



Gunnedah South Public School

"With oar and sail"

**Thursday
14th Nov 2013
TERM 4 WEEK 6**

Special points of interest:

- 18th 29th Stage 3 excursion
- 4th - Yr 6 High School Orientation Day
- 4th 6th - Yr 4 Keepit Excursion

Principal: Mrs Emma Jeffery

Assistant Principals: Mrs Lynda Heath

School Captains: Georgie Orman and Hayden Baker

Mr William Dowe

Administration Manager: Mrs Kerryn Pryor

Mrs Judy McGowan

Phone: 6742 1899 / 6742 1488 **Fax:** 6742 4217

Mrs Nicole Walsh

Email: gunnedahs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.gunnedahs-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

School Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7 Nov	18 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	19 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	20 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	21 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	22 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion
8 Nov	25 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	26 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	27 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	28 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	29 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion
9 Dec	2	3	4 Yr 6 High School Orientation Day Yr4 Keepit Excursion	5 Yr 4 Keepit Excursion	6 Yr 4 Keepit Excursion
10 Dec	9	10 P & C meeting @ 7pm Presentation Day	11	12	13 Yr 6 Keepit Dam visit



*Gunnedah South Public
School*

Proud supporters of the

"You Can Do It" Program

CONFIDENCE

Supporting & caring
for your children.

A few words from our Principal...



Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance

Regular punctual attendance at school is vital for students to maximise their potential. In NSW all children between the ages of six and below the minimum school leaving age of seventeen are legally required to attend school.

We ask that students who arrive late to school be accompanied by a parent/carers who can sign the student in at the front office.

Attendance at Gunnedah South is usually quite high, over 90% attendance rate and this helps to ensure the success of our students academically and socially.

The Home School Liaison Officer visits our school regularly and conducts roll checks. This provides lists of students whose attendance is less than 85%.

I have included, further in the newsletter a fact sheet regarding attendance —please take the time to read.

Reading Challenge

The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge Preview app is a great way for students to find new books and track their progress in the challenge. It's free to download.

To download the app: <http://apps.microsoft.com/windows/en-au/app/nsw-premiers-reading-challenge/7a451df8-214b-4cd7-92a8-f8a4ea6dbe78>

Selective High School Placement

Applications for 2015 placements for Year 7 in a selective high school close 18 November. Parents with internet access are asked to apply online.

For information and application forms: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Ready for High School

Just to let you know that the Transition to high school, Ready for High School Checklist is now available in 36 languages.

Search by language: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/start_ss/rfhsc.php

Art About Australia

The Aussie Art competition invites primary school children (K-6) to enter an artwork with a brief description of why 'Australia is the best place in the world' for a chance to win a P&O family cruise or a 16GB iPad 2. The competition closes on 17 February 2014.

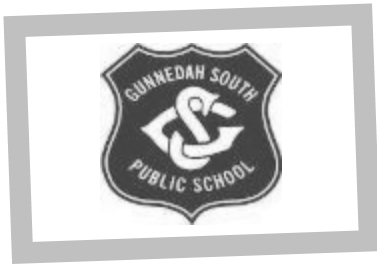
Enter the competition: www.aussievault.com.au

Kindest regards,

Emma Jeffery

Principal





SCHOOL NEWS...



CANTEEN NEWS

- MON 18th - Noreen Percy
- TUES 19th - Laura Reeves
- WED 20th - Lyndall Jewiss
- THURS 21st - Janelle Scott
- FRI 22nd - Christine Pease
Joanne Slee
- MON 25th - Deidre Woodward
- TUES 26th - Laura Reeves
- WED 27th - Sharyn Hancox
- THURS 28th - Kim Street
- FRI 29th - Jodie Moore
Hope Rennick



This is a lovely letter received from Tom Lyne's Nana.

Congratulations to Mr. Finlay and Mr. Humphries the time and dedication they have invested to execute the Beef Cattle Project. Special thanks for creating this experience for all the children - it is a life skills experience.

