**Principal’s News**

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”  
Henry Ford

Well here we are a few days away from the Spring break. Our school terms are such busy times that the weeks literally fly by. We finish Term 3 on a high with much too celebrate including the **GPS Art Show** and Grandparents morning tea and sing-a-long. I hope you found time to wander through the school hall this week to see the work of the children – I was in awe of the talent and skills of the children and teachers to create such wonderful pieces. **So what was your favourite?** Well I had two - the moths and butterflies and the dream catchers. Congratulations to all the students who enjoyed and gave their best in RAW ART and I am thrilled we were able to provide this program for all our children through our Resource Allocation Method (RAM) of school funding.

I would also like to ‘CONGRATULATE’ all the staff of GPS for strongly supporting our Positive Behaviour Learning (PBL) core beliefs of **Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best**. Fridays, being sport days and the day our Year 6 wear their special shirts was the chosen day for more casual yet respectful attire of a school staff shirt and jeans or pants. The new staff shirt includes our **Greta Gecko** and our core beliefs and clearly identifies us as staff on site. Wearing a uniform connects people to a community and provides a safe and respectful environment for all to work and learn in.

This week Mrs Ferguson and I are on Long Service Leave and I thank Ms French for leading the school into the holidays. In Term 4 students and staff return to school on **TUESDAY 6th October**. Wishing everyone a safe and happy break and thank you for your support throughout Term 3.

**Outstanding Accounts**

Mrs Hill and Mrs Schmarr will be finalising the 2015 school budget in preparation for the Annual School Financial Rollover early next term and ask that all outstanding accounts be paid during Weeks 1 and 2 in term 4. Thank you.

*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

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**Website:**  
www.greta-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

**Keep up to date with happenings at our school via the:**  
Greta Public School App

**School Hours**

Supervision from: 8.30am  
Classes Start: 8.55am  
School finishes: 2.55pm

**Term Assembly Dates**

Tuesdays at 2.10pm in the Hall  
( Fortnightly )

**Messages**

**KA-U-MA Play To Learn**  
Term 4 (9.30am - 11.30am)  
12th Oct  
26th Oct  
9th Nov  
23rd Nov  
7th Dec

(Book Club will not be back till next term)

**Notes to be Returned**

**Dates to Remember**

18th Sept - Last day of Term 3  
6th Oct - First day of Term 4

**P&C Information:**  
**Next Meeting**

**Canteen Open**  
Monday - Friday

**Uniform Shop**  
Tuesdays Only  
9.00 - 11.00AM
School News

Parking Around Schools
Unfortunately while we were all enjoying the Art Show and Grandparents concert parking became an issue for residents along the street in front of the school. When parking for such events please be mindful of parking across or in residents driveways. I have advised such residents to contact the Council Ranger if this happens again and have included an update on the possible penalties of doing so.

Bike Safety
Last week our Year 5/6 program led by Snr Constable Gray, Police Youth Liaison Officer, Snr Constable O’Riley from the Singleton PCYC and Snr Constable Bastick from the Muswellbrook PCYC concluded with a bike safety and community day. We thank our special guests for delivering such important messages to our students around keeping themselves safe, their responsibilities and consequences for behaving inappropriately – fighting, swearing and bullying. During the school community afternoon many bicycles were inspected and sadly and very worryingly I can report only ONE bike passed the safety test. The holidays are a great time to look more closely at your children’s bikes and ensure they are road worthy and safe for riding. I have included some of the safety messages below:

- Cyclists of all ages are required by law to wear an Australian and New Zealand Standard (AS/NZS 2063) approved helmet that is securely fitted and fastened on the rider’s head.
- Children under 12 years and older riders who are accompanying and supervising them may ride bikes on the footpath unless there are signs that specifically prohibit cycling. Riders must keep to the left and give way to pedestrians.
- Children 12 years and over must not ride on the footpath unless it is signposted as a shared footpath. When riding on the road they should keep to the left, as traffic does, and they should use a marked bicycle lane wherever possible.
- By law, bicycles must be fitted with a working brake and bell and if used at night the bike must have a front white light, a rear red light and a rear red reflector. This is a parent and carers responsibility.
- A safety check should be done prior to every time a child rides a bicycle.

Year 5 and 6 Youth Development Program
On Thursday 10th September our last session of the Term 3 fortnightly Youth Development Program was delivered to our Year 5 and 6 students. Students and teachers invited Senior Constable Gray, Senior Constable O’Riley and Senior Constable Bastick to join us in a sausage sizzle lunch to say thank you for presenting this program at Greta Public School. The program highlighted many of the important roles our senior students model in being good citizens within our school and wider community. Our visitors were thanked formally by Vice Captains Jorja Pauling and Will Robinson. Students participated enthusiastically throughout the program and gained a small insight into some of the roles our Police perform.

Ms French
School News

SENTRAL SMS Absence & New Messages System
Thank you for supporting the new SENTRAL SMS Absence system introduced earlier this term. This method of notifying us of your child’s absences has proven to both be very efficient and effective. To get the best out of this system I have once again provided some points to consider when receiving and responding to messages from the school. Children will be marked as an unjustified absence if these procedures are not followed, as Sentral provides a limited number of options for us to employ when dealing with replies.

