“It takes a whole village to raise a child.” African Proverb

Principal’s News

Children need the collective efforts of the whole community if they are to be the best they can be. They need support and positive influences. It is essential for the home, school and community to work together in harmony as children learn from what they see, what they hear and what they feel. No single part can make a difference but as a united team we can create a happy, safe and respectful environment where our children will grow and reach their goals.

We are celebrating the wonderful success of one of our students this week...... ‘CONGRATULATIONS Lewis’ who ran into 4th place at the recent Regional Cross Country and now heads to Sydney to compete in the State Cross Country very soon.

Our school continues to recover after the ‘weather event’ as do a number of sport and recreational fields around our community and within the Maitland and Cessnock areas. Many sporting events, which we were keen for our students to take part in before the floods are now, back on our calendar. Thank you to staff – teachers and student learning support officers, who have been busy training our teams, organising our entries and permission notes. To make our involvement in the events possible we rely greatly on the generosity of our parents through parent drivers, helpers at the event and supporting our teams or dancers. If you are able to assist in any way please see the teacher’s organising the events: Mrs Hemsworth - Soccer, Mr Quinn - Football/AFL, Mrs Ferguson or Mrs Gilmour - Star Struck, Mrs Parrey - Netball.

Next week we introduce two support programs which will meet the needs of individual students – ‘What is the BUZZ!’ and ‘Cool Kids’. Both these programs will help grow and develop social skills like resilience, cooperation and perseverance in our students. Thank you to Mrs Ferguson (Learning and Support Teacher) and Mrs Peak (School Counsellor) for planning and delivering these programs in Terms 2 & 3.

Last week I attended a Principal’s meeting at Maitland District Office where much was discussed including the new ‘Supported Students, Successful Students - Behaviour Code For Students’. This new behaviour code will continue to support schools and families by providing students with clear expectations of behaviour. Teachers and students will be looking at and talking about the new code of behaviour in classes over the coming weeks. I have attached the new Behaviour Code for Students so that you may continue the discussion at home as well.

Working together with families, staff and community to ensure all our children are happy and safe at school and achieving their best at all times.

Mrs Jayne Schmarr
Principal
Chook Fling and Book Fair
Well that was a 'FUN-TAST-TIC' day! The children and staff looked fantastic in their costumes and it was great to have so many parents, family and community members come along and support the day. Well done to the following students who picked the winning numbers in the ‘Chook Fling’.
1st – Jordan Bienke,
2nd – Renae Robinson,
3rd – Jackson Hall and
4th – Harvey Wolf.
A BIG thank you to Ms Page, Mrs Brown, Mr Crouch and the ladies in the office for all their hardwork in preparing and organising the event – it was truly a team effort.

Congratulations to Mrs Pearce for organising the book fair. There were certainly some interesting and quality books for sale. Thank you to everyone who supported the book fair by purchasing a book or two – through your generosity our library will soon be bursting with new books for your children to enjoy.

Crunch & Sip Program
We support the Crunch & Sip Program and as such parents should endeavour to see that items either brought to school or ordered from the canteen provide a sound nutritional diet for children. Each child should have a piece of fruit or fresh vegetables to ‘CRUNCH’ on during Veggie & Fruit Break as well as something healthy for recess and lunch (eg. sandwiches, wraps, cheese and crackers, fresh salad, veggies and fruit). Each classroom has a fridge for the children to use. Children are allowed to have drink bottles with WATER only in classrooms and are encouraged to ‘SIP’ during the day. Foods and drinks high in sugar or preservatives are known to impair a child’s ability to learn and we strongly discourage parents sending chocolate / lollies and other ‘junk’ foods to school.

Contacting Teachers
If you would like to see a teacher about your child or have a concern you would like to raise with your child’s teacher please follow the correct practice. Contact the front office in person or over the phone to organise a time to meet with the teacher or leave a phone number and the teacher will contact you as soon as possible. Teachers will usually make contact during the next break or in their release time. Trying to discuss issues or concerns, with teachers, while they are on playground duty or as they are entering the classroom with their students for a morning of learning is not an appropriate time.

During the school day teachers are responsible for their class, completing playground duties and other commitments. Teachers really want to listen carefully to your concerns and help address or problem solve and this is best done when there is an agreed time, away from distractions or other responsibilities.

School Hours
School hours are from 8.55 am–2.55 pm, with a recess break from 11.00 am—11.30 am and lunch from 1.10 pm – 1.50 pm.

