



# Gundagai Public School

## NEWSLETTER

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Newsletter No. 13

Week 4 Term 2

Principal: Mrs Vicki Somerville

### Learning

### Responsibility

### Safety

#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Last Thursday morning a special assembly was held to allow Mr Michael McCormick, member for Riverina, the opportunity to meet Year 6 student Annika Smith and present her with a book, acknowledging her success in winning the Stage 3 ANZAC writing competition across the Riverina, organised by Mr McCormick earlier in the year.

Mr McCormick also took the opportunity to present certificates to a large number of our students who entered the competition and spoke to the student body about the importance of ANZAC Day and the significance it still has to our town. Mr McCormick was entertained by our school choir, who performed the song "Friends are all you need" at this assembly.

Two exciting activities at Gundagai Public School this week are the School Cross Country Carnival being run on Tuesday and The Walk Safely to School program being held on Friday. Also this week, we will be holding our fortnightly school assembly, being hosted by Year One. These are great opportunities for parents to become involved in extra curricula activities, support their students and catch up briefly with their childrens teachers or myself.

Gundagai Public School staff continue to work diligently on achieving the vision statement and strategic directions of our school plan.



Gundagai Public School provides high quality educational opportunities for every child every day.

#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

**STUDENTS:**  
ACHIEVEMENT  
&  
ENGAGEMENT

**Purpose:** To ensure all students are actively engaged in meaningful and challenging learning experiences.

#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2

**STAFF:**  
BEST PRACTICE  
&  
PROFESSIONAL  
GROWTH

**Purpose:** To build the capabilities of learning, teaching and leadership in all staff.

#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3

**SCHOOL:**  
DYNAMIC  
EDUCATIONAL  
COMMUNITY  
CULTURE

**Purpose:** To create a positive culture within the school community where all stakeholders feel a sense of belonging and wellbeing.

Whilst the education and welfare of students in our care is paramount to all, staff is very mindful of the third strategic direction and want to clearly articulate that this is your school and as such your opinions, support, encouragement and assistance are continually sort, appreciated and encouraged.

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# Outdoor Learning Area

Work on the Outdoor Learning Area at Gundagai Public School that commenced last year, is continuing. A disused area of the playground, adjacent to the netball courts, is this year being split into two areas, The Patch and The Indigenous Cultural Area.

**The Patch** is being coordinated by Mrs Elphick, where a large number of students from Kindergarten to Year 6 have taken up the opportunity to be a part of the lunchtime Garden Club to care for the schools garden beds.

This area is also being made available to individual classes who may want to embark on some environmental Outdoor Education opportunities.

**The Indigenous Cultural Area** is being coordinated by this year's EnviroChamps of Millie Triggs, Laci Bower, Eddie Brooke and Riley McDonald under the guidance of Year 5 teacher Mrs Wheaton. Year 5 and the school's indigenous students will work on aspects of this area and hope to utilise the expertise of a number of community members. It is an exciting opportunity for the school's Indigenous students to take pride in their history and learn about it.

Ultimately the Indigenous Cultural Area will assist teachers at Gundagai Public School deliver the new NSW History Syllabus to all students at the school.

*"The diversity and longevity of Australia's first peoples and the ways Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples are connected to Country and Place (land, sea, waterways and skies) and the implications for their daily lives" (BOSTES: NSW History Syllabus Stage 2 content).*

A lunch was held last week with all students involved in leading this project to celebrate the launch of **The Indigenous Cultural Area**, and to inform students and parents about what will be taking place. This includes providing authentic learning opportunities for every student at the school in line with the newly released History syllabus.

*"Investigate, drawing on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community representatives (where possible) and other sources, the traditional Aboriginal way of life, focusing on people, their beliefs, food, shelter, tools and weapons, customs and ceremonies, art works, dance, music, and relationship to Country" (BOSTES: NSW History Syllabus Stage 2 content).*





## SPORTS NEWS

### ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

"Perfection", describes the weather for the annual Gundagai Public School Athletics Carnival. "Outstanding", describes the level of effort from the students. "Pleasantly surprised", describes the teachers reactions from the athletic talent on show in the Track and Field events.

Gundagai was blessed with such beautiful weather to run the carnival across the two days. The students are to be commended for their behaviour and enthusiastic involvement.

