



Gunnedah Public School

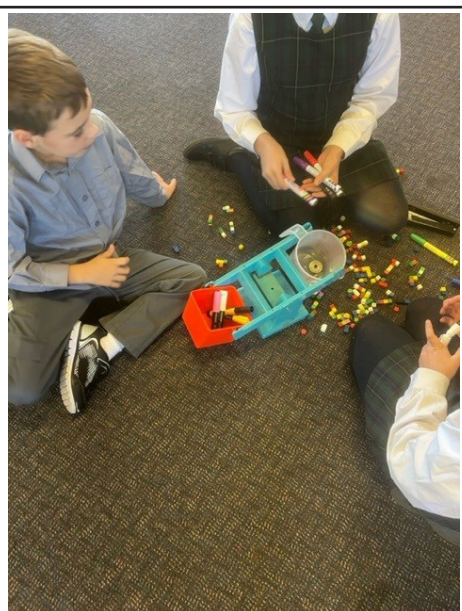
Quality Education in a Caring Environment

Newsletter
Term 2 - Week 6
Tuesday, 31 May 2022

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Principal: Mrs Cathie McMaster

Class Corner - 3/4D & 4/5R

Things have been very busy in 3/4D and 4/5R this term! We have been getting ready for the Eisteddfod, exploring a range of mathematical concepts with hands on items, learning about Language and Culture with Jayden and Miss Renee, and training for the Cross Country!



Class Corner continued



Culture - Reconciliation Week

Last Thursday and Friday, Gunnedah Public School observed National Sorry Day and then K/6MC presented a special item at our assembly to mark the start of Reconciliation Week.

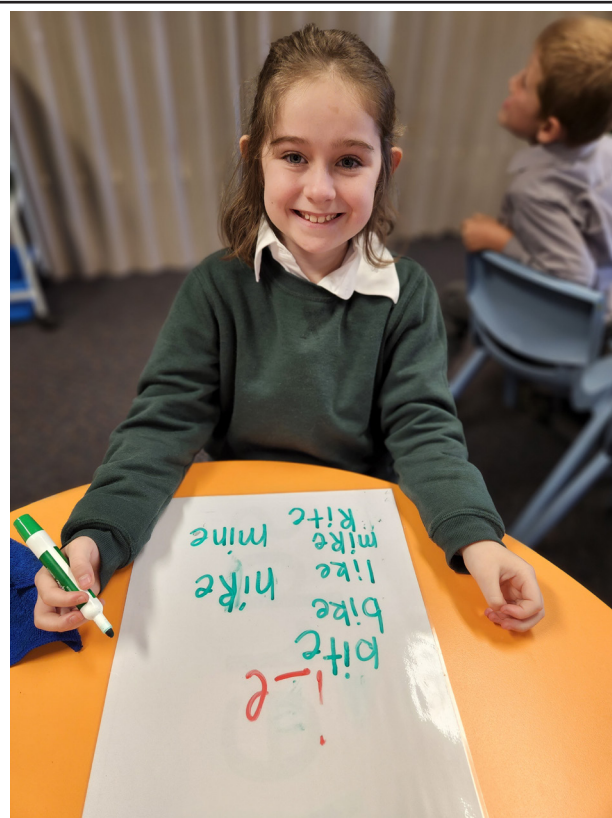
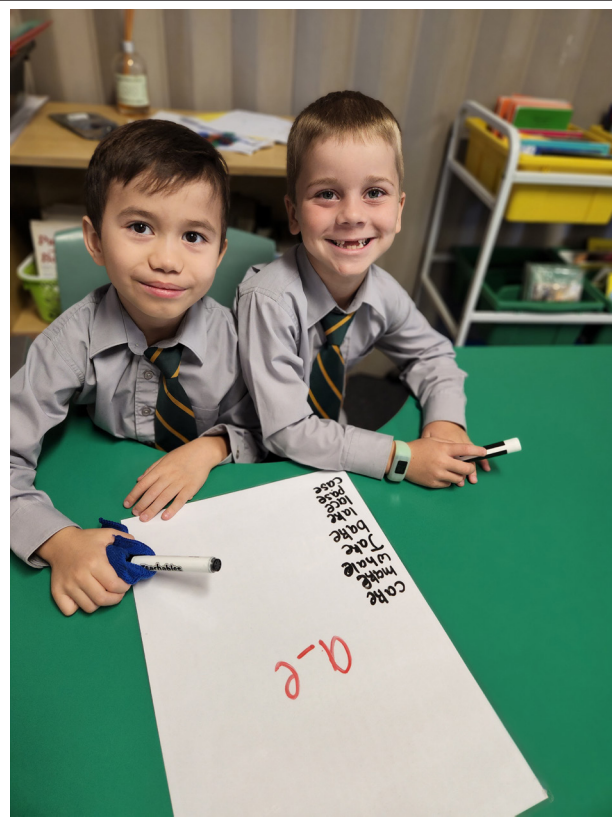
Running from Friday 27th May to Friday 3rd June, Reconciliation Week is a national week to remember the wrongs of the past and to mark a new path forward for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Throughout this week students will be completing activities to learn about the importance of Reconciliation Week, what it stands for, and things they can do at school to contribute. Leading up to Mabo Day on 3rd June, students will also be learning more about the Torres Strait Islands and Eddie Mabo as they discuss Terra Nullius and the Land Rights movement.



