



Gundagai South Public School

Principal: Mrs Pip McAlister

RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, CARE

NEWSLETTER

Phone: (02)69441117
Fax: (02)69441158
Email: gundagais-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web: www.gundagais-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Gundagai South Public School
Luke Street
Gundagai NSW 2722

Term 1 Week 1

28th January 2015

Dear Parents,



Welcome back everyone – and a very special welcome to our new students in Kindergarten – **Indi, Makena and Riley** and **Riley and Chantel** in Year 4 and Year 3 and to our new parents Viviana and Michael, Sarah and Michael, Tim and Anita and Janet and Darren and welcome again to Charlie & Deb.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and you were all able to have some sort of a break or some time off during January. The holidays have once again flown by and already we are at the end of the first month for 2015.

I am really looking forward to this year and we have several staff changes to support our students.

Mrs Hillier will be teaching the K/1 class in the big room at the bottom of the stairs when you first enter the school. (Same as last year).

Mrs Wheeler will be teaching the students in Years 2 & 3 in the demountable building.

I will be teaching the students in Years 4, 5 & 6 in my classroom (BER Library building).

Mrs Jackson will be teaching release from face to face and the part time/library allocation whilst Ms Sini and Ms Dickinson will cover the areas of Learning Support. Ms Dickinson will be teaching on Mondays and Ms Sini will teach on Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays. The students will be ably supported by our SLSO's Mrs Matthews, Mrs Greaney and Kelly Crooks from the beginning of the term, and in Week 3 Mr G will be returning to support our students.

Mrs Edwards will be our wonderful clerical support on Mondays to Thursday and Loren Curtis will be in the office of Fridays.

In addition to our Learning Support team, Mrs Green will be returning to support the K – 2 teachers and students on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Thursday and Friday, my class will be split into two – with the same content and subject matter being taught, but there will be two smaller classes which Mrs Jackson and Ms Sini will teach.

If you have any questions at all about the structure of the classes or any issues you wish to discuss, please come and see me. Thursday will be my day in the office.

PBL



Our school will continue to implement Positive Behaviour for Learning this year.

We will begin our weekly focus with an emphasis of the values our school holds of **Respect**, **Responsibility** and **Care** with our focus being the values for All Settings within in the school.

Please discuss with your children the importance and meaning of these values.

All Settings

Respect: Follow teacher instructions; Wear uniform with pride..

Responsibility: Hands and feet to self; Be punctual; Wear correct uniform.

Care: Speak nicely; Neat, tidy appearance.

We will also be handing out our new Fish Token books and discussing how the students may earn tokens for displaying excellent behaviour. There have been some small changes to the token books this year, with students required to collect 20 instead of 30 tokens to achieve each level to receive their certificates. There will be eight sections on the fish to complete throughout the year, with coloured dots again being used to show the students' progress to achieve each level. We will again be using our Reflection (Quiet) Room at lunch time for students who require some timeout to think about inappropriate behaviour in either the classroom or playground.

This year, parents will receive a note home each time your child is asked to spend time in the Quiet Room. Parents must discuss with their child the reasons indicated on the note and then sign and date and return to school the following day. Parents will be phoned if the note is not returned.

An in school suspension of 2 days Quiet Room will result if a student's name is on the list for Quiet Room 4 times in a fortnight. Parents will be asked to come to school for an interview should this occur. Attached to your newsletter is a list of Minor & Major behaviours for which students may be asked to go to the Quiet Room and the relevant consequence for their behaviour. Prior to being placed in the Quiet Room, the students will often have received up to three warnings. If you have any questions about our Positive Behaviour for Learning, please make a time to come and see me (Thursday is the best day).

A copy of our PBL matrix is also included with your

newsletter – one for the classroom and one for the playground. Please keep these and attach to your fridge for continual reference throughout the year.

Swimming Lessons



Our first swimming lesson for this year begins this Friday. There will be 10 lessons for **all** students during the next few weeks and parents are requested to sign the attached permission note and return by Friday please. The dates for our swimming lessons will be:

Friday 30th January, Monday 2nd February, Tuesday 3rd February, Friday 6th February, Monday 9th February, Tuesday 10th February, Wednesday 11th February, Monday 16th February, Wednesday 18th February, and Monday 23rd February.

The permission note will cover each of these dates for swimming.

The Small Schools' Carnival will be held on **Tuesday 17th February** in Gundagai for students who are able to swim (at least 25 metres) and who are 8 years and older and the Highlands carnival will be on **Tuesday 24th February**. A note for students who are eligible will be sent home closer to the date.