A sincere thank you must go to all and any parents that helped with time keeping in track, lending a hand in the field events or assisting with catering. Without your help, we simply cannot run our carnival, we thank you so much!

A special congratulations to our Age Champions for 2016 and to Rafter for claiming the House Championship this year.



*Rafter captains  
Cody Bell and Jessie Cooper*



Junior Girl	Junior Boy
Mia Doughty	Joseph Polsen
11 Years Girl	11 Years Boy
Ava Doughty	Cody Bell
Senior Girl	Senior Boy
Yasmin Longhurst	Caleb Piper

Every year, Mr Mastellotto looks forward to training the school relay team in preparation for the Highlands Athletics Carnival and is especially enthusiastic this year with some of fastest teams the school has ever assembled. Students have been notified if they have qualified for the Highlands Athletics Carnival with a permission note that must be returned to the school as soon as possible!

### SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

The School Cross Country will be held in Gundagai Public School Grounds tomorrow, **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**. All students are in daily physical activity in preparation for our Cross Country and are developing their fitness skills to run longer distances. 5-7 year olds will run 1000m; 8-10 year olds will run 2000m and 11-12 year olds will run 3000m. Races will begin at 11:15 am.

At the conclusion of the run children will have the opportunity to purchase a special lunch which is being organised by the P&C. Parents and friends are invited to be part of this special sporting occasion so we hope you can join us on the day. ***Students who suffer from asthma need to carry their puffer.***



*Mr McCormick presented certificates to our students who entered the competition*

### WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

**When:** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May

**Time:** 8:30 am

**Where:** Carberry Park

**How:** Students will walk to school under the supervision of teachers.

This event will conclude with breakfast. Orders are due in by Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May. A separate note with more information was sent home today.

### OUT OF UNIFORM DAY

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May the P&C will be holding an out of uniform day to collect hamper items for our raffle.

Please bring in an item to contribute:

Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2	Cleaning item
Year 3 and 4	Grocery item
Year 5 and 6	Gardening item

### SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Our next school assembly will be held this Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016 commencing at 12.40 pm in the school hall.

Host class will be Year 1. All welcome to attend.

### STUDENT OF THE WEEK

<b>Kinder</b>	Ned Green
<b>Year 1</b>	Gilbert Crane
<b>Year 2</b>	Jayden Worldon
<b>Year 3</b>	Jamie-Lee Bowditch
<b>Year 4</b>	Sebastian Smith
<b>Year 5</b>	Sidney Cotterill
<b>Year 6</b>	Blair Pollack



### LIBRARY BORROWING...

Remember Tuesday is Library borrowing day for all students at Gundagai Public School. Please bring your library bag to school each Tuesday.

### SOUNDS OF THE MOUNTAINS

Each Wednesday morning at 10.30 am tune into FM 94.3 for Gundagai Public School news and upcoming events. Our hosts this week are Claudia Jones and Clayton Smith.



## P & C NEWS

### SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY CATERING:

Volunteers are still being asked to help the fundraising team with catering at the Cross Country Carnival tomorrow. If you can lend a hand have not responded as yet, simply go to the fundraising Facebook page or feel free to see the team at the BBQ tomorrow and jump in and help.

### STREET STALL

Our street stall will be held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May. Everyone in the school is invited to contribute to this fundraiser. Please drop your items to the street stall on the day.

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May we will be holding an out of uniform day to collect hamper items for our raffle.

Please bring in an item to contribute:

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2	Cleaning item
Year 3 and Year 4	Grocery item
Year 5 and Year 6	Gardening item



We will also be asking for volunteers to spend one hour sitting on the stall. Sitting on the stall is really easy and involves selling cakes, selling 100 Club tickets and raffle tickets. If you could spare an hour it would be most appreciated. Please return slip attached.

### NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

The P&C now have a fundraising face book group. This is to be used for organising fundraising. To join the group go to Gundagai Public School P&C on Facebook.

*Thank you, fundraising committee*



### CANTEEN ROSTER

Week 4	Monday 16 May	Wednesday 18 May
	Hayley Monte and Shannon Whiting	Melissa Merrin and Meredith Tait
Week 5	Monday 23 May	Wednesday 25 May
	Lin Murray and Stacey Smith	Elicia Bond and Angela Doughty

