



Gillwinga Public School

A leader in Excellence Innovation & Opportunity

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Issue No 3 Term 4

26th October, 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians,

For the past 12 weeks, Kiara Hankinson, from 5/6B has been involved in a very exciting online learning program for Gifted and Talented students (EGats). The EGats program is an interactive sequence of lessons that has been set up by the North Coast Regional office to provide challenging tasks for our Gifted Students.

Kiara was one of only 60 students selected to participate in this program, which included students from as far South as the Hunter, as far North as the Tweed and as far East as Lord Howe Island!

Throughout the past 12 weeks, Kiara has had the opportunity to complete a number of online "tasks" on the very interesting topic of "It's Puzzling". Each week, Kiara was able to select her preferred activity from a list of tasks around this subject, which was then submitted online. The quality of her work was always exceptional - especially her Justin Beiber impersonation!

The project concluded on Friday at Woolgoolga Public School with a fantastic Gala Day where all of the EGats students were given an opportunity to display their major tasks and make a 5 minute presentation on their learning. Kiara's presentation on the "Puzzling Methods of Advertising" was well researched and excellently presented. We are all very proud of her efforts. Congratulations Kiara.



Included with the newsletter today is a specialist programs survey which will identify the strengths and areas for further development as part of the evaluation process of key programs in our school. Parents are invited to participate in this survey. Again we ask that the children do not answer the questions as they will be given their own survey here at school. The results of the survey will be published in the 2010 Annual School Report and it will also guide the school in terms of setting school targets for 2011. Please return the survey by Monday, 1st November, 2010

As a Water Wise school Gillwinga students celebrated National Water Week last week. Our school continues to be water efficient, catching rainwater for the school toilets as well as a dual flush system. Miss Watters ran a series of lessons for 3/4W providing the students with the opportunity to investigate pollution in our waterways. Following is a report by students outlining their investigative process and what they learnt.

This week we looked at how pollution affects our water ways. We started with a clean tray of water and then added pollution to it based on what we learnt about people polluting. We added pollution that we find on the ground to show how much rubbish can be washed into our stormwater drains if people litter. At the end of the week we cleaned our waterway and we discovered that after one week the water had turned black from the pollution. We learnt the importance of clean drinking water and that we should not litter or put things down the drains.



Jacaranda Youth March

On Saturday, 30th October, the children will participate in the Jacaranda Youth March. As the theme is a beach one your child is asked to wear beach clothes. A hat and sunscreen are essential. **The band will also be playing; however we ask that the band children wear their school uniform.** We encourage as many children as possible to attend the March, with the expectation that the Captains and Prefects will attend. Representatives of the teaching staff will meet the children at the Civic Centre from 8:30. The March will begin at 9am.

Please be reminded that Jacaranda Day will be celebrated next Thursday, 4th November and staff will not be on duty at school on this day.

Coles Sports For Schools Program

Our school has been registered for this program. Every \$10 spent at Coles or Bi Lo from 2nd September to 31st October will earn 1 voucher. There is a collection box for when the vouchers are sent into school. The more vouchers collected the more sporting equipment the school receives.

Congratulations to our recent AAA award winners – Savannah Tochel, Chelsea Dwyer, Tegan Fallon, Krystelle Lentfer, Catherine Ferguson-Gardiner, Kalila Bell and Brooke Lilley. These children received their awards for consistent attendance, high achievement and excellent attitude.



Kind Regards
Colette Abrahall



Gold Award winners: Alyssa Chalker, Drew Cooper, Tamar Atkins-McHugh, Kyeasha Vinall, Jennifer Williams, Shonta Morris, Chelsea Dwyer, Shantelle Lentfer, Tiana Johnston, Kira Grant, Hailey Duroux, Joshua Tajber, Yuri Atkins McHugh, Catherine Ferguson-Gardiner and Megan Tillman.



Bronze Award winners: Candice Holloway, Shakira Tochel, Taybitha Wilson, Kristian Fletcher



Silver Award winners: Taylah Blackwell, Kayla Kaptein, Tatanya Whittaker, Brandi Chalker, Ashton Brown, Bailey Chalker, Alicia Fairbanks, Matthew Vermeulen-Smith, Letisha Sterling, Willy Ferguson-Gardiner, Georgia Nagle, Blayde Pacey, Joel Nielsen, Edan Stewart and Vale Taylor.



Writers of the Week: Jordan Hartmann
Tables champions of the Week: Shayla Holloway



Week 2 weekly award winners: Rhys Pepper, Tylah Connor, Cate Duroux, Jayden Wallace – Skinner, Hayley Philips, Jesse Ross, Anthony Napier, Charlie Ford, Matthew Vermeulen-Smith and Chellsee Holloway, Scotti Knight, Willy Ferguson – Gardiner, William West, Brianna Catalano, Samantha Duroux, Rhys Fordham and Ashton Brown.