Simultaneous Storytime



PBL - Following Instructions



Gunnedah Eisteddfod

On Friday, KA and KP performed at the Gunnedah Eisteddfod in the Infants Musical Entertainment category. Our students performed "I Can Sing A Rainbow" using both Auslan sign language and singing. Our students performed exceptionally well, and carried on their performance - even when the music cut out. Kindergarten was awarded a Highly Commended certificate for their great effort. Well done Kindergarten, we are very proud of all your hard work!

Mrs Anderson and Miss Perry



Cross Country





COVID reminder

Please remember to continue to contact the school to advise of any positive results, close contacts or with any questions you might have.

Library Corner....

Issue 4 of Book Club has been distributed to students. There are some wonderful books that can be purchased from just \$3.00. Each book sold earns the school valuable reward points. These help to keep the school library alive with fabulous new books.

Parents/Carers have the option to set up an account through Scholastic online by downloading the LOOP app. The order will be electronically linked to the rest of our school's order and sent directly to the school. We do, however, still accept cash orders. The due date for ordering is Monday 13th June, 2022.

Library days are

Mondays Kindergarten and MC

Tuesdays Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Wednesdays Years 1 and 2

Thank you for continuing to support our students love of reading!

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



Congratulations to Xavier Hunt & Corey Gallacher for being kind at school and showing what a good friend is

Assembly



KP Phonics

The students in KP have been using their phonics knowledge to read decodable readers during literacy groups. They should be commended for all their hard work!



Joe Miller Meet and Greet

We will be holding a meet and greet afternoon tea on Monday 6th June to welcome Joe to the Gunnedah Public School Community. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend if able. A note will go home for families to RSVP.

Our school is about to embark on an exciting new project called

Koalas and Others

A Schoolyard and Community Biodiversity Project

2022 - 2025

Delivered by the Warrumbungle National Park Environmental Education Centre (WNPEEC) in collaboration with NSW Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service (Wires) and the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DoPE), Koala Team.

A team of expert teachers and local ecologists will deliver and support our school and to monitor native and introduced species in our schoolyard and community. This will provide longitudinal data to assist and inform best practice for native species conservation in the area.

Our year 5 and 6 students will be working with these experts this Wednesday to set up a treetroff and camera in one of the trees in our school.

Once the Treetroff and camera have been constructed and established, there will be opportunity for the students to regularly observe and analyse the camera footage to establish what animals, both native and feral, have accessed the Treetroff. The WNPEEC will provide explicit basic data analysis such as quantity, behaviour, time stamps etc.

This information will be filed in three separate categories:- furry, feathers and other (eg reptiles).

When we have some footage analysed, the students will invite parents and community members to a presentation of their findings.



Language Nest

We have been fortunate to have Jayden Kitchener-Waters (AECG Language nest educator) coming into our school to teach language and dance to our primary students. Jayden will be with us every Thursday until the end of Term 3. This program complements the Language and Culture program that Renee Horne runs throughout K-6, 4 days per week. The students are thoroughly enjoying these lessons.

Introducing Joe Miller

After a rigorous panel process we welcome Joe Miller as part of our Gunnedah Public School team. As part of the Connected Communities Strategy, Joe was successful in securing the Senior Leader Community Engagement position at our school.

