**Greta Public School News**

**COURAGE AND LOYALTY**

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Email greta-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone 49387331
Fax 49387230

Term 1 Week 7
12th March 2015

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### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| 13th March | **Tomorrow** - School Cross Country  
8yrs & up - Walking to oval to start at 9.30am  
5-7yrs - At school after lunch |
| 18th March | **P & C Meeting**  
25th March - **P & C Annual General Meeting** |
| 1st April | **Kindergarten Excursion**  
2nd April - Easter Hat Parade, Yr 6 Sausage Sizzle and P&C Easter Raffle Draw (further information re Sausage Sizzle will be sent home shortly) **Last Day of Term** |
| 21st April | **First Day Term Two** (Tuesday)**ASSEMBLIES TERM 1 - 2015**  
@ 2.10pm in the School Hall  
24th Mar - **Year 5 Item** |

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### Class Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KP</td>
<td>Eli F, Aden L, Jacob H, Jade S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hope D, Leanne R, Lawson S, Brock M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Beau D, Jack H, Sarah P, Lilly L, Izabella B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Alex W, Zara C, Logan D, Oscar M, Braiden M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kimberley L, Jack P, James A, Laura P, Isoa K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aisha H, Tristan W, Dekan B, Makayla L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dayne B, Josh F, Olivia P, Skadi B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jessica M, Jorja P, Emma V, Jaidan C, Jordan L</td>
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### Citizenship Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Haleigha V, 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jace E, 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Haylea L, 5</td>
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</tbody>
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### Dojo Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Dakota D, 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sumalee S, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jase C, 5</td>
</tr>
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The 2015 Kindergarten Photo will be in the Maitland Mercury on the 18th March is you wish to purchase a copy!!

WOO HOO !!!
WE ARE IN STARSTRUCK DETAILS TO FOLLOW!!!

This issue of BOOK CLUB Are due back at school By Monday 16th March
EASTER RAFFLE
The P&C are having their annual Easter Raffle, this will be drawn on the last day of school in conjunction with the Easter Hat Parade/Yr 6 Sausage Sizzle on Thursday 2nd March 2015. Raffle tickets are attached to this newsletter raffle tickets. If you could please return any sold or unsold raffle books to the school office or canteen by the 1/4/2015. We are asking families to donate to the school any Easter Eggs etc for us to use as raffle prizes. The more donations we get the more raffle prizes we will have. If you could drop these into the canteen or office this would be greatly appreciated and enable us to keep costs down. All money raised benefits the school and your child/children.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION NEW AGM DATE !!!!
Next Wednesday 18th March is our monthly P&C Meeting and the following week on Wed 25th March 2015 the AGM will be held. All positions will be opened for nominations. The positions needing to be filled are:-

PRESIDENT, VICE - PRESIDENT X 2, SECRETARY, TREASURER

IF THE ABOVE POSITIONS ARE NOT FILLED, UNFORTUNATELY THE P&C WILL HAVE TO FOLD AND THIS WILL RESULT IN NO CANTEEN AND NO UNIFORM SHOP. IN ADDITION TO THAT ALL MONEY PREVIOUSLY RAISED AND IN THE BANK ACCOUNT CAN BE GIVEN TO OTHER SCHOOLS FOR THEIR P&C.

We also require volunteers for the Canteen and Uniform Shop:-
CANTEEN CO-ORDINATOR, UNIFORM SHOP CO-ORDINATOR

AS ABOVE, IF THESE TWO POSTIONS ARE NOT FILLED THEN WE WILL BE WITHOUT A CANTEEN AND UNIFORMS WILL HAVE TO BE SOURCED ELSEWHERE.

To be able to be nominated for any of the above positions you need to be a paid member of the P&C which costs $1.00 (membership forms are available from the office). This money will need to be paid prior to the AGM at our next P&C meeting being held Wednesday 18th March @1.30pm in the School Library. If you are unable to attend the AGM and wish to hold one of the above positions please see the ladies in the office or canteen for a nomination form.

The P&C Canteen raise substantial amounts of money that goes towards the betterment of our children’s education. This can be a great opportunity to socialise and have an input into your child’s education. So please consider being a member and/or holding a position for the benefit of our children.

Regards
Jackie Lowe
P&C Treasurer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS</th>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAYS - 8.45AM - 12.00 MIDDAY</td>
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<tr>
<th>CANTEEN ROSTER</th>
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<tr>
<td>13th Mar Kayla, Maryanne</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th Mar Bee, Bec</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th Mar Lauren, Maryanne</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th Mar Pat, Amanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th Mar Pat, Lynette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Mar Kristen, Sasha</td>
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| 23rd Mar Bee, Bec |
| 24th Mar Sandra, Belinda |
| 25th Mar Pat, Maryanne |
| 26th Mar Pat, Amanda |

NSW Family Energy Rebate

2014-2015
NSW Family Energy Rebate

$150* TOWARDS ENERGY BILLS

APPLY ONLINE NOW!

Apply before Midnight 16 June 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE
PHONE - Service NSW 13 77 86
EMAIL - fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au
WEB - www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au
info@familyenergyrebate
Principal’s News

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

- Leo Buscaglia -

Where has the time gone? Here we are – its Autumn, two months down and we are into the second half of Term 1! Is it because we have been so busy, so involved in our learning and making new friends? For me the term continues to be an exciting adventure of getting to know students who are trying very hard to learn and grow into responsible and respectful citizens, many you will meet throughout this newsletter. This week I have included a letter I penned to three students who took the ‘bravest of steps’ and voiced their opinion about a school practice in such a grown up way. What a wonderful example of democracy in action.

