



Gunnedah South Public School

"With oar and sail"

Thursday
12th March 2015
TERM 1 WEEK 7

Special points of interest:

- Grandparents day 27th Mar
- Easter Hat Parade 2nd April

Principal: Mrs Emma Jeffery

Assistant Principals: Mr William Dowe

Deputy Principal: Mr Graham Conn

Miss Aylish Flannery

School Captains: Lucy Jackson and Zachary Griffin

Mrs Judy McGowan

Administration Manager: Mrs Kerry Pryor

Mrs Nicole Walsh

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

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

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

School Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8 March	16	17 Southern Area Rugby league trials	18	19	20 NW football trials (southern)
9 March	23 NW Area tennis	24	25 State Swimming	26 State Swimming	27 Grandparents Day 
10 March/Apr	30 NW Football Trials	31 NW Cricket Trials	1	2 Easter Hat Parade	3 Good Friday



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,



Arrival at school

The school gates are opened each morning just after 8am. Teachers begin before school supervision from 8:30am. Students who arrive between 8am and 8:30am are to be seated under either the Infants or Primary COLA's until the teacher arrives. We encourage students to not arrive at school prior to 8am as there is no supervision of students.

School Development Day

Teacher professional learning is a high priority at Gunnedah South Public School. We are having a School Development Day on Saturday 21st March here at school which is focusing on the addressing the Department of Education and Communities commitment to Aboriginal Education. This is a rescheduled Term 4 School Development Day.

Staff will participate in workshops focusing on:

- ☺ Establishing, building and strengthening relationships with Aboriginal people and communities.
- ☺ Undertake ongoing professional learning to increase knowledge about how to support the identity and diversity of Aboriginal students and how they learn.
- ☺ Embedding Aboriginal perspectives into teaching and learning programs.

P&C

Another productive P&C meeting was held on Tuesday with the school's direction, fundraising ideas and fete organisation discussed. Due to the storm the P&C welcome BBQ has been postponed to Thursday 19h March from 6pm. Can I encourage as many parents to come along ~ this is a lovely way to meet fellow parents and P&C members while enjoying an Australian icon = The BBQ!!

During the P&C meeting the Fete date has been set for Friday 30th October. Mrs Judi Sheedy has kindly offered to coordinate this event for this year and she is welcome to new ideas and suggestions. Obviously the success of this event relies on the numerous volunteers, who donate their time on various aspects, from stall setting up, packing showbags, serving and cooking food, liaising with local businesses, raffles and the list goes on. If you are able to help in any small way ~ please make contact with Mrs Sheedy.

The P&C have also supported the school in applying for 3 joint funding projects. This initiative is where schools can apply to have projects 50% funded by the Department of Education and Communities. Therefore a projects normally costing \$40,000 only costs the school \$20,000. In consultation with P&C, we have submitted 3 projects this year.

1. New primary sports shed. To be located near our Hall.
2. Extending our Infants cola.
3. Digital sign

This is in excess of \$80,000 worth of school improvements which P&C only fund half.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated P&C, who work tirelessly throughout the year on fundraising strategies and then in turn work along the school supporting our students. Without the P&C many of our school extra curricular opportunities and school facilities would not be possible.

Applications are assessed by a regional committee and schools find out if they are successful towards the end of Term 2. Fingers crossed!!!

Defibrillator

A big thank you to Mrs Mel McLoughlin who has been successful in obtaining a grant of \$1,600 for the school under the Red Cross initiative Project Defib. This is an initiative to reduce the number of deaths caused by sudden cardiac arrest by making defibrillators and related training and support accessible to all schools across Australia. 33,000 Australians suffer sudden cardiac arrest each year, of which only 5% survive.

The cost of a Defibrillator is in excess of \$4000, so this grant has significantly helped to reduce the cost. Our dedicated P&C has offered to pay the remaining cost.

This resource will certainly be an asset for the entire school community. During my time as Principal we have had, and currently do, students who have had congenital heart conditions, and while all staff are trained in current CPR, if the need arose a defibrillator would certainly assist. Thank you again to Mrs McLoughlin.

Kindest Regards

Emma Jeffery

Principal



Canteen Roster

Friday 13th March: Anna Boal
Jo Forrester-McKeowen

Monday 16th Mar: Laura Reeves

Tuesday 17th Mar: -

Wednesday 18th Mar: -

Thursday 19th Mar: Kim Street

Friday 20th Mar: Amber Donoghue

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

Learning to Play a Musical Instrument at Gunnedah South

Students interested in learning to play a musical instrument are given this wonderful opportunity at our school. We have a number of musical instruments and these are loaned to students. Free lessons are given at school. Some children progress to more advanced lessons with Mr Rowe, once again at no cost.

Students from Year 2 to Year 5 interested in learning to play an instrument, and perhaps joining our school band, need to bring a note with parent contact details, and indicating parent support, to Mrs Sommerlad or the office. Parents/Carers wishing to find out more information please also contact Mrs Sommerlad.