Joe will be assisting Mrs McMaster (Executive Principal) in the implementation of the Connected Communities strategy in the school by providing a vital link between the school and the local Aboriginal community. He will work in collaboration with the Local AECG in developing plans and processes for the teaching of Aboriginal language and culture. Joe will also be working with the Aboriginal Community and wider community in the implementation and monitoring of strategic initiatives within the school.

Some Words from Joe:



I was born in Dirranbandi Qld and grew up in Morven Western Qld. I am connected to the Kooma nation on my mother's side and Bidjara on my father's side. I am related to the Orcher, Chapman families on my mother's side which branches to many families. I have worked in many areas of human services such as Transport, Education, Family Services Fostering, Commission for Children Complaints Investigation Officer and Aboriginal Mental Health Coordinator.

Education and Community involvement, plus sport, are my main passions in connecting with communities that I have resided in over the years, and I endeavour to carry this on in Gunnedah.

Local School Reference Group

Joe will be forming the Local School Reference Group. The School Reference Group advises the Executive Principal on the implementation of the Connected Communities strategy. They will work collaboratively with the Executive Principal in the development, planning and shared decision making of each school's Connected Communities strategy.

The School Reference Group also operates as a broader Department of Education governance structure committed to improving the educational, social and wellbeing of Aboriginal people in NSW.

The School Reference Group's core membership include:

- Local AECG President (Chair)
- P&C representative (Vice Chair)
- two parents
- two Elders and/or Aboriginal community members
- Executive Principal
- Senior Leader, Community Engagement or Leader Community Engagement (provides executive support only).

If you are interested in being part of this reference group please contact the school.

Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) and Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6) excursions

We are so excited to announce that (at this stage!) our overnight excursions are back on for students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6! These excursions will take place early Term 4. More details will come home with your child/children later in the year, but we understand that families may need time to organise payment or a payment plan. We are currently expecting both excursions to cost between \$150 (stage 2 – Years 3 & 4) and \$250-\$300 (Stage 3 – Years 5 & 6), but will provide the total cost to families as soon as they have been finalised.

In the meantime, if you would like to set up a payment plan or organise a payment schedule, please contact the front office on 67422266 to do so. In 2021, we suggested that families pay \$10-\$20/week leading up to camp, so feel free to follow this guide if you wish.

Here is an overview of how many days and nights we will be away for:

- Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) – an overnight excursion to Echidna Gully (2 days and 1 night); and
- Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6) – 3 nights and 4 days at Exodus Adventures in Nymboida (near Grafton).

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school and organise a time to speak with Mrs Dowdell.



Congratulations to Nevaeh, Jack, Troy & Xavier for their Cross Country ribbons.



Top tips for Reading their Signals

- 1. Watch for signs** your child is not feeling comfortable, with a hug, a tickle or rough play.
- 2. Look for signs of fear or uncertainty** when your child is doing something new or challenging so you know when to step in for support or when to stop the situation.
- 3. Teach your child it is always okay to say 'no' or 'stop'** or use other ways to communicate when they have had enough or no longer want to do something.

If you or someone you know is struggling, there is support available. Call Lifeline 13 11 14, Beyond blue 1300 22 4636 or kids helpline 1800 55 180



Gunnedah Public School

2022 School Calendar Term 2

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Week 6 Gunnedah Speech & Drama Eisteddfod | 30/5 5 for 5 Rewards | 31/5 | 1/6 | 2/6 CANTEEN DAY (Curried sausages with popper or water) | 3/6 PSSA Touch football |
| Week 7 | 6/6 | 7/6 | 8/6 | 9/6 CANTEEN DAY (Gravy Beef roll with popper or water) PSSA Girls Soccer | 10/6 |
| Week 8 | 13/6 PUBLIC HOLIDAY | 14/6 | 15/6 | 16/6 CANTEEN DAY (Chicken Stew & rice with popper or water) PSSA Boys Soccer | 17/6 |
| Week 9 | 20/6 | 21/6 | 22/6 | 23/6 CANTEEN DAY (Pork Burrito with popper or water) | 24/6 |
| Week 10 NAIDOC WEEK | 27/6 | 28/6 | 29/6 11.30am NAIDOC Assembly | 30/6 10 for 10 Rewards | 1/7 LAST DAY OF TERM 2 |

COOLER CLASSROOMS PROJECT

The preliminary work has started and we are looking forward to enjoying the air conditioning in Term 4, ready for Summer.