The cost for swimming lessons is \$3.00 pool entry each day (unless a Season ticket is held – please advise us of your number) per child and \$1.00 for the bus each day per child. Please complete all details on

the attached note and return to school ASAP. Payment may be made in full or daily.

Students in Kinder and Year 1 will have a buddy to help them with their belongings and with changing at school prior to leaving for the pool. Please **do not** send your children to school in their swimmers as we always change into uniform before coming back to school and sometimes this means students do not have and underpants to wear.

Please ensure your students have their swimmeres each day, a towel, school hat and a rashi or t shirt please.

ALL CLOTHES, including school uniform (including undies and socks) should be clearly named – it is surprising how many items of clothing are misplaced during the first few weeks of school. Please ensure your child brings a bottle of water to school each day, but especially on swimming days. Also expect your children will be very tired for the first few weeks of school – the weather may be hot, swimming is tiring and school work and routines are a change from the last five weeks of relaxing holiday mode.

Nut Free



A reminder to all parents that we have a student at school who is highly allergic to nuts and nut

products. It is therefore requested that all parents are mindful of the fact and support us in refraining from sending in nut products, including muesli bars, nutella, etc.

Healthy Recess and Lunch and Fruit Break



A reminder to everyone that we encourage you to pack healthy foods for your children for recess and lunch times. Parents are also asked to send their child to school with at least one piece of fresh fruit each day so they are able to eat this during our designated fruit break during the morning session. Each class will have their fruit break at a time that suits throughout the morning.

Canteen

Canteen **will not** start operating until the completion of swimming lessons.

The first canteen day for Term 1 will be Monday 2nd March.

Parent BBQ and Meet the Staff



All parents are invited to participate in our Open classroom – meet the staff and evening BBQ to be held on **Wednesday 4th February**. The evening will commence at 5.00pm with open classrooms, followed by a BBQ tea from 5.30 – 6.30pm. everyone is welcome to attend and we encourage you to come along to meet the new and returning staff. Please advise how many sausages you wish to order. Last orders for sausages will be taken on Tuesday 3rd.

Best Start Testing – Kindergarten Students

During the next two weeks, Mrs Hillier will be conducting Best Start testing for Kindergarten students. These tests focus on determining the skills which the children bring to school with them and provide an insight into assisting teachers to best plan for their students' future learning. An information/explanation letter is provided for parents of students in kindergarten and following the assessment parents are invited to meet with the class teacher to go through and discuss the results and ways that parents can help their student at home.

Homework



Parents of students in Years 1 – 6 have the opportunity to purchase a homework book for a cost of approximately \$15. If you wish to purchase a book for your child for Homework, please complete the attached note and return to school, signed by both parent/carer and student with the money to receive your book. By purchasing this book you are together making the commitment to complete your homework and return the completed unit to school each week. Thankyou.

Media and Child Protection Permission Notes

Attached are permission notes for Media and Child Protection Education. These permission notes **must be** signed for your child to be able to **have his/her photo placed in newsletters, the local paper etc.** and for participation in lessons as part of the school's PDHPE program.

Radio News



Once again this year, our students in the senior classes will be sharing our school news on the radio station Sounds of

the Mountains 94.3. This can be heard each school Monday morning at approximately 9.45am

Week 2: Claire & Opal

School Banking



Don't forget to send in your Westpac School Banking. Banking will be collected every Wednesday.

Pip☺

GUNDAGAI CONCERT BAND

The Gundagai Concert Band is currently calling for new members. An information and registration day will be held for parents and students (from Year 4 up) on Monday 9th February at 4pm at Gundagai High School in the MPC. Come and have fun and learn an instrument! Enquiries to Karen Byron 0402-730-577 or Brenda Argæt 0427-441-688.

GUNDAGAI/ADELONG JRL - REGISTRATION DAY

Our first Registration Day will be held on **Saturday 31st of January** at **Gundagai Swimming Pool from 11am to 2pm.**

Cost for 2015 Registration will be \$65.00 per player and capped at \$150.00 for 3 or more children.

New players welcomed and must show original Birth Certificate on Registration day (new players receive bag, socks & shorts). Payment must be made on the day of registration. Parents are also advised that it is **COMPULSORY** that each child registered has a current Medical Advice Card completed. Medical Advice Cards will be available on registration day and **MUST** be completed prior to training or playing.

ALL players wishing to try out for the Representative teams the trials will be on the 21st of March for U12's – U15's at Wagga and must be registered beforehand.

***Any enquiries contact:
Shane Bartlett 0417 755
903 or
Jacki Fairall: 0488 997 321***

***Many Thanks
Jacki Fairall
Secretary
Gundagai/Adelong JRL***