News from the Principal

TECHNOLOGY

Technology is an important part of all schools and Gulmarrad is no different. Our technology room, which includes an interactive whiteboard and our video conferencing facilities, is used on a daily basis by classes. Wi-fi throughout the school enables classes to use laptops and iPads regularly in small or large groups depending on class activities. The newly installed commbox or interactive television in our Library, not only benefits Library and class activities but is a wonderful asset for staff professional learning. To further develop and embed our students’ technology skills Mr Oehlmann works with classes each Wednesday. If any parents are interested in seeing some of the technology come along to the P&C meeting tonight at 7pm in the school Library.

CHANGE OF ROUTINE

If a student will be changing the usual way they leave school of an afternoon parents are asked to put this in writing to be given to the class teacher or the office. If the change is unplanned then a phone call to the school is needed. It is vitally important for student safety that staff know how children are meant to be leaving the school grounds of an afternoon.

LEADER INDUCTION ASSEMBLY

It was lovely to be able to present to our 2016 School Leadership group their badges last Thursday. There were many parents and family members present to celebrate with the students their new responsibilities of School Leader, Sports Leader or SRC member. All staff look forward to having the group actively involved bringing a strong student voice to what is happening in our school this year.

ASSEMBLY

Our swimming champions for 2016 will be announced and presented with their trophies at the next assembly, this Friday 19 February at 2.15pm. The class to present an item will be 5/6S. All parents and community members are invited to come along and share the students’ successes.
K-6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL
What a terrific day we had last Friday at the Maclean pool. Thank you to all of the parents who joined us. Our sporting house leaders did an excellent job encouraging their houses to cheer on all competitors and I am sure the township of Maclean heard loud and clear about the Dingoes, Emus and Kangaroos sporting prowess! An important part of the carnival is participation and this was very evident with students doing their very best in all events. Special thanks to the Maclean HS students who assisted with timekeeping, we certainly appreciated your help. Thank you also to Mr Stanger for his organisation of the event which meant we had a very smooth day and to all staff for their great efforts.

Kind Regards,

Robyn Urquhart - Principal

SCHOOL CROSSING VOLUNTEERS FOR FLAGS
Many people are not aware that the crossing area outside the school is not a school crossing where drivers have to stop unless there are school flags up. The flags may only be out from 8.00-9.30am and 2.30-4.00pm. To allow the area to be a safer crossing for the children volunteers are needed to put the flags out during these times. If you are able to volunteer for any time or day please let the school office know.

P&C INFORMATION
The P&C meeting will be held tonight at 7pm. The meeting will begin with the AGM followed by a general meeting. A discussion regarding the school canteen and fundraising for the installation of the new play equipment will be part of the agenda. Please note that tonight’s meeting will be held in the school Library. 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.

Already there are quite a few articles of clothing in the lost property bin near the staff room. Parents are asked to come along and have a look if your child has not brought home their school jacket or hat recently as it may be in the box. Having your child’s name on all items of clothing is a great way to ensure that valuable school uniforms do not go missing during the year.

Gulmarrad Public School Website:
www.gulmarrad-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
WELCOME LEADERS & SRC

On Thursday 11 February Gulmarrad Public School held a special assembly to present the 2016 School Leaders and SRC with their badges. A morning tea attended by all inductees and their parents followed the official ceremony. It was a wonderful morning and provided the opportunity to congratulate the students on being selected by their peers.

The role of being a School Leader and a member of the SRC at Gulmarrad Public School is very important, as they not only provide a student voice within the school but also have a vital role as representatives in the community.

We are confident that this year’s leaders and SRC will be excellent role models and will continue to lead by example.

Congratulations to the following students:

**School Leaders** –
Prea Cormick, Madeline Hollis, Will McGrath-Moran and Henry Essex.

**Sports Leaders** –
**Kangaroos**: Alexis Bennett, Emma Causley, Bailey Cameron and Mali Matthews.
**Dingoes**: Sonya Britten, Kaneishia Elisaia-Thomas, Ricky Cleary and Jordan Roigard.
**Emus**: Sarah Cassidy, Holly George, Eli Clarke and Angus Cassidy-Thomason.

