



Gresford Public School

Newsletter Term 1
2nd April 2020

Principal's message

Hello everyone,

This week's shorter newsletter is written in a school world and a wider world that is so much different to that in which our last newsletter was written 2 weeks ago. We are certainly missing having all our staff and students at school and I know those of you working from home are missing seeing your classmates each day as well. Hopefully we will all get back together as soon as possible. Staying connected to your teachers and classmates is important so we encourage you to use the on line platforms such as Seesaw and class conferences where possible.

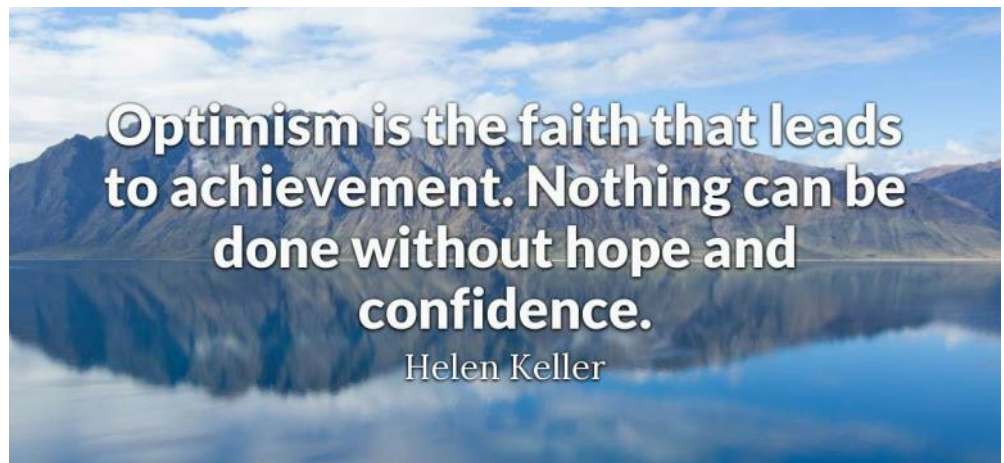
Thank you to all parents and students who have been so flexible and diligent in embracing the ever changing challenges in the learning from home regime that has become the new normal. The teachers – some working from home and some at school - and School Learning Support Officers, Megan, Brittany and Kathy, are working so hard to ensure that all students have paper packs and wherever possible can access online learning. The students coming to school each day are also completing paper and online activities similar to those learning at home. On Friday new packs for next week will be delivered again to the same locations as last week – please check the Skool Loop app or Facebook page for exact drop off and pick up times. Please contact us if you have any problems or queries so we can help make this journey as smooth as possible.

Please be assured that you as parents are doing a fantastic job! Whatever you are able to do at home is so worthwhile to your children. If you are not able to complete tasks set for whatever reason please do not feel stressed. Whatever you can do, you can do. These are unprecedented times and we are all working to the best of our ability. Again, if you need help, want advice or just need to talk please do not hesitate to call the school or connect with your child's teacher through Seesaw.

At this stage next week will continue much the same as this week. School is open for those who need to attend, online learning will occur if you can access it from home and paper packs for Week 11 will be delivered. Again at this stage, it looks as if the first few weeks of Term 2 will be similar. There is an online meeting for Principals this afternoon at 3.15pm with the Minister which may reveal more information. If you have not already downloaded the Skool Loop app we recommend you do so to access any important information. Also information is on our school Facebook page.

Our new principal Jody Kilpatrick was here today and was introduced via an online conference to staff working from home and personally met staff and students on site. We welcome Jody to Gresford and hope she will enjoy her time at our fabulous school.

Stay safe and well.



4938 9304



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

Below are pictures by Cooper C who submitted these by Seesaw.
Mrs Rubeli asked her class to write 6 x times tables in an interesting place
like fridge, fence etc. He answered all of them correctly.
Well done Cooper!



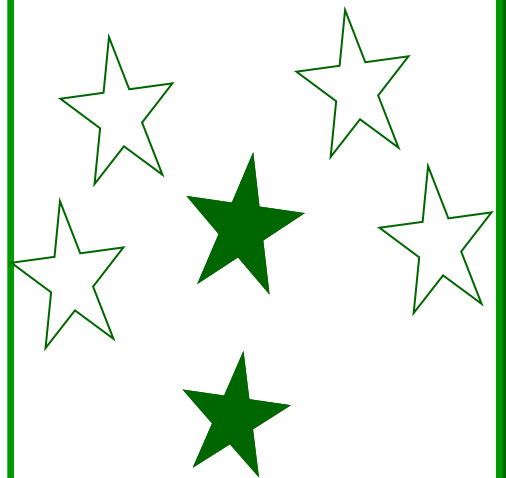
APRIL

Thu 9 - Last day for Term 1

Fri 10 - Good Friday

Mon 27 - Staff Development Day

Tue 28 - All students return for Term 2
(If applicable)



Tucker Box & P&C News



It has been announced by the
Health Department
that the
Canteen and Uniform Shop
will be closed for
ALL of Term 2.

Any questions please ring the school on 4938 9304.

Coronavirus (COVID -19)

Information for parents and carers to support children and young people

How you can support your child

It is perfectly normal for children to have questions about events that are covered in the media, such as the information currently being distributed about COVID-19. Children look to the significant adults in their lives for guidance on how to manage their reactions and you can help your child by remaining calm and reassuring them.

