



Gunnedah Public School

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Principal: Mr Charles Jones

Newsletter - Term 4 Week 8, 27 November 2012

Week 8 Already!

We have only three and a half weeks left of this final term for 2012, but they are busy ones! It is wonderful to see the students continuing to do their best and demonstrate the keys to success and happiness! One of the great things about our school is the great diversity of activity and achievement that happens regularly. **Every day is different and every day brings more to be celebrated.** One of the privileges of being a teacher or learning support officer at GPS is seeing great achievement every day, whether it is in progressing a reading level, completing a maths problem accurately, finally 'swimming', catching a ball or achieving a goal, **each day our staff get to see great things happen because every day great things happen for the students at Gunnedah Public School.**

Coming events include our volunteers morning tea, Year 5 speeches and the election of 2013 leaders, Orientation to High School, graduation day for Early Birds, Presentation Day and parties. It is certainly busy around Gunnedah Public.

Presentation Day

Preparation is underway for **our annual Presentation Day**, which is to be held on **December 6th in the hall at 9.30am.** Gunnedah Public School is fortunate to be **supported by a wonderful local community, which values the education of its young people.** Our school is very appreciative of the monetary support we receive from community groups and community members as these donations allow us to purchase the many book prizes we present to students from each class. It is always difficult to choose the award recipients as every student in the school has achieved success in one or more areas. **We hope to see many parents, carers and family members on the day to help us celebrate our school and its students.**

Thank you

As parents and community members may be aware, Mr Jones has accepted a position elsewhere closer to his Tamworth home. This was effective as of last Wednesday so Ms Horvat filled a temporary position relieving as Principal for three days. Ms Horvat would like to extend her sincere thanks to the parents and families who supported her during this interim period. It was a difficult few days with many changes to staff and lots of events happening across the school. Mostly school operated as smoothly as usual, which was possible because of the teamwork of staff, the support of parents and the positive behaviour for learning by the students. We welcome Mrs Hewitt back from leave, to continue the role of Relieving Principal for the remainder of this year. Ms Horvat is looking forward to her return to kindergarten.

Vision Screening

Last Wednesday children in Early Birds and Kindergarten had their eye sight checked by Tim Duffy, our local optometrist, and his team. A number of children were referred for further sight testing and may now receive glasses, if necessary, to support their learning. All children whose vision was screened, were given a report to take home for parents and caregivers. Please contact the school if you have not received this. We extend our appreciation to Tim Duffy and his staff and we thank Aunty Sue for organising this important process.



Captains and Prefects Election

Our year 5 nominees are busily preparing their speeches in readiness for the election of captains and prefects for office in 2013. Speeches will be presented tomorrow, **Wednesday, 28th November, at 11.30am** in the hall, following our volunteer morning tea. Family and friends are invited to attend and support the candidates. The students from years 2-6 and staff will vote afterwards and the names of the successful candidates will be announced at Presentation Day on December 6th.

There will be 6 students in our 2013 leadership team. Each year it is difficult to select only a small number of students from the year group to act as captains and prefects, especially when there are so many who are worthy and suitable for the positions. It is commendable that students are willing to put themselves forward for selection, knowing the extra responsibility and commitment that will be required of them. We thank the candidates for demonstrating commitment, confidence and pride in their school and themselves. Good luck to all.

Volunteer Morning Tea

Approximately 50 people who have volunteered their time to help us out in some way throughout 2012 have been asked to join us for morning tea tomorrow, so we can thank them for their efforts. We have appreciated the support and commitment that our amazing volunteers have offered. Without our volunteers many things including; canteen, scripture, breakfast club and mentoring, would not be possible. We welcome parents and friends who would like to join us for morning tea to come along and extend thanks to our volunteers also. The morning tea will begin at 10:30am.



In the Classroom

In her role as Principal last week, Ms Horvat had the opportunity to visit classrooms and asked for some good work to be sent over for her to see. Children in K/1D excitedly came over to show their completed hand sewing projects. Neat and careful running stitch was shown by Sharon Shoobert, Brittany Shuemack and Sky Fortier. Ian Brown and Taleiah Donnelly also had some clever reading and writing to show. Mrs Heath, our Reading Recovery teacher, came in a few minutes later and was happy to report of the outstanding word reading results from her student Nick Lodge. With less than a month until Christmas, it is pleasing to see everyone working hard and achieving such pleasing results.