Thank you from Tom's Nanna.

Stage 3 Rotations

Week 8	Monday-	Tuesday-	Wednesday-	Thursday -	Friday-
MISS FOLLEY TECHNOLOGY				Canberra Excursion	
Mrs Heath HSJE					
Miss Small PE/PD					
Mr Humphries Science					
Miss Zerner Art					
Miss Flannery Drama					

Merit Certificates

KM	Aleisha Spain, Sienna Hobden, Cooper Perry
KB	Jessica Ferguson, Holly Sheedy, Owen Shoesmith, Mitchell Slee
KL	Max Jewiss, Myah Goman, Jai McInnes, Miami Clemments
KS	Abbie Passfield, Ellie Cope, Taylah McAllan, Bradley Bartimote
KR	Savannah Eather, Logan Garratley, Jackson O'Sullivan, Deakyn Laws
IH	Malakai Briggs, Jeffery Passman, Leni Wicks, Aidan Wise
IP/W	Cooper Williams, bella Sawyer, Claire Barnes, Harry Capper
IM	Olivia Heath, Kalan Southwell, Denzel Wortley, Kayden Sutcliffe
2H	Chloe Dorrington, Charlotte Bedggood, Annie Elphick, Connor Morgan
2E	Heath Stark, Laura Harris, Callum Simson, Lucy Robertson, Telia Bilsborough
2M	Hayden Riley, Thomas Donaldson, Talea Coulton, Sarah McKenzie
3D	Daniel Ison, Bastian Short, Brooke Rennick
3M	Jack Heath, Hayley West, Jack Burgess
3/4S	Joey Al Kredy, Zac Griffin, Kade Garrett
4S	Cooper Bedggood, Ryan Kelly-Payne
4W	Madi Simson, Nicole Castle, Ashton Harris
5F	Max Campbell, Orin Wettenhall, Alyssa Ferguson
5S	Jayden Newton, Taylor Sams, Julian Morgan
5Z	Bailey Stewart, Hayley Lye, Tneesha Milne
5/6H	Joshua Green, Layla Withers, Deeon Spears
6F	Ewan Wooward, Carey Taylor, Lleyton Carlin
6H	Bayley Williams, Connor Phillips, Jake Whittaker

Merit Certificates

Silver

Eli Rankmore, Samatha Randall, Brandy Harris, jim Jewiss, Holly Whitehurst, Harry Capper, Thomas Donaldson, Kalan Southwell, Jaydon Newton, Jackson Crowe, Jaycob Price, Sophie Stewart, Annie Lyne, Drew Shephard, Ronin Petersen, Kiah Squires, Olivia Edmonds, Tamika Burns, Sophie Mackay, Braithan Winsor, Lucy Jackson, Keynan Jeffrey, Ellie Cope, Nicole Castle, Madi Simson, Stephanie Towns, Ashton Harris,

Gold

Samantha Randall, Harry Capper, Kalan Southwell, Olivia Edmonds, Tanika Burns, Braithan Winsor, Keynan Jeffrey, Madi Simson, Ashton Harris

Dance

Kullin Long, Lucy Merlehan, Philippe Altmann

Sport

Chelsea Storey, Charloote Eather, Kaytlyn Murrell, Piper Rankmore, Nautica Eather, Emily Hoppe, Morgan Wettenhall, Holtt Whitehurst, Angela Dillon, Celeste Campbell, Paige Murray, Emmy Barr, Mackenzie Leader, Samantha Randall, Georgie Orman, Brandy Harris, Zoe Fleming, Anaya Boal, Eli Rankmore, Jackson carr, Jim Jewiss, Kurt Rennick, Mitchell Clarke, Kurt Fisher, Ashton Harris, Jaycob Price, Zac Griffin, Jed White, Tom Dawson, Tom Roworth, Oliver Thomas, Tom Wilson

Up the Back with Lucky and Tucker

New Journalists

Your keen eyesight and inferential comprehension skills may have, through the eponymous heading above, led you to conclude that Leigh and Virginia have departed the bucolic splendour that is Gunnedah South. If your powers of deduction led you in that direction then you are right. As is the lot of the fairer gender, Leigh and Virginia have put their careers on hold whilst they prepare for upcoming motherhood.