Our student welfare policy remains an important part of our school practice in keeping children safe and happy at school. This term the teachers and I have been concentrating on reminding students about our school rules and department expectations around behaviour at school. As a Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL) school our consistent approach to implementing our student welfare policy is the path to creating a safe and happy learning environment. I have included the core school rules below and ask for your support in following these up at home with your children regularly.

Core Rules for students in all NSW Government Schools

Students in NSW government schools are provided with a high quality education so that they may learn to the best of their ability and become self-disciplined, tolerant, enterprising and contributing members of the school and community.

These core rules for student behaviour have been developed to establish consistent expectations in all government schools in support of these aims. They are based on the core values of integrity, excellence, respect, responsibility, cooperation, participation, care, fairness and democracy.

The critical role of parents and carers is recognised as the primary influence on each child’s character and behaviour and as essential partners in supporting the core rules and the successful education of their children.

All students in NSW government schools are expected to:

· Maintain a neat appearance, including adhering to the requirements of the school’s uniform or dress code policy
· Attend every school day, unless they are legally excused, and be in class on time and prepared to learn
· Behave safely, considerately and responsibly, including when travelling to and from school
· Show respect at all times for teachers, other school staff and helpers, including following class rules, speaking courteously and cooperating with instructions and learning activities
· Treat one another with dignity and respect
· Care for property belonging to themselves, the school and others.

Behaviour that infringes on the safety of others, such as harassment, bullying and illegal or anti-social behaviour of any kind, will not be tolerated.

P&C Meetings

Don’t forget our March P&C meeting is on Wed 18th March and the AGM is on the 25th March. If you are unable to attend the P&C meetings but would like to share an idea or concern or have a discussion around an issue please consider putting your thoughts in writing and give to a P&C member to share on your behalf. The P&C works hard to provide support for all students at our school and your help is always welcomed.

Parent Meetings

If you would like to meet with your child’s teacher or the Principal please remember to make an appointment through the office either via a phone call or in person. Appointments are necessary as teachers may be on class, have playground duty or other commitments during the school day. If a face to face meeting is not possible then staff are happy to contact parents via phone at a negotiated time.

Student Hygiene

Last week we installed new soap dispensers in both the girl’s and boy’s toilets. These dispensers are sturdier than the plastic ones. Unfortunately the boys have just about used all the soap in just a few days through being silly and careless. Please have a chat with your children about using school resources sensibly and not being wasteful. If this behaviour continues we may have to introduce supervised toilet breaks at set times of the day.
Social Media
Our school has embraced social media with its own school website and school APP. I encourage you to check both regularly and use it as a way of communicating with our school. The APP offers you a quick and easy way to alert us to student absences and allows us to share with you ‘hot off the press’ school news and changes to routine. We do not have a FACEBOOK page and nor do we contribute in any way to FACEBOOK sites. There are clear guidelines about the way schools use FACEBOOK and at the moment we have decided not to venture into this form of social media.

School Parking
Last week the Ranger visited again and monitored parking around the school. Please obey school parking signs at all times and for the safety of our students I ask that you do not enter the Staff Parking Area or park along this access point.

The school has only one entrance and exit point for ALL our students and their families and this is through the front gates – one for walkers, buses and pickups and one for bicycles. Please ensure you use these points of entry and exit at all times. Your cooperation in keeping our children safe around our school is much appreciated.

Approaching Students
Sadly I need to include this information again :- “Parents and caregivers are reminded that if there is a problem with any child in our school they should approach a teacher or come to the office to report the problem. It is our duty of care to ensure all our children feel safe and secure at school. Parents and caregivers are not to approach or reprimand any child personally at school.”

This past fortnight I have been notified of two occasions when parents have approached children within the school grounds. If this continues to happen I will be seeking further advice from legal branch around our responsibilities and refusing parents entry onto the school site. Your cooperation in this matter would be much appreciated.
Dear Breannah, Ariella and Kaysha,

Thank you very much for sharing your thoughts about how we use the fixed equipment at school. I really liked how you put your concerns in a letter to me and I was pleased to be able to take it to this week’s staff meeting for discussion.

We considered your points of view and shared your concerns about the fixed equipment not being challenging enough for you and your friends anymore.

The teachers agreed to the following:
- Kindergarten to Year 6 can use the fixed equipment at recess and lunch breaks.
- Kindergarten and Year 1 are the only students allowed on the junior equipment.

**Flying fox:** You must be able to reach the flying fox yourself in order to use it. No one can help you up and you must hold on using both hands – not feet. Pushing other students along is not permitted, unless you are stuck and need assistance in swinging across.

**Slide:** Only one person at a time may be on the slide, you must go down the slide feet first and while seated on your bottom. Climbing up the slide is not permitted.

**Safety:** No balls, running, chasings or tips games can be played in this area.

Thank you for displaying such RESPONSIBLE behaviour in bringing this situation to our attention in such a RESPECTFUL way.

Wishing you and your friends lots of fun and enjoyment while using our fixed equipment safely at school.

In friendship,

Mrs Schmarr on behalf of Greta PS Staff.

Principal

_We develop RESPECTFUL and RESPONSIBLE citizens who give their PERSONAL BEST._
DRUMMING

Once again our drumming program is well underway. What a wonderful opportunity for the students to engage in such an educational and fun activity. This has proven to be a hit and we are seeing many budding musicians at each session. As you can see it is also very enjoyable for our students and staff.