PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Once again we have come to the end of a very busy term. While the term was only 9 weeks long we have packed a lot of activities into this short space of time. Congratulations to everyone for the efforts they have shown.

On Monday we held the official opening of our bush tucker garden. The garden looks absolutely spectacular and congratulations once again to John Taylor for all his hard work in ensuring we have a special place, full of significance, in our school.

I hope all staff, students and volunteers have a wonderful holiday and a well-earned rest.

Rita Pittman, Principal

"With self-discipline most anything is possible."
Theodore Roosevelt

WIRRAY DJAGILBAA

On Monday 23rd June we had Uncle Russell Saunders officially open our new garden, which we called Wirray Djagilbaa. Wirray Djagilbaa means 'Bush Food Place', as the garden primarily contains Australian natives that early Aboriginal people used for food, including wild raspberry and the macadamia nut tree. To launch NAIDOC week we opened our garden with a Welcome Dance accompanied by a smoking ceremony. The smoking ceremony cleanses the site by driving away bad spirits. The garden includes a goanna tree, which was carved by Uncle Russell Saunders and symbolises a learning place. Uncle Russell Saunders also carved a scarring tree, which signifies a special place for Aboriginal people. We are the only school in the area privileged to have a scarring tree in our garden.
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Our annual athletics carnival was held in perfect weather conditions last Friday. It was a wonderful success with the performances and behaviour of all students outstanding. A big thank you to Andrew Gilbert, Keith Brown, Sue Watson, Debbie Moore, Bev Bisby, Josh Allen and Peter Callaghan for their valued assistance at the carnival. Special thanks must also go the many volunteers who helped Mrs Blackmore out with the canteen and B.B.Q.

Congratulations to Tim Walker who set a new school record in the 11 years boys Shot Put.

A wrap of age champions and house champions will be given next term. Place ribbons for all events together with information/permission notes for our Zone representatives will be handed out early next term.

HOCKEY CONGRATULATIONS

Madeline Betts and Dimity Bartlett were members of the Hunter Region team that were runners up at the State PSSA Girls Hockey Championships played at Narellan in Sydney last week. The Hunter team went through their 6 pool games undefeated and defeated C.I.S. in the Semi Finals. In the Grand Final the Hunter girls played the Polding Catholic Schools team and went down 2-0. We are very proud of Dimity and Madeline to represent Hunter and they are to be congratulated on their playing performance at the tournament. They did our school and Hunter Region proud!

GIRLS PSSA BASKETBALL GALA DAY

On Thursday 19th June, 7 girls from Stage 3 travelled to Port Macquarie to play in a Basketball Knockout. The team was made up of Breanka Hinton, Emily Brood, Luka Urquhart, Taila Hawksford, Lauren Fulton, Zarli Ruttley and Jordyn Halfacre-Ryan. The team played Forster Public School, Taree West Public School, Grahamstown Public School and Gloucester Public School. All the girls played well and showed great sportsmanship. Thanks go to Natalie Hinton, Masako Urquhart and Jamie Fulton for providing transport on the day.

LOST PROPERTY

Our lost property box is full to overflowing. If your child has lost a jumper or lunch box please check before Friday. Any items left will be washed and donated to a charity shop during the holidays.

CANTEEN NEWS

Sports carnival: what a fantastic effort from the canteen volunteers. Working tirelessly at the bottom canteen, the barbecue and the top canteen, we were able to cater for all the parents, grandparents and children who came to watch the students compete. A HUGE thankyou to you all, it was a very successful day. Special thanks go to Debbie and Jill who cooked up a storm on Thursday so you could indulge in their delicious slices and cakes. Lauren and Liz (on her first canteen day) also deserve a thank you for creating the cute little teacup biscuits. I am always reminded just how lucky we are to have such wonderful people who give their time for our school.

The roster for the remainder of this term, and first week back next term is:

Thursday 26th June HELP NEEDED
Friday 27th June Liz, Jenny
Monday 14th July Pupil free day
Tuesday 15th July Sandy, Ray, Andrew
Wednesday 16th July Monique
Thursday 17th July Lauren, Liz, Elicia, Elysha
Friday 18th July Suzie, Liz, Jenny

I hope everyone has a relaxing and happy holiday break and we'll see you all next term, hope this next one doesn't go quite so fast!

Verlie Blackmore, Supervisor, ph 6553 5030

COMMUNITY NOTICES

GTCC LIBRARY HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Phone 6592 5390 or visit www.gtcc.nsw.gov.au for details.

AFL SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP – TAREE
AFL camp for boys and girls aged 5-12 on Friday 11th July between 10am-3pm at Johnny Martin Oval. Cost: $25. Phone 0457 389 504 or email rachel.lowe@aflnswact.com.au to register.

VACATION CARE Phone 6551 2711 for details.

MVOOOSH Care phone 0422 147 019 for details.