



Gunnedah South Public School

"With oar and sail"

Thursday
12th Feb 2015
TERM 1 WEEK 3

Special points of interest:

- Zone Swimming Wednesday 18th Feb
- AECG Meeting 4pm @ Gunnedah Public 24th Feb

Principal: Mrs Emma Jeffery

Deputy Principals: Mr Graham Conn

Assistant Principals: Mr William Dowe

School Captains: Lucy Jackson and Zachary Griffin

Miss Aylish Flannery

Administration Manager: Mrs Kerry Pryor

Mrs Judy McGowan

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Mrs Nicole Walsh

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School Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4 Feb	16	17	18 Zone Swimming Carnival	19	20
5 Feb	23	24 AECG Meeting 4pm @ Gunnedah Public	25	26	27
6 March	2	3 Area Swimming	4	5	6
7 March	9	10	11	12 Forensic Science Activities Yrs 3-6	13



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,

Kindergarten 2015

Welcome to our gorgeous little Kindergarten students who began their first day at 'big school' on last Monday. This is an exciting time for our Kindy's as they explore everything that South has to offer, and make many new friends. I was fortunate to have each new kindy class visit my office while on their tour of the school, all with bright happy smiles on their faces. I was very impressed with how mature, enthusiastic and settled the students were. During their tour of my office there was one little cherub who enjoyed sitting in the Principals chair ~ High expectations ~ that is what South school espouses.

The beginning of school is an important time to establish positive routines for Kindergarten students, from the time they wake up in the morning till when they are collected at 3pm. This year is particularly important to set positive attendance habits and a love of learning.

You may find your little cherub is very tired during the first few weeks of school, and ensuring enough sleep each night is vital. Young students need around 10 hours per night!

Each Kindergarten student has a Year 5 & 6 buddy, who will be spending time with the Kindergarten students to become familiar with school routines. The Year 5 & 6 students are very keen to be a role model for our younger students and support them in their journey of formal schooling. This year the buddy program has aligned each kindergarten class to a stage 3 class which will allow more flexible opportunities to occur throughout the year such as buddy class reading, where kindergarten classes visit their buddy class and the older students help and support the younger students with reading.

Communication

Parent and teacher communication is encouraged at Gunnedah South. If you wish to speak with your child's teacher, please contact the school to arrange a suitable time. Any concerns regarding your child should always be first directed to the classroom teacher and then the Assistant Principal responsible for that stage.

Assistant Principal for Kindergarten ~ **Mrs Judy McGowan**

Assistant Principal for Years 1 & 2 ~ **Mrs Nicki Walsh**

Assistant Principal for year 3 & 4 ~ **Mr Will Dowe**

Assistant Principal for year 5 & 6 ~ **Miss Aylish Flannery**

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all of our students for creating an excellent atmosphere at the swimming carnival held last Friday. It was fantastic to see so many students enter events both swimming and novelty. A big thank you to Miss Flannery for coordinating this year's swimming carnival. The zone swimming carnival is on next Wednesday ~ we wish all our zone swimmers the very best.

School Planning

Gunnedah South is deep in preparation and consultation regarding our new school plan for 2015-2017. The Department of Education and Communities has a new approach to planning and it is the first part of a new approach to school excellence. NSW public schools are committed to the pursuit of excellence and the provision of high quality educational opportunities for each and every child.

At Gunnedah South **our focus is on students**. All parents want the very best for their children. In education, this means teachers, schools and parents with a commitment to nurture, guide, inspire and challenge students ~ to find the joy in learning, to build their skills and understanding, and to make sense of their world.



A few words from our Principal continued...

In the early years, it means having confidence that each individual child will be known and understood, and their individual potential developed. As students progress, it means knowing that they are well supported as increasingly self motivated learners ~ confident and creative individuals, with the personal resources for future success and wellbeing.



I have included the schools vision and 3 strategic directions which are the key drivers for delivering our vision.

School Vision

Students are the central focus of all decisions and high expectations for their learning and achievement are paramount. Every student in our care to be actively engaged in meaningful, challenging and future-focused learning experiences to achieve and thrive as learners, leaders and responsible, productive citizens is our aim.

We operate our school with integrity, accountability and a passion for academic and social excellence delivering a rigorous, relevant education for the whole child. . We provide safe, ethical, and joyful cultures of learning where adults and students alike can thrive and grow.

To sustain a culture where student learning, well-being and achievement are realised, all staff:

- ☺ Engage in systems thinking
- ☺ Accept accountability for student learning and achievement and engage in continuous improvement.
- ☺ Share responsibility for instructional leadership.
- ☺ Reflect on and adapt the school's evidence based direction based on student learning needs.
- ☺ Contribute to a safe, accepting and inclusive learning environment.

Gunnedah South is an innovative and dynamic school where personalized learning activities puts the student at the centre, providing assessment and instruction that are tailored to students particular learning needs through a flexible curriculum delivery.

