



★ The Bulletin ★

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Term 4 Week 7

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the weeks roll on it is becoming closer to the time when this school, known as Gateshead Public will cease to be. An exciting renewal is on the way and there is a constant move forward as we spend each day planning and implementing movement.

I will be meeting with Gateshead West parents this week to discuss what the move will mean for their families and in particular their children who are coping with the fact that the school as they know it will cease to exist as well. Many things need to be considered for a successful transition. We will of course discuss what they would like Wiripaang Public school to look like and feel like in 3 years time.

A fresh new school offers the opportunity for fresh new ideas...and those ideas shouldn't just come from the staff. A healthy school community involves all stakeholders; students, staff, parents, carers, family and the surrounding companies and agencies when making strategic plans for the future.

I would like to invite any interested parents, carers or community members to participate in the same Focus Group activity as the Gateshead West community where we plan where the school is heading in the future and what we can do together to support our students to achieve learning outcomes.

When: Friday 7th December

Where: Windale Bowling Club Meeting Room

** Please come along as this will be an informal discussion...*

Our 'Why is it So? Science Day was such a great day for the students. Each class presented a science experiment to the student body and then we were treated by a 'science tabloid' of activities hosted by the very clever Head Teacher Science from Hunter Sports High, Mr Robert Jovanoski, who with his teaching staff and 14 fabulous Year 10 science students ran 7 different 'science stations'. The children were talking to each other through cans and string, creating mirrored image drawings using a mirror and weighing and measuring with weights to prove a theory. We thank Hunter Sports for their fantastic support and it's great to see our school working closely together.

We finished the day off with the travelling 'Jollybops Science Show' in the hall, where the excitement and engagement were obvious as our students were mesmerized with cool science experiments.... Thank you Miss Thompson who organised such a creative and fun day.....Science really is cool....and slime really is popular.....

Yours in Education

Mrs Lee Saurins
Principal

Positive Affirmation – Be Safe Our positive affirmation this week is: 'I am a good influence on others.'

This affirmation is about our school value...'Be Safe'. It tells us that we should try to be positive in our lives so that we can have an effect on other people that is good. If someone is doing something unsafe, or someone is not trying their hardest with their school work then you can be a good influence. You can encourage others not to do silly things, or to waste their time in class and you can definitely influence others just by being nice in and around our school each day.



Important dates...

Friday 23 rd Nov	Oakdale Farm - 1/5F & 5/6OT
Saturday 24 th Nov	Gateshead West Public School Fete 10am – 4pm
Tuesday 27 th Nov	P&C Meeting 9.30am
Thursday 29 th Nov	Milo Cricket
Monday 10 th Dec	Presentation Day
Wed 12 th Dec	Year 6 Farewell

Amalgamation Update

Over the next two weeks two very important things will happen;

1. There will be community planning '**Focus Groups**' of parents, staff and students as we begin to plan for our new school. Discussions will be held around 'what will the move mean for my child/ren and our family' and 'what do we want Wiripaang Public School to look like, feel like and be like in 3 years time....'

This is a wonderful way to become involved in your community, your school and your child's life more, so come along and have some fun....

2. Uniforms

All students attending the school in 2013 should have a uniform order in by now. Each child received a \$50.00 credit towards establishing a new uniform set, with the ordering of a hat being compulsory. The school will open on advertised days during the last week of the holidays so that parents may come and pick up uniform items in readiness for the first day of school. It will be exciting to see all of our students in full school uniform.

In 2013 we will be abiding by the 'no hat, no play' rule that is evident in the Sun Smart policy. Parents will be encouraged to make sure that their child/ren has a school hat for the day.

Grounds Maintenance Program

A grounds maintenance program will occur in the near future to prepare the current site for an opening as a new school. Expected building and maintenance programs may include;

- Refurbish of student toilets in the canteen block
- Exterior paint of Library
- Extension of cement line-up area and staircase access to front of canteen
- Formation of new sick bay and extension of a storeroom in admin block
- Creation of new entry to the school with widened pathways and covered walkways

Please note that work done around the school will not interfere with regular teaching programs and the majority of the work will happen in the school holidays.

