

Gumlu Primary School Newsletter 23.10.17



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DATES TO REMEMBER

- **3rd Nov Years 3 – 5 Home Hill High**
- **3rd Nov Years P-2 Cooking with Ray Thompson (Cowboy)**
- **7th Nov Our Show day Holiday (Melbourne Cup)**
- **06th Dec Awards Night**
- **08th Dec Last day of term**

Hi Gumlu Community,

Welcome to this edition: The beginning of term has begun and our students have set the bar high with wonderful behaviour expectations and having a clear focus on their work and getting the job done until years end. There will be a sense of urgency this term as things get very busy as the end of year activities wind up and begin to take shape.

I want to sincerely apologise for the major mix-ups last week with Robotics cancelled due to weather and nil staff to assist me after school, swimming and Dance cancelled and then to top it off Thursday afternoon session cancelled without knowledge. I will be talking with all staff at this week's meeting to confirm school procedures in the event this happens again.

END OF YEAR AWARDS – On Wednesday night 6th Dec from 6pm we will be having our end of year student awards night. There will be three (3) distinctive awards, "Student of the Year", "Gumroo's Dux" and "The Encouragement Award" below these three highest awards there will be four (4) other categories. 'School Captain', 'Attendance', 'Most Improved Reader' & 'Gumroo's Most Improved'. There will also be medallions for the Sportsman and or Sportswoman.

To qualify for any of these awards the following criteria has been set by the P&C and Staff.

Student of the Year

- Models the 4 pencils – Self-responsibility, Effort, Respect and safety.
- Greater than 95% attendance.
- Exceptional Behaviour – Models the Gumlu State School Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.
- Demonstrates 100% effort into all tasks.
- Is a team player and a role model for other students.

Evolution Mining Dux

- This award is given to the student who consistently achieves high grade in all KLA'S (Key Learning Area)

The Encouragement Award

- This award is given to the student that tries their hardest at everything. They model the 4 pencils to the best of their ability.

Attendance

- This award is given to the student who has the highest attendance for the year. To qualify for this award the student needs to be at the school from day one, term one.

Most Improved Reader

- This award is given to the student who consistently improves their reading ability and demonstrates the decoding strategies to assist in their reading.

Gumroo's Most Improved

- This award is given to the student who across all areas of schooling is improving.

Sports Man & Woman

- This award is given to both a Boy and/or a Girl that competes in all Small Schools carnivals and is chosen to represent Gumlu in interschool sporting competitions.

We will also have the following School Leadership roles. These will be announced at our end of year awards night.

To be selected for this roles, students must...

School Captain –

- Model the Gumlu's 4 pencils
- Represent the School's Behaviour Plan
- Have consistent attendance in the previous year
- Be a good role model
- Try their best in all KLA's

The following roles will be selected by staff and the P&C after students have applied for these positions by the end of November. These job descriptions can change and are not limited to.

Environment Leader

- Oversees the Naked lunch box initiative. – Lunch boxes with only re-useable containers (Wednesdays)
- Consistently checks the school for cleanliness.
- Empties the recycled water into the gardens.
- Feeds the fish and maintains their habit.

Sports Monitor

- Oversees the distribution of toys
- Collects toys left in the school ground
- Maintains the sports shed in an organised fashion.
- Assists in the purchasing of new equipment

Guinea fowl and Chicken Coordinator

- Feeds and waters these animals
- Let's them out at 8:30am and locks them away before leaving the school grounds
- Collects any eggs
- Cleans and maintains their environment

School Leaders

- These students are in year six.

If students are not living up to the expectations of these roles they will be removed and new monitors or co-ordinators will be selected by the P&C.

Student application for these positions will be handed out on Monday.

Book lists: were handed out last week giving parents the opportunity to get a head start on 2018 requirements. So it's heads down and tails up as we have all kicked the term of well and are looking forward to a successful term ahead.

WORLD TEACHERS DAY - 28th October is world teachers' day. Thank you to all of the wonderful teachers that work so very hard and make a difference every day to our students. It's a pleasure to work with such dedicated people to better the education of our kids and make Gumlu the great place it is. Happy World Teachers Day to our wonderful 'CHALKIES'.

Attendance - Last term our attendance data was a little disappointing with an increasing amount of students having several days off unexplained. Please ensure your children come to school every day possible. Missing school days adjuncts learning routine and the ability for kids to have continuity of understanding of specific concepts. Remind your kids **"IT'S COOL TO BE AT SCHOOL!"**

Update of address and contacts please – If your contact details or address changes could I please ask that you inform our office immediately. Many times we need to make contact with parents and details are imperative for quality parent and school communication. Please ensure your details are current and up to date. Thanks for your prompt action to ensure student safety.