Assembly

There will be an assembly this Friday beginning at 2:15pm in the school hall. Students in 4/5S and 5/6C will be providing a performance for the audience to enjoy. Family and friends are encouraged to come along before collecting children at the end of the day.

White Ribbon Day

Last Friday we were visited by representatives from the Gunnedah Shire, Winanga-Li and Hunter New England Health as part of White Ribbon Day activities. White Ribbon Day aims to raise awareness of services available to prevent domestic violence. Activities included a puppet show, parachute games, a touch football match between Yr 6 students and service providers and a barbeque lunch. The activities were enjoyed by students and we extend our thanks to all involved with making it possible.



Adam Original

On Friday the school was lucky enough to get the opportunity to watch a talented performer, Adam Hill, entertain us with his different skills. Some of his skills included; various Aboriginal instruments including the didgeridoo, he performed some Aboriginal songs and animal calls with his instruments. All students were interested and amazed by his stories, although everyone was most impressed with his dazzling basketball tricks.



RDA

Each year students from 3/6R have the opportunity to participate in the volunteer driven RDA Program. Every fortnight, the students are picked up and taken to the showground, where they get to select a horse and are shown how to ride, as well as follow a set course led by the volunteers, and play games on the horses. It is a fantastic opportunity for the children to learn a skill and try something new.

Last Friday was the RDA Christmas Party and presentation, where the children received their medallions and certificates of participation. Well done to those who were involved! A big thank you goes to the organisers and volunteers that make this wonderful program possible.



Chess News

Last weekend we went to Sydney for the Primary Schools One Day Chess Teams Tournament Country Districts finals. Mr Randall drove us down to Sydney on Friday afternoon and we stayed at the Alishan International Guest House in Glebe.

We had Subway and McDonalds for most of our meals which were delicious!!!

The chess competition was held on Saturday 24th November at the Salvation Army Hall in Glebe. There were 16 teams of three in the tournament. Our results were - Jack Randall, captain stalemated on one game, Luke Ellis won four games and Izaiah Talbott-Hatch won three games and stalemated on one game.

There were some of the highest ranked players in NSW playing in the tournament so the competition was tough. Most teams had experienced paid coaches who were able to give advice between games to their team members.

We learnt new moves and met students from different areas of the state. We had a great time and had a lot of fun. Thank you Barry Randall and Alana Hatch for taking us to Sydney and looking after us so well over the weekend.

By Luke Ellis and Izaiah Talbott-Hatch. (Jack Randall absent)



School Calendar Term 4

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 8	26/11 Canteen Day (nuggets, garlic bread and jelly cup)	27/11 10am-11am Kinder 2013 session	28/11 10.30am-11am Volunteer's morning tea 11.30am Leadership speeches and election 4pm AECG meeting @ GHS	29/11	30/11 12.30pm – 2pm Mentor's Lunch
Week 9	3/12 Canteen Day (beef/cheese burgers and popper)	4/12 2pm Shekere Beat Final Breakfast Club	5/12 Year 6 orientation day at Gunnedah High School	6/12 Presentation Day Reports sent home	7/12 11.30am Scripture Christmas assembly
Week 10	10/12 Canteen Day (hot dog, popper and treat)	11/12 Year 6 Farewell	12/12 Stage 1 Christmas Concert	13/12	14/12 Pool Reward
Week 11	17/12	18/12	19/12 Last day of 2012 school year for students	20/12	21/12



***Gunnedah Public School
celebrating 150 years***

Gunnedah Shire Council

Homework Centre

Tuesdays only

during school term

3.00-4.30pm

Free pick up from school

Red Chief Local Aboriginal

Land Council

26 Chandos Street

GUNNEDAH

All ages, indigenous and
non-indigenous welcome

Afternoon tea provided

Lisa Warren

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