- Please ensure your mobile phone number is kept up to date.
- If you wish to query an absence message, you must call the school on 4938 7331 between 8.30am and 3.30pm.
- Responding with a question or query will result in your child being marked unjustified.
- An SMS can only be sent to one contact from each family. It is the expectation of Greta Public School that separated parents communicate with each other regarding the wellbeing and attendance of their children. If your child is staying with their other parent and you respond to a message and do not provide an explanation, your child will be marked as an unjustified absence.
- You cannot notify of absences in advance via SMS. Paper notes or phone calls to the office are acceptable means to communicate extended absences.

- A separate SMS response must be sent for each message received.
- Only the child the SMS is regarding should be explained in your reply. Please do not respond for multiple children in one message.
- Multiple days and multiple children cannot be explained in one SMS message.
- A message can only be responded to during the day you receive it. The number used to send the message will become unavailable at the end of each day.

Earn and Learn

Last weeks total was - 14,400
Our GRAND total is - 18,893 BRILLIANT !!!!
Our target amount - 15,000

WOW, WOW, WOW !!!!! we cannot believe how supportive you all have been this is a fantastic effort and our children will be the winners with all the new resources we will be able to obtain.

We thank you for all for your support of Greta Public School.

Thank you for the artworks made by your students submitted for this exhibition. It was quite difficult to select from those schools that submitted up to 6 artworks as there were many excellent artworks to choose from.

Please find below artworks selected for Face 2 Face submitted from your school.

Could you please check spelling of names and other details and confirm with me as soon as possible by Thursday this week 17 September as all labels will be made from this information.

Don’t forget the Special Face 2 Face Celebration at the gallery on Sunday 27 September at 11am. And the exhibition dates are 26 September – 29 November. I hope you can bring your children to see the exhibition.

Kind regards
Anne

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Artwork</th>
<th>Medium</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tyler</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Greta Public School</td>
<td>Festive Faces</td>
<td>all pastel on paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Greta Public School</td>
<td>Fractured Faces</td>
<td>crayon and coloured pencil on paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Greta Public School</td>
<td>After Modigliani</td>
<td>acrylic paint on paper</td>
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</tbody>
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Gold Coast Raffle and Fundraising

Tickets are available now - $2.00 each or buy books at $40.00
Ticket books are available for purchase at the canteen from Jackie, Bernadette or Sasha.

Masters BBQ – Monday 5th October – Volunteers are needed. This is a great fundraiser for beautifying our school, please help if you can!

Did You Know?

That the P&C enables parents to have a voice on what happens at the school?

That we help decide on everything from the colour and style of uniform, how the grounds may be made more up to date, we help raise money for sports and other school supplies, decide on the canteen menu and so much more!

Our meetings are a place for debate, discussion and ideas and mainly decision-making. If you have any ideas that you think would benefit the students please either contact us or come to a meeting. If we don’t have enough members attend meetings then we cannot make vital decisions that affect your children.

If you have any concerns or suggestions please contact us via greta-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au, attention P&C.

Have a fantastic break!

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.
What a fabulous day stage 1 had on their excursion at Tocal Homestead. We were greeted by Robyn and Phillip dressed in period costumes and taken on an outside tour of the Homestead and farm buildings. Then we all took part in some great hands-on activities which included - Filling washing tubs by carrying water in wooden buckets and attached to a yoke. Then we had to wash the sheets using a washing board then wring them out and hang on the line using wooden dolly pegs. We had the opportunity to dress-up in period clothes and play games like jacks, hoops and throwing horse shoes. We watched a working Blacksmith use an old fashioned billows and create some horseshoes and checked out the old fashion kitchen and cooking appliances. The part I enjoyed the most was the tour inside the house when the children had to set the table for a three course meal using the correct cutlery and napkins in the correct order. It was a great day with the children experiencing what life was like in the olden days and learning some historical stories about local Bushranger Thunderbolt. If you would like to google Tocal Homestead you will be able see some pictures of our excursion. Thank you to our parent helpers for their assistance on the day, it was greatly appreciated. All the parents of stage 1 students should be very proud of their children as we were congratulated by the Tocal staff on their fabulous behaviour and manners.

A great day was had by all.

Mrs Bateman

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**Community News**

**Branxton-Greta Little Athletics Centre**

Branxton-Greta Little Athletics is a small and friendly local Little Athletics Centre, which runs with parent help and assistance.

- **Age:** Children 3 years - 12 years as of the 30th Sept ’15.
- **When:** Tuesdays, starting 6th October
- **Time:** 4:30pm until 6:00pm.
- **Bring:** Closed in shoes and a large water bottle
- **Where:** Miller Park Clubhouse, at the back of the building.

Parental assistance is essential and a

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**OLD BATTERIES**

PLEASE HELP US TO SAVE THE PLANET AND BRING IN YOUR OLD BATTERIES FOR RECYCLING.

**NO CAR BATTERIES !!!**