Welcome to Term 4! It’s great to be back with my beautiful class at our wonderful little school. My thanks go to Mrs. Mrljak for her hard work in ‘keeping the ship afloat’ in my absence. Whilst it is an amazing experience to visit foreign lands, it’s always great to be home in Australia, undoubtedly the best country in the world.

Coming up this weekend is our P&C Ball. We hope for a great turnout of revellers for a fun filled night, the proceeds of which go towards our children’s education. P&C members have devoted much time and energy in the planning and preparation for the evening and it’s not too late to secure a ticket.

Congratulations go to Mrs. Jasper who has secured a permanent position as the School Administrative Manager at Mt. View High School. We wish her well in her new position and thank her for her contributions to school life over the time she has been with us. Her position will be advertised in the near future.

We are very fortunate to have speech and occupational therapists working in our school with K-2 commencing this week. This is a government funded project aimed at early intervention and teacher education. Staff will be receiving specialist training and a parent information session will be run on 27th October from 2-3 pm in the library. Please come along to find out more if you have any concerns about your child’s literacy needs.

On 23rd October, we will recognise the role grandparents and friends play in supporting our children. As such we are inviting parents, grandparents and grand friends to our annual talent quest and Grand Friends Day. Our preschool friends will also be joining us. Our school’s Student Representative Council is organising the Talent Quest and morning tea will be provided for visitors before the show which commences at 11.30.

Kind regards,

Pauline

People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing.”

Andrew Carnegie

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School Planning Snippets

We are reaching the evaluation stage of the first year of our Strategic Plan. Teachers are reflecting on their personal professional goals and we are examining parent and student information gleaned from the online surveys recently carried out. We will have a staff planning day next month to determine our directions for 2016.

Thanks to all who participated in our surveys.
VALUES
Piper Conn, Sophie Davis, Taylah Joliffe, Cameron Tucker, William Craig, Katie Curtin-Edwards & Jada Laurie

SCHOOL MERITS
Cameron Tucker, William Craig, Chelsea Abra, Layla Turnbull, Jaxon O’Connor, Charlie Tucker & Brooklyn Bidner

GOOD LISTENER AWARDS
Lara Silver & Amber Smith

SPORTS AWARDS
Hamish Mead, Hayden Wilson & Shaelyn Crouch

LIBRARY AWARDS
Mia Wilton

SPELLING CHAMPIONS
Daniel Craig, Ella Osmond, Monica Lawrence, Chase Hoffman, Mary Briggs, Liza Kelehear & Billy Huckstadt

OCTOBER
FRIDAY 16
School Photo Day
Assembly 2.00pm
P & C meeting 10.00am
All Raffle tickets to be returned
SATURDAY 17
P & C - Las Vegas night
THURSDAY 22
P & C meeting 6.00pm in library
FRIDAY 23
Grandparent Day & Talent Quest
TUESDAY 27
Parent Information session
2pm - 3pm

NOVEMBER
MONDAY 2
Musica Viva
WEDNESDAY 11
Remembrance Day

DECEMBER
TUESDAY 15th
Presentation Night

P&C NEWS
P & C Meeting NEW TIME
Our next P & C meeting is to be held on THURSDAY 22nd October at the new time of 6.00pm. This new time is on trial so that parents who were not able to make it to the day time meeting may be able to attend.
Hope to see you there,
regards, Angela Kelehear P & C President

Tucker Box News
Going home today is an order form for the Halloween lunch day.
All orders must be returned to school
no later than
Monday 26th October 2015.

NEXT P & C MEETING: Friday, September 18 -10am-noon
An Invitation to Parents

Parents are invited to attend an information session as a part of the Partnerships for Inclusive Learning Project (PILP) coordinated by Northcott which has been running at our school during Terms 3 and 4.

The session will run from 2:00-3:00pm on Tuesday October 27th 2015 in the school library.

A Speech Pathologist and Occupational Therapist from Northcott, who have been working here with the staff, will make a short presentation for parents which will focus on:

- developmental milestones
- supporting children at home
- how to access therapy

Therapists will be available to talk to parents after the presentation.

Afternoon tea will be provided.

Don’t forget school photos this Friday!
(TOMORROW)

We welcome a new student to our Kindergarten class, Jonah Swenson. Jonah is joining us from Anna Bay Public School and will team up with Miss Mac’s happy band of children.

2016 Kindergarten Orientation

Enrolments are now being taken for Kindergarten 2016. Please collect your enrolment package at the office if you have not already done so.

Orientation sessions are scheduled for:

Wednesday, 18th November 9:30am – 11.00am
Wednesday, 25th November 9:30am - 11.00am
Wednesday, 2nd December 9:30am - 11.00am

New Kinders are welcome to stay on to have lunch with the other students from 11.00am to 11.30am.

Dungog Community of Schools Gifted and Talented Virtual Classroom

commences this week with Hayden Gardiner, Alysha Cowley and Jack Laurie being selected to participate in a visual arts program working with a published book author and illustrator.