Meanwhile, they have handed over the reins to we newcomers, Lucky and Tucker. We will, with every thread of our bovine intellect endeavour to uphold the journalist integrity displayed by our forebears, reporting with impartiality and honesty.

Two Important Birthdays

November fourteen is a red letter day, the birthday of two luminaries, Mr Todd Jeffery and Mr Oscar Claude Monet. Happy birthday to those two gentlemen.

Irresistible Nil Return Agistment Arrangements for Local Landholders

We now have four kind offers to agist an animal or few, to raise money for the agricultural programs that we are trying to provide for the students of our school. Thank you agistees.

Maths and the Farm

A farmer was chatting with his sheepdog when the topic turned to who was the smarter. After some inconclusive evidence on both sides, the farmer thought that he might best prosecute his case by challenging the dog to perform a mathematical feat. "Dog, go and count those sheep."

The dog raced off with the alacrity and confidence of one who was in control. The farmer waited, smug in the knowledge that he was going to prove his intellectual prowess, smug with the confidence that ignorance brings.

The dog returned. "How many sheep were there Dog?"

"Forty."

"You idiot, Dog, I only bought thirty eight."

"Yeah but I rounded them up."

Vocabulary

Mr Humphries was asked by a student this week what egotesticle means. It doesn't seem to be in the dictionary so if anyone could shine a light on that hitherto unknown piece of vocabulary, please let him know.

Cheap pun beckons but we can't.

Girl Power

For those feminists out there - we're talking to you Leigh and Virginia - go to You Tube and see the "Misogyny Speech" sung to that Gloria Gaynor anthem, "I Will Survive". The Speech is accompanied by that orchestra in an instrument, the ukulele and is sung with verve, gusto and some humour.

Regards,

Lucky and Tucker.

2E Zoo Snooze



All the boys and girls in 2E had a fun and exciting time on their Zoo Snooze. Thank you to Mrs Sheedy, Mrs Cohen, Mr Woodhead and Mr Robertson for coming along with us.

Kitchen cook-off #6



For our last kitchen cook-off before the big grand final, it did not disappoint. Last night was yet another suspenseful and exciting night in the kitchen.

Our kitchen was full of eager participants and their family spectators. The competition was fierce and the standards were as high as ever.

Once again, the recipe was beef chow mein. The experience showed and the judges had the hard task of critiquing their dishes.



Unfortunately there could only be one winning team. That winning duo was... **Elsie Hunt and her mum Carolyn!** What a great team Congratulations!



Well done to all of our cook-off competitors, Ashley White and Adam McGuirk, Sara Baker and Sue West, Maddie and Brian Coombs and Asyiah Garrett and Connor Phillips.

Great work!

The following teams are through to the grand final-

**Nautica Eather and Anaya Boal,
Tneesha and Roxanne Milne,
Lucy and Isaac Merlehan,
Ashleigh Mills and Laura Ewington,
Jordan Winsor and Blair Beasley,
Elsie and Carolyn Hunt.**
Stay tuned for the date!



Recipe of the Week!

Beetroot Dip

Season: Winter /Spring .

Serves 1 Bowl Dip

Ingredients:

2 medium beetroots (or 1 large)

2 garlic cloves (in skins)

Pinch of salt

Juice of 1/2 Lemon

3 tablespoons olive oil



Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 200 degrees Celsius.
2. Prepare beetroot, wash and peel.
3. Cut **beetroot** into small wedges.
4. Place on roasting tray along with the **cloves of garlic**.
5. Drizzle with **1 tablespoon of the oil** and a **pinch of salt**.
6. Bake in the oven 40-45 minutes or until cooked through.
7. Place the **roasted beetroot** in a blender.
8. The garlic cloves should be all soft inside, squeeze the garlic out of the skin.
9. Add to the **garlic** to the blender along with the **lemon juice** and rest of the **oil**.
10. Blend together until smooth.
11. Serve with biscuits or bread sticks.