Stage 3 Rotations

Week 8-A	Monday-16/3	Tuesday- 17/3	Wednesday-18/3	Thursday -19/3	Friday- 20/3
Mr Sumpter Tech	5/6S	5S	5M		S P O R T
Mrs Conn Science	6C	5/6S	5S		
Miss Flannery	6F	6C	5/6S		
Mrs Michelson PD/PE	5M	6F	6C		
Miss Small HSIE	5S	5M	6F		

Merit Certificates

Silver

Kennisha Francis, Cooper
Blair, Ashton Wortley, Daniela
Kelly, Phoebe Street, Emily
Williams, Eliza Winsor, Melissa
Bartlett, William Hicks, Noah-Dane
Stamp, Claire Dowe, Rex McAllan,
Corinne Wise, Ellie Cope, Mitchell
Slee, Peter Dean, Liam Duff,
Lincoln Howarth, Aleisha Doolan,
Charlotte McDonald, Rebecca
Sams, Steven Hopwood, Brayden
Morgan, Blade Rowlands, Owen
Shoesmith

Gold

Titanium

Josie Gallagher

Class Awards

- 2Z Blade Rowlands, Charlie Bridge, Chantel Vaughan
2S Ellie Cope, Mitchell Slee, Jakoby Webber
2W Deakyn Laws, Cooper Blair, Simone Donnelly
2SW Tom Carlyon, Charlotte Semmler, Eliza Winsor

YCDI

- 2Z Jaydn Toms, Tom Garner
2S Ally Harris, Kadence Milne
2W Zara Wise, Jayla Woolaston
2SW Aleena Tariq, Ashton Wortley, Coen Fletcher

AP Awards

Ashton Wortley, Finnegan Leader

Library News

The boggle tournament is heating up! I couldn't keep these year 6 students away from the Boggle board this week. I absolutely love seeing so many students participating each week. Keep up the great work kids!



Boggle champions, Lowanna Davison and Madi Simpson with their book prize.

Don't forget the library is now open in the mornings for any student wishing to borrow. When you have finished a book come in and tell me about it. I'd love to know, what you thought about the book and I'll help you find something new to read.

Miss Hudson.

I do believe
something very
magical can happen
when you read a good
book.

J.K. Rowling

meetville.com

Parents of South School

Welcome! BBQ

(We'll never knock back a bit of rain - we hope that it provided at least something for our wonderful farming families. Sorry we had to cancel our BBQ this week at such late notice.)

The South School P&C are holding a BBQ to welcome new parents to the school. Of course ALL parents & kids are welcome, however if you're new to South, this is a great way to get to know others in your school community.

When: Thursday 19th March @ 6pm

Where: South School

Cost: A gold coin per person for a steak or sausage sandwich + drink. Tea & coffee also available

Any enquiries: Scott Clarke, P&C President M: 0409 534 781 E: SOClarkey@icloud.com

NW PSSA Basketball Trials

On Thursday 26th February, Gunnedah South took 10 athletes to represent the Gunnedah Zone area in the 2015 basketball trials.

The girls were: Charlotte Eather, Dakota Milne, Laiken Boal, Matilda Harford, and Sophie Mackay.

The boys were: Oliver Thomas, Zac Griffen, Aidan Luzuriaga, Ashton Harris and Jarrod Ferguson.

Congratulations to Charlotte Eather and Oliver Thomas who made the North West Basketball team to play in Wollongong. Aidan was also lucky enough to make the boys reserve squad.



Kindergarten News

Kindergarten children are swimming along beautifully and are very happy and busy little fish.

A couple of reminders for this week:

*Annual Permission Notes__ need to be returned to classroom teacher ASAP. If you have misplaced your note please ask your teacher for another.

*fruit break – small pieces of chopped fruit are quick and easy for the children to eat while they are working.

*paint shirts are a good idea to protect school uniforms from accidental decoration.

*PLP meetings for Kindergarten will be held next week. Make sure you have returned your appointment note. We are looking forward to discussing your child's achievements and successes.

*Grandparents Day is on Friday 27th March and kindergarten is busy preparing a lovely song for our favourite people.

* Easter Hat Parade is on 2nd April. The children are asked to decorate/make a hat/bonnet for the day at home for our concert and parade. There will also be a decorated egg competition and egg drop competition. More information regarding rules etc. will be sent at a later date.

Cooking in 4D

This Wednesday in the kitchen, Mrs Keeler had 4D students thinking about Chinese New Year and Asian food. We cooked stir-fry, fried rice and spring rolls.

A big thank you to the wonderful parent, and grandparent, helpers that came along to share this culinary experience!



5M and KM Get Together...

Every Friday morning for 30 minutes, children in 5M work with the Kindergarten students of KM. Activities include: reading their current study passage, counting forwards and backwards, sight words, memory games, reading picture books and much more.

Having a buddy in the primary area makes the transition into school life more enjoyable :)



3rd have been investigating 3D shapes.



Photos courtesy of Brandy Productions.



INVITATION

On behalf of Royal Far West we would like to extend a special invitation to join us for dinner when our fundraising event, *Riding for Country Kids* stops in Gunnedah on Day 3 of the cycling tour.

