Wow what a wonderful welcome to Gresford Public School! I have had the privilege of working with Mrs Mitchell for many years through the Dungog Community of Schools and I am thrilled to experience the little school that she so proudly boasts of. As a community, you are probably all well aware of what an asset you have here. The staff are talented and dedicated, the parents are warm and friendly and the students are good country kids that are eager to learn.

Small schools really are great schools and Gresford is no exception. It is encouraging to see all the amazing initiatives that Gresford PS is implementing. In the short time I have been here, I have been privy to a vast array of programs. Although there are too many to mention, a snippet include:

* The wonderful work happening in the classrooms in Literacy, particularly in relation to writing, reading and understanding procedures. The school’s bountiful technology resources are an asset in these sessions.

* The school science program, run by Dr Wright is particularly special. This fortnight the students completed experiments on light and were able to learn how their own eye worked by taking part in the dissection of an eye ball.

* The students at Gresford PS are active and have really benefited from the Sport in School netball program that has been running this term. Not only has this helped them maintain a healthy lifestyle, their catching and throwing skills have been improving each week.

* The creative arts program of a Wednesday afternoon has exposed the older students to musical ensemble. Here their musical knowledge is enhanced by learning to play a variety of instruments in a band type setting. During this time, the younger students have formed a signing choir where they are learning to put basic sign language to music. They are a clever group who have picked the signing up very quickly.

Great work Gresford Public School. I look forward to seeing what the rest of the term brings.

Naomi Mrljak - Relieving Principal

School Planning Snippets

Gresford Public School is committed to the long term development of our school plan. Great teachers are beneficial in creating great learning programs for students. Over the past fortnight the staff have continued to update their skills by attending a range of professional development opportunities in line with our strategic directions. These include Quality Teaching, Focus on Literacy and Positive Behaviour for Learning.
VALUES
Mia Wilton, Bailey Conn, Ella Osmond, Hayden Gardiner, Bella Sellens, Jaxon O’Connor, Jack Hill, Shaelyn Crouch

SCHOOL MERITS
K/1 – Ewen Mitchell, Lucia Merchant
1/2 – Shannon McFadyen, Joey Galvin
3/4 – Hayden Wilson, Paige McFadyen
5/6 – Ryan Skolyszewski

GOOD LISTENER AWARDS
Rhianna Conn, Carl Thompson, Dylan Gardiner, Carl Thompson

SPORTS AWARDS
Kammi Conn, William Craig, Leila O’Connor

LIBRARY AWARDS
Piper Conn, Kammi Conn, Bailey Conn, Katharina Lawrence, Cameron Tucker, Charlize Tucker

SPELLING CHAMPIONS
Toby Mead, Bria Hooper, Ryan Creak, Jack Laurie, Cooper Curtin-Edwards

SEPTEMBER
Monday 7
Cyber Smart Safety Presentation
5.30 - 7.00pm

Wednesday 9
Boat Safety Talk

Monday 14
Spelling Bee

Friday 18
P & C meeting 10.00am
All welcome!
Fruit and Vegetable Day
Doug the Reading Bug 10am
Assembly 2:20pm
Last day for Term 3

OCTOBER
Tuesday 6
All students & Staff return for Term 4

P&C NEWS
Behind-the-scenes preparations for the P&C's biennial fundraising ball are continuing and the exciting prize pool is growing. The What Happens in Vegas ... ball will be held at Gresford School of Arts from 7pm on October 17.

Major supporters of the ball are MicroScooters who have donated an MX trixx scooter worth more than $200. Check out all of the great Micro gear at www.microscooters.com.au, Heritage Retreat is also on board with a gift voucher for two nights' accommodation at its boutique accommodation on the edge of the Allyn River, The Good Guys East Maitland has donated a 32-inch television and Maitland Tennis Centre has donated a tennis racquet. In order to reach the fundraising target. The P&C is looking for more sponsors.

If you, or someone you know, is able to donate a prize or gift voucher for the event, please contact the school on 4938 9304.
My Dad is great because...

...he lets us do anything we want to do and he takes us to the park.

Kammi

...he is super strong and he can lift me up really high - as high as he can.

Ewen

...my Dad takes me camping. Sometimes it is just me and Dad and that's really fun.

Cameron T

...he can lift a house up and he can fix it too.

Lucia

...he goes to the shops and gives me toys and lolly pops.

Hamish M

...he fixes things and tells good jokes.

Monica

Happy Father’s Day

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National Fruit and Vegetable Month

This month is National Fruit and Vegetable Month. Our children need healthy bodies fuelled with nutritious food to get the most out of their school day.

The following tips are set by the Fresh for Kids Program. For more information or to access some great recipes for your child’s lunch box visit www.freshforkids.com.au

Top Tips For a Healthy Lunch Box

- Always include fresh fruit and vegetables. Vary the selection to keep it interesting. Kids like fresh fruit cut up and ready to eat.
- Offer a variety of whole grain breads, rolls, pita and flat breads.
- Use reduced fat dairy foods. Cheese and yoghurt are ideal.
- Add a serve of protein at lunchtime. Ensure you include lean meat, egg, peanut butter, chickpeas or tuna.
- Add a chilled bottle of water and limit juice.
- Make salads or salad sandwich fillings interesting by using a range of vegetables like grated carrot, snow pea sprouts, lettuce or rocket or baby spinach, sliced celery, tomatoes, avocado and cucumber.
- Use a vegetable peeler to slice cucumber into thin ribbons for sandwich fillings.
- Add left over (or cook extra) roast pumpkin or sweet potato to sandwiches, wraps and roll fillings. Naturally sweet and loaded with beneficial antioxidants, roast vegetables team well with a range of fillings.

