

## GRESFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

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### Principal's Message

Our term is drawing to a close with staff busy preparing reports and organising the important events which cause us to reflect on the year and congratulate students, parents and staff for their untiring efforts in making this school a great one.

Of special mention is a proposed visit by the **Deputy Director of Education for NSW**, Mr. Frank Potter who has asked to visit our school to see the results of our Science Education Program. Of course much of the success of this program is due to the dedication of Dr. Wright who spends so much of her time and lends her specialised expertise to facilitating engaging, 'hands-on' science lessons for all students every week. Mr. Potter will be accompanied by our Director of Schools, Mr. Andrew Eastcott and will see science in action, with our children demonstrating robots, making DNA, panning for 'gold', generating electricity from lemons, testing pH levels and sharing their recent unit on birds of the Dungog region. Mr. Potter will be invited to inspect our wonderful veggie garden and see our native bees and chooks which form part of our Sustainability Program. Our senior students will present their research from the NRMA Sustainability in Transport Award they won last year. I'm sure he will be impressed. **We again ask families to contribute to a gift from the children to Dr. Wright** to be presented on Presentation Night. An envelope is attached with this newsletter for such contributions. Please return your contribution to school at your earliest convenience.

**The Kinder of 2015** had their final orientation session last week and their parents were given a wealth of information about the school from dedicated members of the P&C. We have a lovely class of students for next year and a group of interested parents to welcome to our school community. The preschool will be visiting the school for the next two Fridays to join our assemblies and to enjoy lunch in the playground with the 'big kids.' This will be another opportunity for them to familiarise themselves with school life.

We had a dedicated parent group attend our **Focus Group Meeting** on Monday to help plan school strategic directions for 2015-17. Their feedback on existing programs and creative thinking for planning our children's educational futures was much appreciated. We also thank those who have completed their surveys. Trends from these also will help build our plan, as well as student survey information. It is not too late to fill in your survey if you have not already done so. See the office if you would like a hard copy or click on the link on the school website.

Enthusiastic Year 6 students worked hard last Friday to wash a big line up of cars to raise money for the Year 6 gift to the school. As well as having lots of fun, they did a great job which had the added advantage of watering our lawns. **Altogether they raised \$235.50.** Thanks to all who patronised this fund raising activity. Our new Year 6 students for 2015 will be making their **election speeches** to the school next Monday and Tuesday mornings at 9 am. Parents are welcome to come and listen if they wish. Results of the voting will be announced at the following Friday's assembly. We will be saying goodbye to Year 6 in style at their farewell function to be held at the Gresford Bowling Club on 10<sup>th</sup> December at 6 till 9pm. Invitations have gone home and tickets are available for purchase at the office.

We will be recognising all those hard working, well behaved students who have earned their **Gold Ribbons** for outstanding behaviour throughout the year with a trip to the movies on 9<sup>th</sup> December. Notes will go home shortly to advise parents of those who will be attending. Also recognised on 15<sup>th</sup> December will be students who have been demonstrating respect to all in our school community, with a **respect afternoon tea** with the staff followed by Christmas craft fun and a movie. Well done to all these students.

Applications for the **John Lill Music Scholarship** will be prepared by interested students on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. This scholarship carries a prize of \$300 to be awarded to a student with recognised talent in music and who has contributed to the school's music program. Children will be guided in writing their applications which will be judged by a panel including a representative of John Lill. John Lill is a world acclaimed classical pianist who has a special connection to Gresford and generously awards this scholarship each year. Please return the attached expression of interest if you would like your child to apply for this scholarship. It is open to all students.

A number of our students were treated to a fine display of musicianship by the Maitland Primary School band this week. This band has won a number of major awards and kindly invited our students to attend their performance at Vacy. Two of our senior students are currently attending the DEC Movie Making Program at Newcastle University this week. They will no doubt return with lots of new technology skills.

**Don't forget the important upcoming dates of:** 11<sup>th</sup> December, Parent Helper Morning Tea at 11.00 in the library; Christmas Church Service at 9.00 on 12<sup>th</sup> December in the library where we will farewell and pay tribute to Mrs. Denise Jordan who is retiring after long and dedicated service to SRE at our school; Presentation Night on 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 on the hardcourt; and 17<sup>th</sup> December, our bush picnic for which notes will be going out soon.