Well done to our cricket team who represented the school in The Reg Kelly Shield games this week. We won the first game and only narrowly lost the second. Mr. Stewart was pleased with the efforts of all. Thanks go to our solid band of supporters.

Go Gresford!
Breakfast Club News

The Breakfast Club continues to be a huge success at GPS! If you are still not sure why we operate or need this program, read on....

Breakfast Clubs have been proven to have a positive impact on punctuality, academic results, concentration, behaviour and attainment and many more schools are looking to introduce a breakfast club.

Ensuring a student has breakfast before the bell rings, ensures the whole class (and the teacher) enjoys a more settled learning environment enabling the greatest academic and social opportunities.

So.... please consider becoming a Breakfast Club Volunteer. Volunteers need to open the canteen at 8:30am, provide toast, sliced fruit and milk, and then simply wash up after the 9:00am bell sounds. It’s just 45 minutes of your time. The Tuckers are leaving town next month so we are looking for new volunteers to keep the Breakfast Club running. Please contact Nicole Carter at the School or Donna Tucker on 0407 401 798 if you would like further information.

A big thank you to all Year 6 helpers, volunteers – Amanda Sellens & Emma Simpson, and of course to our sponsors – Hunter Mutual, Gresford FoodWorks and St Vincents.

Skip ropes not Breakfast

Thinking of applying for a government selective High School for Year 7 entry in 2017?

You must apply online at www.school.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

The website opens on 13 October for applications and closes on 16 November, 2015.

Late applications will not be accepted.

The Selective High placement test is held on 10 March 2016.

Sport and Recreation's Swim and Survive Lessons

Australian summers usually involve plenty of fun in and around the water, but no parent should forget how important it is to make sure children stay safe.

Sport and Recreation’s Swim and Survive classes for preschoolers and school-aged children help youngsters learn important ways to be safe and enjoy our pools, rivers, beaches and lakes.

The intensive nine-day programs provide wonderful results, and are great fun as well. Plus, family discounts make our program affordable for all the children in the family.

Sport and Recreation runs Swim and Survive classes in pools throughout regional NSW.

Our instructors are nationally qualified and screened for their suitability to work with children.

Prices for nine lessons are $60 for school-aged children and $49 for preschoolers (prices exclude pool entry fee).

For more information or to make a booking, visit sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive or phone 13 13 02

NSW
Gresford Public School P&C invites you to the
What happens in Vegas ...
fundraising ball

THIS SATURDAY

AUCTION LIST

1. One night accommodation at Mansfield at the Beach, Forster.
2. Puma junior cricket bat, $25 Rebel gift voucher + two Kaboom Kid books signed by author/cricketer David Warner.
3. Two R.B. Sellars kids’ rugby jerseys (girl 10, boy 12).
4. mxTrixx Micro scooter.
5. Helicopter flight from Hunter Helicopters.
6. Tecnifibre Speedring tennis racquet.
7. Photography voucher from Shot By T Photography.
8. Two nights’ accommodation at Heritage Retreat, Allynbrook.
10. Gresford-Vacy Scorpions package (sizes can be exchanged).
11. Flinders timepiece from Melbourne Watch Company.

OCTOBER 17
Gresford School of Arts
7pm

TICKETS $50
School 4938 9304
Sharon Hill 0409 939 737

DRESS
for a night at the casino
or come in fancy dress

PLEASE RETURN ALL RAFFLE TICKETS IMMEDIATELY
14 October 2015

RE: Preparation Program for Children to receive the Catholic Sacraments in 2016

Dear Parents,

This is an invitation to families who would like to prepare their children for the Catholic Sacraments of Initiation: Confirmation and Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Reconciliation in 2016.

We will be holding the first parent information session in November 2015 with a choice of three venues, for the six Catholic parishes of the Maitland Area: Beresfield; East Maitland; Lochinvar; Maitland (Campbell’s Hill, Largs, Paterson); Morpeth; and Rutherford. The first of which is on:

Tuesday 17th November 2015  7:00pm St Paul’s Church Rutherford  
Wednesday 18th November 2015  7.00pm OLOL Church Beresfield  
Thursday 19th November 2015  7.00pm St Joseph’s Church East Maitland

We are having the first session in November this year due to the early start of the season of Lent in 2016. If you wish your child to prepare for their sacraments in 2016, it is essential for you to attend the first two parent information sessions in the program. If you are unable to attend the first two information sessions, please contact the appropriate team member (after these first two information sessions have occurred, all other families seeking preparation for their children for the sacraments will need to wait until the following year). These are parent information nights only; children are not required to attend.

After this initial introduction to the process, and if you feel as a family that you are ready to commit to the process, you will be invited to attend the second parent only meeting to be held mid February 2016. At this meeting a more detailed explanation of the process will be given and resources needed to support you during the preparation process will be given out.

We look forward to meeting you and providing support to you and your children in this very special time in their journey of faith.

Yours sincerely,

Fr Paul O’Neill and the Sacraments of Initiation Team for the Maitland Area