Wednesday 15 July 2015

Principal’s Page

WELCOME BACK
Welcome back to school to each one of our students’ and their families. A warm welcome to our new family Madeleine, Finlae, Xavier and Angus, who have previously been a part of the Gulmarrad school community. I am sure the children will enjoy our wonderful school. It is a very eventful term starting off with Oz Opera’s performance of Cinderella tomorrow, debating, the Athletics Carnival, Education Week, visiting shows, our major school performance and more. All information for activities will be in our weekly newsletters.

EDUCATION WEEK
Education Week is from Monday 27 July – Friday 31 July. Activities planned to celebrate include a Science Open day on Wednesday 29 July, the Ned show on Thursday 30 July and our Athletics carnival on Friday 31 July. Parents and family members are invited to come along and join with the students to celebrate this important week.

KINDERGARTEN 2016 PARENT INFORMATION
Our parent information session for the 2016 Kindergarten classes will be held on Tuesday 4 August from 6.00-7.00pm and Wednesday 5 August 9.00-10.00am. All parents of 2016 Kindergarten students are invited to attend. Please pass this information on to any families who have children commencing Kindergarten in 2016.

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT DATA COLLECTION
The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with. Teachers will be involved in this collection of data over the next few weeks. An information sheet for parents is attached to this newsletter.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
The school Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 31 July. Students from ages 8 and over will be participating in eliminations for high jump, long jump and discus over the next few weeks.

P&C INFORMATION
The next P&C meeting will be held tonight starting at 7pm. This is held in the school staffroom. The P&C meetings are an opportunity to become an active member of the parent school community and to support your child’s school so please come along.

Robyn Urquhart
Principal
AWARDS
Citizenship: Sharlese Dewsbury, Madison Skinner, Max Todhunter, Jayvin Russell, Oscar Oehlmann, Niamh Hopkins, Mia Postle.

SOFTBALL PSSA – LISMORE
On Wednesday, 24th of June the Gulmarrad Public School boys and girls softball teams travelled to Lismore to participate in the PSSA softball day. The boys first played Alstonville Public School and won this game 24-4. Their second game was against a very strong Wyrallah Road Public School team and despite a mighty fight and some great team spirit the boys were beaten 17-6. The team from Wyrallah Road will now play in the next round of the PSSA competition.
The girls showed great fight and determination and won both of their games on the day. They were firstly successful against Lismore Public School with a score of 20-4. Their next game was against Caniaba Public School. The girls won this game 18-6. We are extremely proud of the girls for this wonderful win and we are happy to say that the girl’s team will now move onto Round 5 of the NSW PSSA Softball competition.
Well done to all of the students in the teams who trained tirelessly each lunch time prior to the day and for their great sportsmanship during the games. Many thanks to our wonderful mums, Darlene Townsend, Cath Ferguson, Suzelle Kendall who volunteered to drive the students to Lismore as well as keeping score during the games. Thank you also to Ms Connolly who assisted on the day.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN
From Wednesday 15 July to Tuesday 8 September you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers at the check out when you shop at Woolworths and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn sticker sheet. There will be one sticker for every $10 spent. Once completed simply place the sticker sheet either in the collection box at Gulmarrad Public School or at your local Woolworths.

PRINTER CARTRIDGES
Printer cartridges can be recycled at the school through the Planet Ark program. Just bring in your used cartridge and place in the collection box in the office foyer.

LOWER CLARENCE ARTS AND CRAFT FAIR
A big thank you to all the people whose hard work went into making the 3 days of canteen at the LCACA such a success.
Organisation and onsite management: Belinda Cameron and Ding Cassidy
Kid Helpers: Sarah Cassidy, Bailey & Colbie Cameron, Maddie Hollis, Brodee-Lee Baker, Prea Cormick and Will McGrath-Moran
WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with.

The national data collection will count students who have been identified as receiving an adjustment to address a disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?
The aim of the national data collection is to collect better information about school students with disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

The national data collection is an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?
All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When implementing the national data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through the national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. The data will help schools to better support students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?
All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?
A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting class lessons) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?
Every year your child’s school will collect the following information for each student with a disability:

- the student’s level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student’s level of adjustment
- the student’s broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be provided to all governments to inform policy and programme improvement for students with disability.
WHO WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy, diabetes or asthma, that require active monitoring by the school, may be included.

WHO WILL COLLECT INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

Teachers and school staff will identify the number of students with disability in their school and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team’s observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?

All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and report information annually on the number of students with disability in their care and the level of adjustment provided to them.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child’s school principal and the relevant education authority or association of independent schools.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, the school is still required to provide support to your child with education needs.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may involve your child.


An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential. Personal details such as student names or other identifying information will not be provided to local or federal education authorities.

Community News

WE ARE LITTLE CHAMPIONS
Life skills to give your little champion focus, self esteem, social skills and much, much more....... 

@ BODYROCK FITNESS TOWNSEND

KIDZ FITNESS
Mondays at 4 pm
Age 5 and UP
$25.00 for the full 5 sessions
66453222
Starting - Monday 20th July 2015 to 17th August 2015.

Get fit and make some new FRIENDS!
Free, weekly, 5km timed run/walk for all ages and abilities.
Start/Finish:
2. Print out your unique barcode
3. Turn up with your barcode, run or walk and have fun!

Don’t want to run or walk?
Why not help others by volunteering?

www.parkrun.com.au

WINTER HOLIDAY CAMPS
THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

New friendships Fun
Great value Safe

Our popular Winter Kids’ and Family Holiday Camps are filling fast. Find out what’s on including our popular ski / snowboard camps at Jindabyne.

Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands.
Our Kids’ Camps are suitable for kids aged 7 to 16 years and range from 1 to 7 days.

Residential Kids’ Camps include:
- 24 hour supervision
- Instructor led activities
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Supervised transport
*Snow Sports camps are suitable for kids aged 10-16 years.

Family Camps include:
- Instructor led activities
- Meals
- Accommodation
- Lift and lesson tickets and transport to Perisher (for Jindabyne camps only)**

**Kids as young as 6 years can participate in group lessons as part of a Family Camp.

dsr.nsw.gov.au/camps | 13 13 02
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