This vision is shared, supported and implemented by our school community of students, staff and parents.

Strategic Directions

Purpose:

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

Learning

Every student in our care will be actively engaged in meaningful, challenging and future-focused learning experiences to achieve and thrive as learners, leaders and responsible, productive citizens.

We will maximise learning to ensure students achieve at least a year's worth of learning from every year of teaching.

We will:

Create high expectations to raise standards of achievement and reduce the gap between the highest and lowest achievers.

Build leadership capability and continue to improve teaching quality and effectiveness.

A few words from our Principal continued...



STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2

Leading

Purpose:

Engage all staff in professional development that is, relevant, future focused and shaped by research, evidence and feedback to build their capabilities as learners, teachers and leaders.

We will:

Introduce new curriculum planning, management and performance – monitoring systems to improve the way our practice is delivered and increase accountability across the system.

Implement these changes in a cohesive, targeted manner, always keeping students and their outcomes as a priority.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3

Linking

Purpose:

Build a school culture that is creative and innovative to promote achievement and foster wellbeing for every student.

Families, carers, students and staff will have access a range and scale of services they need for their education, development, well-being, health and care.

We will:

Plan and better integrate National, State and local services to ensure students families and staff have effective access.

Provide support by directing resources to meet the specific and identified needs of priority populations.

Kindest Regards

Emma Jeffery

Principal

Newsflash....

Website Update!!!!

The school website is a great way for us to communicate with our families. The site has been upgraded and updated to include photos from the recent swimming carnival and Leader's Induction Day. Recent news articles have been added and upcoming events have been loaded onto the calendar. For regular updates and up to the minute news go to www.gunnedahs-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Mr Graham Conn
Deputy Principal





SCHOOL NEWS...



Student Banking Starts Back:

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for these exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their continued savings.

Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit made

(to a maximum of \$10 per individual deposit).

If your children are not currently involved in the School Banking program and you would like to know more, please ask for a 2015 School Banking program Information Pack from the School office.



Regard
Banking Ladies

Canteen Roster for Term 1 Week 4

Monday 16th Feb:

Tuesday 17th Feb:

Wednesday 18th Feb: Christy Donnelly

Thursday 19th Feb: Kim Street

Friday 20th Feb:

If you are interested in helping in the Canteen please contact Sharon Tydd or leave a message with the office.

Silver Awards

Jye Perrett— Scott, Max Mainey, Ella Hancox, Kade Garrett, Harry Mason, Brodie Riley, Madilyn Jessup— Little, Madi Simson, Aleena Dundas, Peter Davison, Mackenzie Keeler, Nate Harris, James McKenzie, Amy Sams, Leni Wicks, Kadence Milne, Joshua Casey

Gold Awards

Kade Garrett, Brodie Riley, Peter Davison

House Captains



Wattle



Waratah

House Captains



Banksia



Boronia

Is your child missing any items???

The pile of lost property at Gunnedah South is increasing rapidly. We would like you to come and claim it!

When: Friday 13th February and Monday 16th February. (all day)

Where: Small COLA outside the primary toilet block.

Items: All lost property items from last year, the beginning of this year and the swimming carnival will be available for collection.

If items are not collected by Monday afternoon they will be donated to St Vincent de Paul. Please encourage your child to look through these items or come in yourself.

Thankyou,

Miss Flannery

Scripture

Scripture is held in our school each Thursday. Students have a half-hour, non-denominational lesson with a trained Scripture teacher. Some Catholic students from Kinder to Year 6 attend a group taught by a Catholic teacher. Notification of any changes to your child's attendance in a Scripture class should be given to the school in writing.

Please Return borrowed Uniforms

If your child has borrowed any item of clothing from the school can you please return them as soon as possible as we are getting low on emergency uniforms.

Gunnedah South Public School

Swimming Carnival

On Friday 6th February, children from Gunnedah South walked to the town pool to participate in the annual swimming carnival.

It was an impressive sight to see everyone dressed in their house colours and participation was at an all time high. All students were great ambassadors for our school and behaviour and sportsmanship throughout the day was outstanding.

As usual, there were a large number of students who excelled in the pool. The overall age winners of the day were:

Junior Girl—Lilly Street

Junior Boy—Michael Walsh

11 Years Girl—Laiken Boal

11 Years Boy—Archie Waerea

Senior Girl—Alyssa Batinic

Senior Boy—Aiden Luzuriaga

It was fantastic to see so many children participate in all the events. The enthusiasm in the novelty events was also excellent.

It was a battle to see which house would win on the day. All children who participated in any event, both competitive and novelty events gained a point for their house. This made it a close struggle between the house groups. At the end of the day Banksia were the winning house. Congratulations!

A big thankyou to all the volunteers and staff who helped to ensure the day was a success.