There is a common misunderstanding that talking with your child about a topic such as COVID-19 may increase their anxiety. This is not the case. It is important to listen to your child and answer their questions as honestly as possible and correct any misunderstandings. This will help them feel informed and understand what is happening.

Keeping up to date with the facts from reliable sources will help keep conversations calm, considered, and constructive. Provide information in words that are appropriate to the age of your child.

Children can be distressed by hearing repeated stories so monitor how much your child is being exposed to television and social media and encourage them to talk to you about what they are seeing and hearing.

Some practical advice

Some practical advice for your child includes reminding them to cover their nose and mouth when they cough or sneeze (coughing into their elbow is a useful strategy), keep their hands clean by washing them regularly with soap and water, and avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth before washing their hands. These are easy habits for children to adopt, and should help them feel as though they're able to exert some control over their circumstances.

If your child must stay at home, it is important for your child to maintain a healthy lifestyle including proper diet, sleep, and social contact at home and by email and phone with family and friends

Communication is important

- read [the department's response to COVID-19](#) for current information
- read any information sent home by the school.

- contact the school if your child becomes unwell.

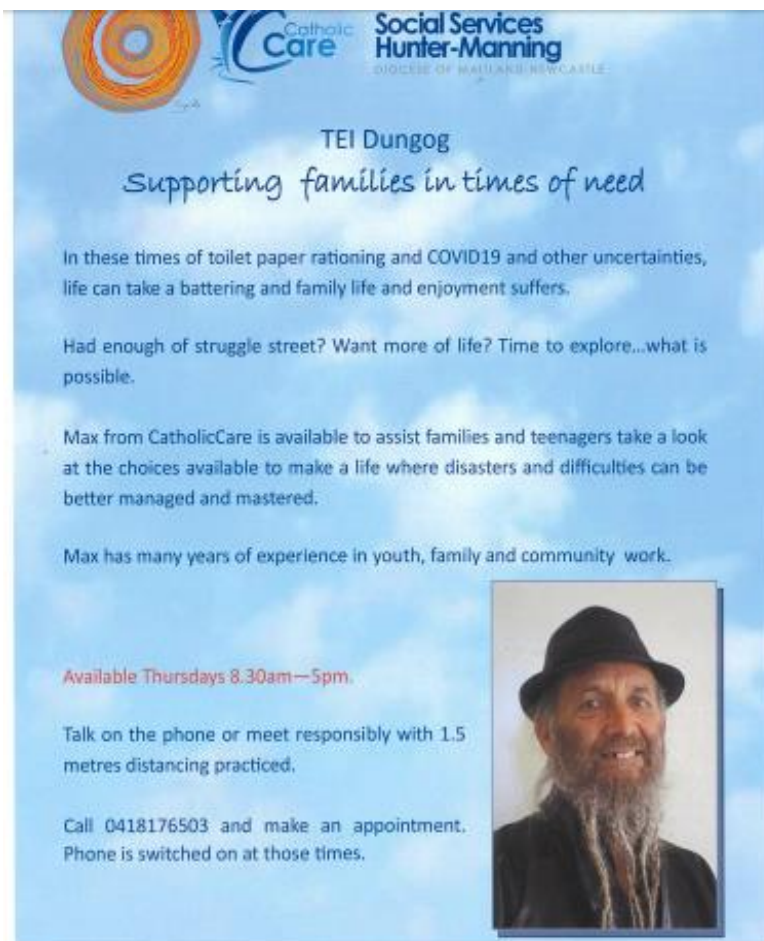
Where to get help

Contact the school if you are concerned about your child's wellbeing to discuss the most appropriate support. Support is also available through a number of agencies and community organisations. Parents and carers can:

- call the National Coronavirus Health Information line (1800 020 080)
- review the [NSW Health](https://www.nsw.gov.au/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus) COVID-19 website for the latest information and advice
- obtain help and information from the local General Practitioner or Community Health Centre

If you would like additional support, the following services are available

- The school counselling service
- Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 – [kidshelpline.com.au](https://www.kidshelpline.com.au)
- Headspace – 1800 650 890 – [ehespace.org.au](https://www.headspace.org.au)
- Parent Helpline – 1300 1300 52
- Beyond Blue – 1300 22 4636
- Lifeline – 13 11 14



Catholic Care Social Services Hunter-Manning
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TEI Dungog
Supporting families in times of need

In these times of toilet paper rationing and COVID19 and other uncertainties, life can take a battering and family life and enjoyment suffers.

Had enough of struggle street? Want more of life? Time to explore...what is possible.


Max from CatholicCare is available to assist families and teenagers take a look at the choices available to make a life where disasters and difficulties can be better managed and mastered.

Max has many years of experience in youth, family and community work.

Available Thursdays 8.30am–5pm.

Talk on the phone or meet responsibly with 1.5 metres distancing practiced.

Call 0418176503 and make an appointment. Phone is switched on at those times.




DUNGOOG SHIRE YOUTH SERVICE

YOUTH WEEK ART COMP

CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS THE SHIRE TO GET CREATIVE!

SHOW US USING ANY MEDIUM - PAINT, DRAW, SCULPT, SEW, PRINT OR PHOTOGRAPH WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT LIVING IN OUR COMMUNITY

\$100 GIFT VOUCHERS AT EKERSELY'S TO BE WON

TO ENTER SEND A PHOTO OF YOUR ARTWORK TO BE SHOWCASED ON OUR FB PAGE TO LISA@DSCC.NET.AU OR TEXT TO 0431998627