**SRC**:

Technology News

Students began technology lessons in week 2 and have demonstrated how tech savvy they are showing off their skills in their formative assessment. Many students completed the task with ease drawing on a vast array of knowledge learnt in previous years.

At present they are busy preparing their Friendly Five posters in Microsoft Word as part of the focus on desktop publishing this term. Next term we will focus on Excel and PowerPoint with many projects planned for them to complete as the semester progresses.

**Reminder**: If connectivity or hardware prevents your child from using a computer at home, Maclean and Yamba Libraries have terminals set up for public use for 60 minute sessions.— Mr Oehlmann
On Monday the 15th of February, Gulmarrad Public School sent 5 students to the Northern Rivers Zone PSSA Cricket selection trials in Lismore. Congratulations to Will McGrath-Moran, Zane Lowe, Zac Quick, Brad James and Josh Bell for participating in these trials. From these trials, Will McGrath and Zac Quick have been selected to represent the Northern Rivers Zone in the North Coast Cricket Competition in Sawtell on Sunday 6th and Monday 7th of March. From the games to be played in Sawtell, a team will be selected to represent the North Coast Cricket Team. Well done to the boys who travelled to Lismore and congratulations to Will and Zac and we wish them all the best for the upcoming competition in Sawtell.

Congratulations to our swimmers who will be representing Gulmarrad Public School at the Northern Rivers Zone Carnival on Thursday 25 February:


Donations of cushions and pillows for 3/4Mc’s reading corner. All shapes, sizes and colours greatly appreciated.

This year to ensure parents receive newsletters the office will be emailing newsletters directly to parents. If you would like the newsletter emailed please contact the ladies in the office or send an email to Pattie at: gulmarrad-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Presented by School Performance Tours
* FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY - 2:15pm
Cost: $4:00 per student
Using a blend of drama, poetry and puppetry the show explores the effects of bullying as well as offering strategies to help deal with bullies.

*Permission note with more information will be sent home this week.
RIDE2SCHOOL

Ride2School Day will be held on Friday 4 March marks the 9th National Ride2School Day. Students are invited to ride/scoot/walk part way to school. Students are asked to assemble at the Gulmarrad Fire Shed by 8:25am for an 8:30am departure. A note with more information will be sent home separately.

HARMONY DAY

This year Harmony Day will be celebrated at Gulmarrad Public School on Wednesday 16 March. Orange is the official colour of Harmony Day and students are invited to wear something orange to school. Classes will complete activities centred around harmony and diversity within Australia.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Gulmarrad students and teachers are once again registered to participate in this successful activity on Friday 11 March.

PERPETUAL SHIELDS

Students who received a perpetual shield on Presentation Night are asked to return them to the school so they may be put on display in the front office. If you know of a student who received a shield and has left for high school please let them know.

SCRIPTURE

Just a reminder: If you DO NOT wish your child to attend Scripture classes please send in a note to the office stating your preference.

A BIG thank you to the wonderful students from Maclean High School who did an excellent job as time keepers at the Swimming Carnival. Well done.
A COUPLE OF THINGS ABOUT SCHOOL BANKING

Just a few things to remember about school banking:

- Please ensure your child’s 2016 class is written on the front of their yellow bank wallet.
- If you have younger or older siblings, they too can do school banking. Please put an elastic band around books that are going to one child.
- Please remember to fill out both the deposit slip and the stub that remains in the book.
- Tokens are allocated to each child and can only be used by that child. Families cannot pool their tokens to get a reward. The bank automatically keeps a record of how many tokens each child has.
- Sometimes I accidentally forget to put a token in your wallet, or occasionally leave the deposit slip in the book. If this happens, just put a little note in for next week and I will fix my mistake.
- Rewards usually take 2 weeks from when I take your tokens. The Gold token that you are given is for your child to keep and collect, it is not redeemable for rewards.
More from the carnival
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