Term 1 Week 5
25th February 2016

Playground Incident
"Today a .22 round was brought to school and discharged when thrown onto the playground. One student was treated for minor injuries by ambulance officers but did not need to go to hospital. Police were contacted, appropriate disciplinary action is being taken and a School Counsellor has spoken to all classes. Further counselling support is available should any children need it. If so, please contact the office."

Zone Swimming Carnival – A gallant team of swimmers from Greta represented at the Maitland Zone Swimming Carnival last Tuesday 23 February at Maitland Pool. There were 6 top ten finishes by our swimmers however, due to the times needed for qualifying, they were just outside progressing to regional level.

From all accounts our representatives were marvellous ambassadors for Greta Public School – well-behaved, respectful and displaying good sportsmanship.

To all our swimmers, give yourself a pat on the back – well done!

Learn to Swim Program – The Swimming and Water Safety Program kicked off this week with sunny days and increasing temperatures. Due to the warm conditions please ensure that your child has sunscreen and a rash shirt for sun protection.

Getting Notes and Money in by the Due Date – Unfortunately we had to decline a number of late applications for the Swimming and Water Safety Program as the notes and money were not returned by the due date.

Our intention is for all students to be able to participate in programs however, there are organisational deadlines that have to be met ahead of the starting date and because of this, we set a date where notes and money must be returned.

Given the short notice for the Swimming Program, the offer was made to phone the school to make arrangements for late payment if it caused difficulty. Many families made the call to school before the cut-off date, an agreement was made and their child/ren were allowed to participate.

When a note for an excursion or event comes home, please check to see just when the closing date is and, if you need to make a financial arrangement with the school, please do so before the closing date. We really don’t want to see children miss out.

Young Leaders Conference – Our school leadership team travel to Sydney next Monday 29 February to attend this inspirational and motivational event. They will hear from a range of high profile speakers who will inspire them with their personal stories, many of which carry a theme of perseverance and dogged-persistence to get them to where they are.

We look forward to hearing about the conference when they return.

Regards,
Graeme Oke
Parking Patrols - Parents are advised that Cessnock City Council Rangers will be randomly visiting the school to patrol the 5 minute parking zone. The 5 minute parking zone is basically a space for 'drop offs and pick ups'. Fines do apply and will be imposed for infringements. We ask all parents to respect the 5 minute limit for everyone's benefit.

PSSA Cricket vs Kurri Kurri PS – Good luck to our cricket team when they play Kurri on Friday. Thanks also to grandparent, Mr Kedwell who has been assisting Mr Quinn with honing the skills of our players.

Transition to High School – Earlier this week, Mr Whiting, Principal of Rutherford Technology High School, talked to Year 5 & 6 students and parents. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend. Students were given an invitation to visit Rutherford Technology High School next Tuesday 1 March between 5:30 and 6:30 pm for a guided tour of the school and its facilities. The 20 million dollar refurbishment has seen some great additions for the school. Whilst it is still on-going many new classrooms are being opened and used.

School Photos
Our school photo day is scheduled for next Wednesday 2nd March. All children received their photo envelope. **Please return the envelope with money enclosed on the day of the photos** (this envelope goes straight to the photographer not the school office). Please do not send envelope in prior to photo day. Family photo envelopes are available at the school office.

The “Tell Them From Me” student feedback survey
This term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey for students in *Years 4, 5 and 6*. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

The survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A non-consent form was sent home attached to the newsletter last week. **If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the non-consent form to school by Monday 29th February.** The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.
Hey You Mob !!!

Are you hearing about NDIS but don’t know what it’s about??

Come along and yarn with someone who works within the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). Ask the questions that you’ve been thinking.

Who should come?

Are you a person with a disability and aged under 64 years?

Or do you know a family member or friend?

Do you live in Cessnock, Kurri Kurri or Maitland area?

Come along and get all the info about why you might like to register for the NDIS,

how you do that and what happens next…

Wednesday 2nd March 2016

10am till 2pm

Barkuma Neighbourhood Centre 76 Lang Street, Kurri Kurri

4937 1094
School Information

Just a reminder that if your child has been prescribed medication that you feel he/she needs to be administered at school it is essential for the following form to be completed. Bring in or send in the form along with the chemist labelled medication to the school office. (Preferably an adult deliver the medication).

School Medication Consent and Directions

Parent Permission

Date ________________

Child ________________________________________ Birthdate ____________

Address _____________________________________ Phone ____________

GRETA PUBLIC SCHOOL … Class ______

Medication and instructions ____________________________________________

Prescribed by _______________________ Date of prescription _______________

Doctor’s phone number ________________________

I hereby consent for the above-named school to supervise the medication prescribed above by the above-named physician/parent.

Signed ___________________________

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EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When your child misses just...</th>
<th>that equals...</th>
<th>which is...</th>
<th>and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...</th>
<th>This means that the best your child can achieve is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day each fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 1/2 years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day a week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 1/2 years of school</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days a week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years of learning</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days a week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years of learning</td>
<td>Equal to finishing Year 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!