Please Note: Chocolate bars and soft drinks should be saved for at home treats and should not be included in your child’s school lunch box.

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Tucker Box News

It’s here!!

Father’s Day Red Day is tomorrow Friday 4 Sept. A reminder that the orders only apply to lunch and students will need to bring their own recess from home or order it from the canteen. We are looking forward to a super fun day!

The last day of term Friday 18 Sept we will be celebrating Fruit and Vegetable Month. The canteen will be providing some healthy snacks for children to taste and try on this day. This is scheduled for recess time. Once again, students will need to still pack their own lunch and recess from home or order it from the canteen.

Missing! Canteen tea towels. We are very low on tea towels at the moment, so if any of you have some that you just haven’t got around to returning or you have a few spare that you could donate to the canteen that would be greatly appreciated.
**Fruit and Vegetable Showcase**

On Friday the 18th of September we will be celebrating Fruit and Vegetable Day at Gresford PS. The children will be involved in a number of activities which will be showcased to parents at assembly at 2:20pm Friday afternoon.

There will be a special session for Kindergarten on the day when Doug the Reading Bug will be coming to visit at 10am. We have invited the Gresford Preschool to join us. If you have preschool age children that would also like to be part of this visit please let Miss Mac know.

We are also going to make fruit and vegetable animations. For this we need the students to bring in their own fruit and vegetable characters that they have made at home. We can’t wait to see their creations.

Students are invited to come out of uniform on the day. They are being asked to come dressed in the colour of their favourite fruit or vegetable.

Please note there will not be a 10:30am assembly on Friday the 18th of September as this assembly will be held at 2:20pm.

**Parents and Carers**

**Tell us what you think and receive a free Freddo frog!**

It is that time of the year when Gresford School seeks input from parents and carers to plan for future learning.

This year we have moved to an online survey system. If you click the link below and answer the questions about our school community we will really appreciate the feedback and ideas. It is all totally anonymous and easy.

If internet access is an issue for you, feel free to come into Mr Taylor’s classroom anytime and complete the survey on one of our ipads or computers. Year 5/6 students will look after your every need.

Our goal is for every family to have a say in our future.


**Bunnings We Thank You**

We would like to thank Phil, Vicki and the team from Bunnings of Singleton for donating and planting 3 deciduous trees in our school.

**Thank You**

A big thank you to Mrs Carter and Mrs Craig for organising the Father’s Day Stall and to Sylvia and Kristy for organising our Red Treat Day. The students have had a wonderful few days and they are very proud of the gifts they have picked for their Dads.

**More Help Needed**

**Calling all green thumbs!**

With the introduction of our new plants from Bunnings, we are looking for some eager parents to help us maintain our gardens. If you are in a position to help, please see Mrs Carter in the office.

**Cyber Safety Presentation Reminder**

A reminder the Cybersmart Internet Safety presentation is on this Monday, 7th September, from 5:30 – 7pm. This event is free of charge with babysitting and refreshments provided. Please let the office know if you would like to attend.

**SASS Recognition Week**

This week is SASS Recognition Week where we thank all the administration staff for keeping our school running. This includes our talented ladies in the office, our wonderful learning support officers and our clever school general assistant, Mr Frost.

We have been fortunate to be included in a specialised Speech and Occupational Therapy program whereby we will have specialist therapists working with identified K-2 students over a period of 8 weeks.
Gresford District Junior Cricket Club

We are now taking registrations for Junior Gresford cricket teams for ages 8 – 14 to be entered into the Maitland District Junior Association 2015/2016 season. The season will commence Saturday 10/10/15. Games begin at 8.30am and run for 1 ½ hours for under 10’s and finishing by 11.30am for the older teams.

Registration fees are $130 plus game day fees. The club will provide game day shirts and hats.

After running many successful years of The Milo Cricket Program our co-ordinator will no longer be available to run the Milo Cricket program on Friday afternoon for children aged 5-8 due to commitments to the emerging under 10’s team. We are seeking a new co-ordinator to take over the weekly sessions to keep the program running. They will be fully supported by the Junior Cricket Committee with step by step session guides available.

For registration details or further information please contact
Stuart Craig – 0418 898 360  scraig@smartline.com.au  Hazel Craig – 0405 417 900  hazel.craig@hotmail.com
My Dad is great........

because

Construction king
Reads with me
Always tries to play with me
Interested in cars
Giant...not quite but really tall

_Dylan_

Fun, funny, you are fun.
Always looking out for me.
Teaches me great things.
Hilarious, awesome, terrific.
Embarrassing karaoke singer but I love him anyway.
Really good motor bike rider and horse rider.

_Ella_

Happy Father's Day

Lots of presents at our Father’s Day Stall

YEAR 6 GAMES DAY FUNDRAISER

Year 6 will be holding a fundraiser on

Thursday 10th September.

Come out of uniform and donate a gold coin to support the Year 6 raise funds for their end of year gift.

There will be lots of games to play such as:

Netball T Ball Soccer
Footy Cricket Drama

This day will be organised and run by all Year 6 students.