Transport Survey

A transport survey has been issued to families to gather information about travel to school in 2013. This is necessary to gather information to investigate the need for bus transport for our students, particularly our new friends from Gateshead West. A bus education program will be implemented with children travelling on the bus with adult supervision and guidance being key features in establishing key safe and efficient journeys for our children. Students who bring disrepute to the school and their families with poor behavior on the bus will be suspended from the transport system as State Transit sees fit. Please return your surveys as soon as possible ...thanks.

In the near future each family will receive more up-to-date information, including map that outlines the options for transport to and from school, drop off zones, safe walk and ride to school procedures and parking options.

Have a say in the future of our new school,

Wiripaang Public School...



When: Friday 7th December

Where: Windale Bowling Club Meeting Room

This will be an informal discussion to discuss what the change will mean for your family and in particular you student/s and what directions we might take in the next few years to best cater for our students. Come along and have your say ☺

**All current school uniform items
are half price...available at**



office.....

Eg; Hats...now \$5.00

Gateshead is currently working towards: Be at School!

It is vital that parents and students understand the importance of being at school. The DEC determines that attendance under 85% is detrimental to a child's learning.

Be on time- school starts at 9am- a child who is half an hour late each day will miss out on a year's schooling in the education journey.

We are doing great things in our class rooms – **it's important to be here.**

**Please send a note to
tell us why your child is
away from school.**



HATS

Parents and carers are reminded that NSW Public Schools have a Sunsmart policy that encourages children to wear a hat each day to play in the playground.

Students are expected to wear a hat in the breaks at school and we do adhere to a 'no hat no play' policy.

This is for the protection of your child's skin against damaging UV rays.

Please make sure that your child **has a hat to wear each day**. School hats are available to purchase in from the office **at half price - \$5.00**

Communication

In today's busy world, sometimes it's hard to find time to visit or call the school when you wish to contact one of our staff members. We know that sometimes you have important information for us as we share a common interest- your child.

Please know that you may email the school with your enquiry and if you attention it to a particular staff member our office will then forward it on for you. Our school email address is; gateshead-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

When your teen's new best friend is a bad influence

Best friends are a key part of adolescents' lives. But what do you do when you suspect your child's best buddy is a bad influence? Experts discuss different approaches.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/behaviour/when-your-teens-new-best-friend-is-a-bad-influence>

Copying and plagiarism

Copying other people's work and presenting it as your own is plagiarism. It's an increasingly common problem in the online world where material can easily be copied and pasted from websites. Students need to acknowledge the ideas of others when they use them in projects, assignments and assessments. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/copycats-beware>

Help your kids enjoy reading

How do you make reading a joy and not a chore for your child? One way is to find information and interesting facts about things that intrigue or interest your child in books, magazines or on the internet. Read and talk about what you find out. Here are some other tips: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/ten-ideas-to-help-your-child-with-reading>

From Miss McGee

Going to Big School

What a great time we had on Wednesday at *Going to Big School*. We had our Teddy Bear's Picnic. It was fantastic for the new children to meet their buddies for the first time. Our Year Four students were wonderful helpers as we played games, had a picnic and completed some structured play activities.

Our next *Going to Big School* session will focus on being ready for Big School. The students are coming from 11am-1pm and will be having lunch in the playground with all of the other K-2 students.

Please make sure anyone you know who is planning on sending their child to our school next year comes along as this is the second last chance they will have to meet their new friends before next year!

Initiations will be sent home in the mail on Friday.



Behaviour Medallions & Honours Certificate

It is the time of year where we start to organise our school awards for presentation day. We are now asking all students who want to be nominated for the **Behaviour Medallion** to bring their awards to Miss McGee.