- WHEN:** 6:30pm, Tuesday March 17th 2015
- WHERE:** Green Room, Gunnedah Services & Bowling Club, 313 Conadilly Street, Gunnedah
- COST:** \$21 per person - includes two course buffet dinner
(cash bar available)
- RSVP:** Friday 6th March 2015
maryb@royalfarwest.org.au / 02 8966 8519

Hear the latest news from Royal Far West, meet Scott Sunderland, our ride ambassador and former professional road cyclist who hails from Inverell. Mingle with the riders who are partaking in this epic ride to help raise much needed funds to allow Royal Far West to continue to support our country kids. There will be a raffle on the night as well as donation buckets for collections big and small.

We look forward to having you join us.



Riding for Country Kids is our signature fundraising event and this year the 4 day ride will cover 500km starting in Moree and ending in Tamworth. All funds raised during the event will go directly to helping children in the communities through which the ride passes. For more information on the event please visit our dedicated website: <http://rideforcountrykids2015.rafundraise.com.au>

ATTENTION PARENTS & CARERS!!

Would you like to invest in some brilliant reading material for your child?

Go online and have a look at...

The School Magazine!

theschoolmagazine.com.au

It has been around for nearly 100 years. This magazine has a variety of literature from poetry to comics, narratives to factual articles, plays, puzzles, reader's letters, activities and competitions.

The School Magazines is available in four levels, to suit different reading abilities. They are beautifully presented and link to the Australian curriculum and the NSW syllabus.

Countdown (7-9 years), **Blast Off** (9-10 years), **Orbit** (10-11yrs), **Touchdown** (11+yrs)

A whole twelve months of interesting reading material... Check it out!

Tel: 1300749369

Fax: 0292668610

subscribeSM@det.nsw.edu.au

CHEAP ... Orders must be in before the end of March to reap the benefits.





2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Dear Parent,

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the **International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**.

ICAS assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in twenty countries. Educational Assessment Australia (EAA), who design and deliver the assessments, is the not-for-profit arm of the University of New South Wales.

ICAS:

is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2–12; assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing

gathers performance information through a 30–60 minute supervised in-school test

provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a student's performance, and maps their development over the full period of primary and secondary schooling

enables the progress of each student to be mapped in each skill against their previous performance, demonstrating personal improvement no matter the starting point

uses fellow students' results as a reference point; results are mapped against all students sitting at the same year level in Australia

provides an excellent preparation for national testing

enables students at all levels of ability to participate; ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore the abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement

medals are awarded to the top students per state in each subject and year level (when sufficiently meritorious and the test was sat on the official sitting date)

achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels:

High Distinction to the top 1% of students

Distinction to the next 10% of students

Credit to the next 25% of students

Merit to the next 10% of students

Participation to all other students

results are available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely. ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student's portfolio for future tertiary entrance or job opportunities

entries are administered through the school, so teachers can also access the information

To enrol your child in ICAS, please complete the registration form overleaf and return it, with your entry fees, to your school by **27th March 2015**.

For more information about ICAS go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au, contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or send an email to info@eaa.unsw.edu.au

Your child can also prepare for ICAS using Practice Online. Practice Online tests are available for English, Mathematics and Science. Find out more about Practice Online at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/practice-online

Yours sincerely

Emma Jeffery

Principal

Dr Sofia Kesidou

Gunnedah South Public School

Group Executive

Educational Assessment Australia

AU-FP-1501



2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Registration Form

Please return this form to Gunnedah South Public school

I give permission for my child

of

Child's name

Class

to participate in the following 2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter:

Subject/Paper	School Years	Official Sitting Date	Entry Fee, incl. GST	Fee Enclosed
Digital Technologies *	3–10	19 May 2015	\$8.80	
Science	2–12	3 June 2015	\$8.80	
Writing	3–12	15–19 June 2015**	\$18.70	
Spelling	3–7	16 June 2015	\$12.10	
English	2–12	28 July 2015	\$8.80	
Mathematics	2–12	11 August 2015	\$8.80	
			TOTAL	

Students should sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals. However, your school may choose to sit at another time to fit in with other school activities and routines.

* Previously known as Computer Skills.

** Students may sit Writing anytime in the week beginning Monday 15 June. However, all students in your school should sit on the same day.

Please find enclosed _____ total entry fee.

Amount

Name of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Gunnedah South Public School

Refund Policy

The school will refund money to students and families monies paid for excursions, performances and other events where applicable

Monies will not be refunded where an excursion, performance or event has a component that cannot be refunded or where the school has paid on behalf of the student to another supplier.

Where the amount paid by an individual student is less than \$10 there will be no refunds.

Where a non-refundable amount has been indicated on an excursion this amount will not be refunded to the student.

If a student is withdrawn or sent home from an excursion due to misbehaviour there will be no refund

If a student is sent home from an excursion due to illness/misadventure there will be no refund.

If a student is unable to attend an excursion due to illness/misadventure monies will be refunded in accordance with the above policy. (ie non-refundable amount and components that can't be refunded or have already been forwarded to suppliers)