The school playground is not supervised prior to 8.30 am, so children should not arrive at school before that time. Children at school before 8.30 am are expected to sit in a designated area until playground duty starts at 8.30 am. We ask that students be picked up promptly at the conclusion of the school day. Teachers and staff have numerous after school commitments such as staff and committee meetings, professional learning and student planning meetings as well as lesson preparation time.

In line with the current school policy implemented in 2012 parents and carers are asked to remain outside the school gate when delivering their children to school and/or collecting their children in the afternoon. If you are on the school grounds between 8.55 am and 2.55 pm you are required to sign in as a VISITOR in the front office – this is a WHS issue. Classroom and canteen helpers are also required to sign in at the front office during school hours. Over the coming months the school will be reviewing this policy in light of the new security fence and exiting of students through the single gate.

Walk Safely To School Day Fri 22nd May
Next Friday we will be recognising Walk Safely To School Day with breakfast for the children (provided by the canteen) @ 8.00 am. Children will need to bring maximum of $3.00 to enable them to purchase some breakfast and a drink. A note will come home on Monday, if you could please indicate if your child/children will be attending for catering purposes. Many thanks for your assistance.

PRINCIPAL’S STAR
OF THE WEEK

GREAT WORK !!!
WELL DONE!!!
P & C NEWS

The new P&C committee has hit the ground running, the last meeting was jam packed with canteen updates, suggestions and principal reports. So to keep up to date with P&C happenings we encourage you, if you are interested, to view the minutes now held at the office.

CANTEEN NEWS

The new menu has been a great success but we need to remind everyone that there is price increases. When sending money with your children please refer to the new menu, we have attached another copy for your reference. The new prices will be officially in place from Monday 18th May 2015. After this date we will be asking children to choose an alternative if they are short of money. Many thanks for your assistance in this matter.

We’d like to thank everyone for their support during this changeover period and look forward to introducing new menu items for your children to sample!

FUNDRAISING NEWS

This year there will be some fun activities coming up to help our school gather much-needed funds for all the extras that help to make our school great.

The much loved Thompsons Pie Drive will be back in time for all the cold nights, and students can look forward to a great night out at a school disco.

Please also see the attached Order Form for BEK Aromatics, a local business that sells lush candles, diffusers and soap products. A portion of the sales will go to the GPS P&C and will in turn benefit our children!

If you wish to place an order please leave your order and payment at the office by 4th June and your fabulous products will be available for pick up from the 18th June.

Congratulations to Jackie Lowe who will be the Secretary for the fundraising committee, and treasurer for the P&C (this lady sure knows how to multitask!)

If you have any concerns or suggestions please contact us via greta-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au, attention P&C or come along to our meetings usually held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th May at 1.00pm to 2.30pm in the Library so please come along, new ideas and faces are truly welcome.

Regards
Krista Findlay-Egerton
Secretary

Greta Public School - Future Enrolments

Child’s Name ____________________________  Date of Birth ___________
Address _________________________________  Phone No. _____________
Parent Name/s __________________________________________________
Preschool Name _________________________________________________
Year starting school ___________________________

This information will be used for planning. If you are able to give us any details about future enrolments it will be of benefit to us. Otherwise, this slip may be given to a friend or neighbour to be filled out by them and returned by your child.

Extra slips are available from the office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00AM - 11.30AM</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CANTEEN ROSTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra, Belinda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bec, Louise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren L, Sarah R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat, Renee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat, Lynette</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renee, Kayla</td>
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ICAS Competitions
Greta Public School will offer 2 ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) exams to interested students in 2015. These exams provide useful feedback on your child’s achievements compared to other students of the same grade throughout Australia and overseas. Last year we received a number of credits which was very pleasing for those students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Exam Date</th>
<th>Child to Sit Exam (✓)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>28th July</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>11th August</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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I want my child………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………… of class …………………………………………… to sit the above (✓) exams and have included payment of $8.80 for each exam.

For more information please see Ms Rummery.

Please fill out the above form and return to school with payment by Thursday 25th June.

Note: We do need at least 3 students to enrol in each subject. If this does not happen, money will be refunded.

Hunter Massage

Opening Sunday 17th May at Branxton Community Hall

• Private Health Insurance Rebate
• EFTPOS
• Fully Insured
• $75 hr.

Melanie Treay
Diploma Remedial Massage
PH: 0428985116
www.huntermassage.com.au

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