Selective High School for 2010

Selective high schools are one strategy used by the Department of Education and Training to cater for the learning needs of gifted and talented students.

If you would like your child to go to a selective high school in Year 7 in 2012, you will need to apply soon.

From this year, all applications should be made online through an Internet connection. A limited number of application packages will be provided through the school shortly for those parents who do not have Internet access.

The website where you will find all the necessary information, including the list of selective high schools and the application portal is:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Parents will be able to apply online between 25 October and 22 November 2010.

School fees

Thanks are extended to the many parents who have paid the school/book pack fees. Term 4 fees are now due and a reminder is extended to those parents who have previous outstanding fees owing. We ask that these please be paid as soon as possible. For Years 1-6 Term fees are \$12.50 and for Kindergarten \$10.00 per child.

Tough teeth

Protect your child's teeth by encouraging them to eat well:

- Enjoy a wide variety of nutritious foods
- Enjoy healthy snacks
- Avoid snacking on sugary and sticky foods and sweets between meals
- Milk-based foods help protect your teeth
- Chew sugar-free gum to help protect your teeth.

Looking for a dental health clinic? The NSW Centre for Oral Health Strategy recommends calling (02) 8821 4300 during business hours and quoting your suburb. From there, parents will be given the contact details for their local oral health service.

Sun safety - five ways to be SunSmart this summer

The Cancer Council recommends these five ways to protect against sun damage when the SunSmart UV alert is 3 or above:

- Seek shade
- Wear protective clothing that covers your arms and legs and body
- Wear a broad-brimmed hat that shades your face and neck
- Wear wrap-around sunglasses

- Apply SPF30+ broad spectrum water-resistant sunscreen every two hours.

Find out more at www.cancercouncil.com.au/

Term 4 Dates:

CSI: Wed 27th; Nov 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th; Dec 1st, 8th, 15th

Ready, Set, Go Program: Mon Nov 1st, 8th

Gymnastics Program: Mon Nov 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th; Dec 6th, 13th

Footsteps dance program: Mon 25th Oct-Fri 29th Oct

Jacaranda Youth March: Sat 30th Oct

Jacaranda Day: Thurs 4th Nov – no staff will be at school this day.

Kindergarten Orientation: Tues 16th Nov

6-7 Orientation at SGHS: Thurs 25th Nov

Presentation Day: Tues 7th Dec

Year 6 farewell: Tues 8th Dec

Assembly of Appreciation: Fri 10th Dec

Class Parties: Mon 13th Dec

Last day for students: 15th Dec

Staff Development Days: Thurs & Fri 16th & 17th Dec



CANTEEN ROSTER

Wed 27th Oct: Michaela Kaptein

Thurs 28th Oct : Nolene Chevalley

Fri 29th Oct: Beth Herkess
Sharen Bagster

Mon 1st Nov: Sharon Wright

Tue 2nd Nov: Deneal Connelly

P&C NEWS

The major fundraiser for Term 4 will be a Christmas Hamper Raffle. Donations for our Christmas Raffle Hamper would be appreciated. A note with suggestions for donations will go home with children soon. Tickets will go home with children later in the Term.

School backpacks are available for purchase from the front office. They have been reduced to \$12.00.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Homework Centre

The homework centre at Camellia Cottage is restarting so if students need help with their homework or you don't have access to a computer to do your homework the centre will be open to help you. The centre is offering general homework help, project help, free access to computers for school work, and educational games. The centre is open from 4.00-5.00pm Wednesdays for Primary school aged children and 5.00-6.00pm Wednesdays for High School aged children. For more information call 66431566.

Junior Cricket

Junior cricket for girls and boys 5-9 years starts at Rushforth Park South Grafton on Saturday, 23rd October from 9.15-10.45am for 8 weeks. Cost is \$55 which includes a great starter pack. Phone Jason Thompson on 0432 565 553 for further information.

Bent Street Buddies

Playgroup Starts Thursday 14th October 10-11.30am. Music, dancing, games, craft, for ages 5 and under. Bent Street Uniting Church, Cnr Bent and Norrie Street, South Grafton.

Jacaranda

For a full listing of all events during Jacaranda Week check out the website

www.jacarandafestival.org.au

PLAYGROUP

For Dads & their kids

Term 4, starting on Thursday 21st October
10am to 12noon At the “Chataway Room”
Chataway Lane, Grafton (Crown Hotel end of
Prince Street, the little Street next to the
Pullen Centre.)

*Playgroup is FREE with morning tea provided
for Dads and children. Come and enjoy the
company of other dads while your children
play! Playgroup will run every 2nd Thursday
during the School Terms.*

**Dates for Term 4: 21st Oct, 4th Nov, 18th
Nov, 2nd Dec, 16th Dec.**

**For details contact Kristen at Community
Programs Inc. on 6642 7257.**