

# Gunnedah Public School Quality Education in a Caring Environment

Newsletter - Term 3 Week 9, 9th September 2014

## Upcoming events

10<sup>th</sup> September – Schools on Stage matinee 11<sup>th</sup> September – Schools on Stage evening performance & T20 Blast Cricket 15<sup>th</sup> September – Cricket Development Day and P&C meeting

#### Dear Parents/Carers

Our school had an amazing week last week. I would like to congratulate Mrs Simpson for her commitment to organising the very first Speakfest in Gunnedah. Speakfest is a public speaking competition for students in public schools in and around Gunnedah. It gives all students an opportunity to improve their confidence and personal development.

I would also like to thank Mrs Simpson for organising the chess tournament at school last Wednesday. Thanks to Mrs Simpson, students are able to develop their chess skills, social skills and confidence.



Sebastian, Debbie & Lili

Thanks go to our P&C for their Fathers Day stall last week. Our P&C do many things to make our students more successful at school. If you can help out in any way please contact the school and we can provide you with more information.



The Year 6 students who are heading off to Gunnedah High next year have been part of an extensive transition program this year. These students have been able to spend the day at Gunnedah High tagging along with the Year 7/8 Gifted and Talented class. Our students now have a really good idea of the difficult things to understand like the timetable, the names of the buildings and where the different faculties have their rooms. This transition is yet another way Gunnedah High is committed to making going to high school successful. Thanks go to Ms Singleton, Mr Kelly and Mrs McInereny for being part of the transition program.

Teachers at school are developing better practices to ensure all students are learning. Our teachers use a learning goal with success criteria to communicate very clearly to each student what they need to be aware of in order to be a successful learner. Teachers also use an activator to introduce learning. At the end of the lesson students communicate their learning back to teachers through the use of an exit slip. The professional learning of teachers this year has concentrated on developing proficiency with these practices.

NAPLAN results have been sent home for students in Years 3 and 5. Parents are encouraged to discuss the results with teachers if necessary.

Have a great week *Kind regards Stephen de Roos* 



#### Leon's Pork Farm Excursion Report by 1W

On Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> of September KW, 1W and 1/2B went on an excursion to Leon's Pork Farm. We travelled by bus and arrived at 9:45am. We saw three little pigs in some hay. Then we hopped back on the bus to see the cattle in a big paddock. There were 56 altogether.

Before going through the sheds to see the piglets and their mothers, we had recess. We saw hundreds of pigs at different stages of their lives. Some of us had to hold our noses as we went through the sheds.

When we arrived back in Gunnedah at 12:00pm we were given a packet of 'Moo' Tiny Teddies as a surprise.

Everyone had a wonderful time at the pork farm.



#### **Fathers Day Breakfast**

On Friday we had a delicious breakfast of bacon and eggs to say Happy Fathers Day to all our dads, step-fathers, grandfathers and uncles. The hall was being used by the 'Speak Off' local school's Public Speaking competition so we were situated under the Thunderdome. The morning was a huge success despite some electricity problems and everyone enjoyed the great food and atmosphere. Thank you to all who attended.



#### **Kitchen Renovation begins**

Last week our kitchen renovation in the hall began. Unfortunately it is not in "The Block" style but the results will be impressive just the same. Thanks to Peter Jensen and Nathan Murrell for doing the work. Thanks also to Shenhua for contributing the funds to upgrade our hall facilities.

#### Parents need to be serious about learning

All students enrolled at school must attend. It is the parent's/carer's responsibility to support their child to learn by developing good school attendance rates. Parents/carers can show they are serious about learning by making sure their child attends every day.

## **Buddy Up**

The Early Birds continue to enjoy their school experience days each Thursday. As well as enjoying literacy and numeracy based activities the children participate in activities with the students from 3/4H. This 'buddying up' allows the children to develop friendships with older students whom they will be able to relate to in 2015, when they start kindergarten.





#### Chess

Last Wednesday, students from our school competed against teams from around the region in the North West Chess Tournament.

Lili, Sebastian, Christian, Debbie, Madisyn, Ashlee, Jessie, Ben and Jaala gained valuable experience by competing against teams of varying capabilities and experience.



Sebastian, Debbie & Lili



Madisyn & Ashlee

#### **Canteen Roster**

12<sup>th</sup> September - Lizz Ferguson, Jenny MacAulay & Jackie Fullgrabe 19<sup>th</sup> September - Lizz Ferguson, Jenny MacAulay & Jackie Fullgrabe

#### School officially starts at 8:30am

Teachers at school are required to be on duty at 8:30am. Students who arrive before then are not supervised. Students should be at school after 8:30am please.

### **School visitors**

The school's Work Health Safety policy requires all visitors to sign in, be aware of our safety procedures, understand some basic principles about child protection and wear a visitor identification tag. It is in the interests of all to comply with these procedures. Come along for an afternoon of fun, information and activities about how to help your child with reading, writing and maths at home. Our Kindergarten teacher, Allison West, will show you some tips and tricks for literacy and numeracy, including some great ideas for using iPads and tablets.

Date: Thursday 11th September, Time: 1 - 2.30pm, Where: meet us under the Thunderdome We look forward to seeing you!

## SPORT AND RECREATION SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS

**Dates:** Monday 22nd - Friday 26th September **Age:** 7 to 12 years of age (Primary School Years 3 – 6) **Cost:** \$295.00

#### How to enrol

Call 13 13 02 to book and pay over the phone, or submit your enrolment with full payment online. Your enrolment can be submitted online 24/7! Enrolments close on the Monday 15th of September. Book early to avoid disappointment. Visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps for details.

#### Private transport only on these programs

Participants can arrive at the centre from 11.00am on Monday and be collected from the centre by 1.00pm Friday

# Hook, Line & Sinker

Learn the basics of fishing and experience the excitement of land-ing the 'big one'. Add this to other exciting camp activities such as kayaking, rock climbing and even prepare a delicious meal in a camp oven at our bush cookout.

This camp includes a fishing workshop in which all participants will receive a fishing pack containing; Shimano fishing rod and reel, shirt and other fishing related items.

# Cooking 4 Kids

This holiday camp will have a special focus on cooking as a life skill as the young 'master chef's' prepare, cook and taste their own mouth watering delights. Children will also get to experience our traditional camp activities straining to reach the top on our rock wall, the thrill of hitting the targets at the archery range and have fun and enjoyment whilst paddling and sailing on Lake Keepit.

Participants on this camp will receive a cooking related gift.

# **School Calendar Term 3**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 9	<b>8/9</b> 9am – 3pm Schools on Stage Dress Rehearsal	9/9	<b>10/9</b> 9am – 3pm Schools on Stage Matinee	11/9 T20 Blast Cricket 6.30pm – 8pm Schools on Stage evening Performance	12/9 CANTEEN DAY Stuffed Spuds & juice
Week 10	15/9 Cricket Development Day Yrs 3-6 6.30pm P&C meeting	16/9	<b>17/9</b> PLPs	18/9	19/9 CANTEEN DAY Egg & Bacon Roll & Juice

## **School Calendar Term 4**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	6/10 Public Holiday	7/10 Staff and students return to school	8/10	9/10	1010