Happy Cooking!

Regular School Attendance

Information for parents and carers



All children have a right to an education. Only by regular school attendance can children make the most of educational opportunities, leading to greater social and economic outcomes.

Schools play a vital role in the social and emotional development of children. Regular attendance enables students to develop a sense of belonging to a peer group and building important coping and friendship skills. Confident children are less likely to engage in anti-social behaviour.

If students miss out on the basic skills in the early years of school, they may experience learning problems in later years. Ultimately, unsatisfactory attendance at school may affect the awarding of the School Certificate.

Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. Parents and school have specific responsibilities concerning children's attendance at school.

Responsibilities of the principal

Principals are legally responsible for maintaining accurate records of student attendance. When reasons for absences are provided to the school by parents, principals are accountable for their decision to record a student's absence as justified. Principals may decline to accept as satisfactory an explanation for an absence and will record that absence as unjustified.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when absences explained as being due to illness are frequent or prolonged.

Responsibilities of parents

The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents (including carers) ensure that children of compulsory school age are enrolled at and regularly attend school or are registered with the Office of

the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling. The New South Wales Department of Education and Training may take legal action against parents and carers who do not send their children to school without a valid reason.

What is a justified reason for being absent from school?

Justified reasons for absences may include if the student:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably, these should be made after school or during holidays)
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- is sick, or has an infectious disease.



Head lice infestations can be a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools. Parents should check their child's hair regularly for head lice and undertake treatment where eggs or lice are identified. Information on how schools can support parents to manage and prevent the spread of head lice can be accessed from the student health section of the Department's website at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php>. Advice from NSW Health indicates that there is no need for students to be sent home or excluded from school because of head lice. Head lice, is not a justified reason for prolonged absences from school.

Absences for reasons such as some of the following may not be justified.

- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding younger siblings and other children
- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts.

It is important to realise that parents (including carers) may be prosecuted if children have recurring unjustified absences from school.

Keeping the school informed

If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for the absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may:

- send a note, fax or email to the school
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

Whenever possible, parents and carers are encouraged to provide an explanation for absences before the absences occur.

The principal of the school has the right to question parents' requests for their child to be absent from school, or an explanation given for a child's absence from school.

Holidays

Parents and carers are encouraged to not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. Occasionally it may be necessary for students to accompany their parents on family holidays during school term. Parents should discuss these absences with the principal and may be requested to apply to the principal for a Certificate of Exemption from attendance at school to ensure these absences are not permanently recorded as unjustified.

When considering applications for Certificates of Exemption, principals may consider a variety of factors such as compassionate reasons. For example, family reunions, the educational merits of the holiday and agreement for the student to complete assignments while on holiday. In some cases application for Distance Education may be more appropriate than seeking an exemption from school attendance.

Arrival on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- ensures that students don't miss out on the important learning activities scheduled early in the day when the students are most alert
- helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- gives students time to greet their friends before class and therefore,

Need help?

If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, you might like to talk to the school principal, the school counsellor or, in primary school the assistant principal and in secondary school, your child's year adviser.

Home school liaison officers can offer support with attendance at school. Some school areas also have Aboriginal student liaison officers who support the attendance of Aboriginal students.

Telephone your local Department of Education and Training regional office and speak to the student welfare consultant if you would like further support. A list of regional office telephone numbers can be accessed at the web site address: www.det.nsw.edu.au/contactus/index.htm or by telephoning 131 536.

- reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption.

Lateness is recorded as partial absence and must be explained by parents or carers in the same way as other forms of absence.

Must my child attend all activities, including sport?

YES. Sport and other physical activities help the healthy physical and mental development of children. Sports and sports carnivals are normal school activities and students must attend.