped fruit and veg. Water is the ideal drink.
- ◆ Dried fruit only counts once. A small box of sultanas or 4 dried apricots equals one serve but don't go overboard on dried fruit.
- ◆ A little and often. Children may eat more if you offer smaller served more times a day.

For more information visit [www.eatittobeatit.com.au](http://www.eatittobeatit.com.au) or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://facebook.com/eatittobeatit)

### Dates For Your Diary

#### August

Tue 27th - Debating

Wed 28th - Newcastle Permanent Maths test

#### September

Wed 4th - Musica Viva

Thu 5th - Spellathon testing

Thu 12th - Talent Quest

Fri 20th - P & C meeting

Last day of Term 3

#### October

Thu 10th - School Photo's

## Tucker Box News

Hi Everyone...

In this weeks newsletter you will find a lunch bag for our upcoming **Red Day**. This time we are highlighting all things Australian, especially our Endangered Animals. We hope to see many decorated bags following this theme, a Tasmanian Devil will be great to see. **Our Red Day will be on Friday 6th September, so can we please have all completed bags and orders back by Monday 2 September.**

Volunteers, family and friends, it is time again to put together the canteen roster for Term 4. If you are interested in joining our wonderful team or you need to make any changes to your availability if you already volunteer, could you please contact **Sylvia Lawrence on either 49317145 or 0427281172.** The new roster as well as the revised Summer Menu will be distributed the last week of this term, so can any changes be advised as soon as possible so this can be finalised. We thank you again for your continued support and for taking time out to help us.

Stay healthy and happy,  
Sylvia and Kristy



## Debating Update

Congratulations to Clare Richardson, Amy Creak, Elizabeth Challinor and Shakiah Towers Brown who successfully argued that "students shouldn't wear school uniforms". This was a close debate against Largs. Well done girls!

The next debate is against Hinton on Tuesday 27th August. Good luck!