Kind regards,

Pauline

*"You can never be overdressed or under educated."*

Oscar Wilde

## Breakfast Club

As the end of year approaches we would like to thank our wonderful volunteers who provide breakfast to our children everyday.

As the photo shows they really enjoy it.



## Year Six Car Wash Fundraiser Day

Year 6 students hard at work cleaning Mrs Carter's car.



## A SNAPSHOT FROM DUNGOG HIGH - NO. 3 - Week 8

Hello Year 6,

Orientation Day is coming up next week on **Wednesday the 3rd December**. The Year 9 and 10 peer support leaders are looking forward to meeting you and showing you around the school. The day will be a chance for you to check out Dungog High, pick up your book pack (\$37), purchase uniform items that you will need, meet some of the teachers and even try out some classes. You will be able to utilise the school bus service on this day if that is easier. The day begins at **9:15am** in the MPC and will be a FUN day for all! I look forward to seeing you all again.

Dungog High School has adopted the POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR for LEARNING reward and behaviour system, otherwise known as PBL. You will hear and see these three key terms: RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and PERSONAL BEST quite a lot whilst moving around the school and during lessons. Students who demonstrate these core values will be rewarded for their efforts and will receive a merit certificate. Each subject area has a coloured merit e.g. English merits are pink and Maths merits are blue. Students collect these merits and when they have five different coloured merits they will receive a Year Advisor's Award which provides benefits such as first choice in Sport. Three Year Advisor's Awards will result in a Deputy's Award and two Deputy's Awards will result in a Principal's Award. There is a useful behaviour matrix in your handbook to give you an idea of what our three core values actually look like in practice.

Mrs Judd

# AWARDS



## MERIT AWARDS



**K/1**

William Thiecke

Monica Lawrence

**1/2/3**

Rhianna Conn

Bailey Conn

**4/5/6**

Amy Skolyszewski

Jake Hipwell



## SPELLING AWARDS



Amber Smith

Shakiah Towers-Brown

Latia Hipwell

Darcy Locke



## VALUES AWARDS



Daniel Craig, Toby Mead, Zhane Duncan, Chase Hoffman, William Mitchell,

Jada Laurie



## GOOD LISTENER AWARD



Ebony Briggs & Joey Galvin

## LIBRARY AWARD

Darcy Locke



## SPORTS AWARD

**Juvenile -**

**Junior -** Ella Osmond

**Senior -** Jada Laurie





## Garden Grub Club News

Every Wednesday the Garden Grub Club will be working in the vege patch from 11.10 to 11.35am with the help of Christine Vigar.



They will be selling their produce when it becomes available.  
At the moment they are selling Tomato plants for \$2.50 each.  
If you would like to purchase one please contact the office.



## Eggs for sale from the School's Environment Club

If you would like to purchase some eggs, the Gresford Public School's Environment Club has them for sale for a bargain price of \$3.00 a dozen.



These eggs are from the school's very own chooks which the children help hatch.

Please contact the office to arrange delivery.



## Tucker Box Reminder

Decorate your lunch bag and be in the chance to win a prize.

All orders to be in by tomorrow

Friday 28th November.



## Dates for your Diary

### November

Fri 28 - Christmas Hampers due back

### December

Mon 1 - Captain Speeches

Tue 2 - Captain Speeches

Wed 3 - Year 6 High School Orientation

Tue 9 - Gold Ribbons Movie Day

Wed 10 - Year 6 Farewell

Thu 11 - Parent Helpers Morning Tea

Fri 12 - Whole School Church Service

Mon 15 - Respect Afternoon Tea

**Tue 16 - Presentation Night**

Wed 17 - Bush picnic for the whole school

- Students last day

### January -

Tue 27 - Staff Development Day

Wed 28 - Students return

## Samaritan's Group Christmas School Food Appeal

Please donate to this very special cause. The Samaritan's give out food hampers to the families who would otherwise go without at Christmas. Donations of tinned ham, custard, puddings etc would be greatly appreciated. If you can donate could you please do so before the 28th November.

Thank you.



## It's Movember

Farmers Hotel Cricket Club are Celebrating

We are holding a charity cricket match

on the evening of 29<sup>th</sup> November

Event commences around 5.30pm

We will be cooking a BBQ for dinner

There will be: plenty of slushies and ice-cream for the kids

a few local entrepreneur's selling their goods and donating to the charity

a Christmas hamper raffle, chicken ham and seafood raffle

Plus much more ....

Come along and support the event, have a great time and raise money for Men's health.