Students must have received ten awards - either Merit Certificates, Principal's Awards, Values or Gold Awards. All students with ten of these awards will be awarded with an **Honour Certificate**. The students wishing to be considered for the **Behaviour Medallion** will need to prepare a speech that they will deliver to a panel consisting of a teacher, Mrs Saurins and a parent representative in Week 8. They must explain to the panel why they should receive the award. The panel will then decide on this year's recipients.

All students eligible to receive the **Honour Certificate** must hand their awards to Miss McGee by Friday 23rd November.



Year Six Farewell

The Year Six Farewell is coming up fast! A note will be sent home this week to let you know all the details. All Year Five and Six students are invited for a fun filled evening of chatting, eating and dancing. The staff are all looking forward to spending some time with our senior students at the Junction Tavern and are planning loads of activities and souvenirs for the Year Six students to keep to remember their days at Gateshead Public School.

A big thank you to the parents who have volunteered their time to help make this a memorable occasion. Could the parents pop in for a quick check in meeting on Friday 26th November at 3pm in Miss McGee's classroom.

White Elephant Stall

5/6M will be running a white elephant stall on Monday 26th November. The stall is being run as a fundraiser for the Year 6 Farewell. Thanks to everyone who has already brought in donations. Any other donations for the stall (old toys etc) are welcomed and can be brought in and given to Mr McNeil. The stall will be run by the students before school, at lunchtime and at recess.



Leadership Course

Two weeks ago, selected students went on a day trip to Mount Hutton Public School. We listened to a lengthy lecture about why we were here and why we were selected by a man named Sean Parker. We then played a game of 'get to know you' which was conducted by our very own Mrs Saurins, it is where you pick a card and find a person with the same card. Then we ask questions to your partner. After that we played a game where we held hands and had to pass a hula hoop around without letting go of our hands which was conducted by Mr. Gately. After that we played tic tac tock. It is a game where we pass around an object and repeat what the starting words were. Then we had lunch break. After that we played team games. River, restriction, the knot, problem solving and skipping rope problem solving. Then we had recess break. Then to finish of the day we learned tae kwon do.

From that day we learnt how to be a responsible leader and how to get along with new people.

Natasha 5/6M



Money Matters

Event	Cost	Payment Due
Oakdale Farm	\$20	16 th November
PCYC Windale	\$5.00 Deposit \$30.00 Balance	26 th October 23 rd November

Community News

FOR SALE

The school has two four drawer filing cabinets for sale for a small cost...please see the office if interested.



Whitebridge Uniting Church
Cnr Dudley & Bullsgarden Roads

Kid's Fun Club Christmas Workshop

Wednesday 5th December, 2012

(Children in Years K - 6)

4pm - 7.30pm

Cost \$5

(includes Dinner & Craft)

Registrations & payment essential by 1/12/12

All enquires please phone:

4944 7826 - Laraine

Or **4908 1083 - Cathy**

Post form & payment to:-

Charlestown Uniting Church

P O Box 449

Charlestown. 2290

Office Opening Hours:

Tues; Wed; Frid

9:30 - 1pm

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Gateshead West Public
School P&C

FETE

Please join us for a FUN DAY to

celebrate the closing of our

School.

Saturday 24th November

10.00am - 4.00pm

BOBBY ROCK
DANCE
STUDIO

VELCRO
WALL

JUMPING
CASTLE

Entertainment will start after the formal

speeches.

Stalls and
Sneakages

Reptile
Show

Sausage
Sizzle

Photos and Memorabilia of our 47 years of operation
will be on display.



SHARING THE CARE SUPPORT GROUP

A Support Group for Mothers of children with Autism

**The next Support Group will be held on
Wednesday, 21st November, 2012.**

Time: 11.00 am to 2.00 pm.

Where: Lake House
4 Tulloch Close,
Eleebana

Guest Speaker: Dr Jason Geras - Chiropractor and wellness consultant
Dr Geras will speak about ways to beat stress and tell you about the
"Wellness Program".

If child care is required please give us a few days notice to
organise a worker.

Please bring along a plate.

Phone Temp Care 02 49 575008 or
Helen 02 49 598695

Helen & Toni