2018 enrolments - Now we're into term 4 it's time to think about enrolments for 2018. If you are planning to leave our great school at years end please let our office know as this helps us build a clearer picture of our class and school makeup for 2018. Likewise if you know any family looking to enrol their children please recommend our great school and the many things it has to offer. We would love to have new families join our school as our Gumlu family continues to grow. If your child was born between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013 he/she is eligible to enrol. Exciting times are ahead for our great school and community.

Robotics

We will try again tomorrow from 2:30 to 3:30 for students in grades 2 – 6. This will be every Tuesday to help the student catch up from my absence last term.

Student Council

Starting next week senior students will be selling ice to the community as a way to develop an understanding of savings and budgeting. The P&C has purchased a commercial Ice Machine and with your support ice will be available from the school for your needs. Students will be selling these bags at a cost of \$3 per 4kg bag.

MANNERS MATTER - 'Good manners cost nothing' is an old adage, but one that still rings true today. Words such as 'please', 'thank you' and 'excuse me' might be simple but their power and effect on others is immeasurable. We constantly reinforce and teach students to always use their manners. In fact, it is one of the main comments that we receive from visitors to our school; the impeccable manners of our students.

When we stand aside to allow others to pass, or give up our seat on the bus to someone who needs it more than we do, we are saying, in a symbolic way, that we respect others enough to give them precedence in this situation. If we neglect our manners, we are in fact giving up our respect for others. If we can't be bothered to show respect for each other in little ways that cost us nothing, what does that show about our commitment to the health and well-being of society?

So why bother with 'please', 'thank you' and 'excuse me'? Manners are like the 'check and balance' of our moral health; they are the little signals that reveal the strength of our commitment to respecting others. Acknowledging that other peoples' rights, needs and well-being must be taken into account is the beginning of our understanding of what is required of us as members of any community. They show that we respect people, all people, people we know and don't know, people who don't like us or are utterly different from us.

We are simply acknowledging that they, like us, are part of a community that depends on our mutual respect for its peaceful and harmonious relationships.

KIDS AND CHORES - "Am I your servant?" demands 10 year old Sam when he is asked to put the rubbish bins out. His parents are at a loss to see where this sort of behaviour has come from. Behavioural scientists say we have created this ourselves through systematically undermining their desire to help. Small children love to help, there is no difference for them between work and play – it's all fun. Adolescents with dramatic growth spurts and hormonal changes may be pre-occupied, very tired and very disinterested in completing household chores. Adolescents are also developing their ability to reason and to sort out their own personal identity and values.

Parents can encourage their young person's learning and participation in family chores through:

- Allowing small children to help with cooking, washing up and drying unbreakables.
- Make cleaning up the playroom a game, spending time teaching your child how to put things away.
- Avoid the urge to take over so that you get tasks done more quickly.
- Recognise children may not do the task exactly as we would but with persistence and praise their skill will develop.
- Ensure the tasks are age appropriate – if challenging, work with them, showing them how things are done and/or break the task into doable bits.
- Adolescents need to be encouraged to develop skills which will support their independence when they leave home.
- Timing is everything – don't interrupt a favourite TV program, a riveting book or homework, negotiate when chores can happen.
- Be willing to discuss and negotiate appropriate chores, as much as possible allow them to choose.
- Thank them for their cooperation.
- Explain your needs and why you need their help, encourage an "If you help me, I'll help you," approach and make sure you are available to help when needed.
- Working together creates opportunities to chat about what's happening and share time together.

Young people need to understand why it is important to help. Make time to discuss with them what happens if things don't get done and how by working together to complete these necessary chores, they get done quickly so that the family has more time to do fun things together or pursue their own interests.

The example set by parents is important; parents need to consider how they approach household tasks. Spend some time reflecting on how these things happen in your home and begin first by considering what things you can do to ensure you are modelling the type of behaviour you want your children to develop.

"The victory of success is half won when one gains the habit of setting goals and achieving them. Even the most tedious chore will become endurable as you parade through each day convinced that every task, no matter how menial or boring, brings you closer to fulfilling your dreams."

Og Mandino

SUN SAFETY – Please remember that bucket hats or wide brimmed hats are sun safe and offer protection to young skin. Some students are forgetting their hats resulting in no play. Remember 'No Hat - No Play'

TERM 4 SWIMMING are an integral and essential part of young people becoming confident and competent swimmers and is essential to student safety, physical fitness as well as increasing opportunities for both leisure and sporting pursuits. The 8th November will be our last session.

The school's annual swimming program will be organised and coordinated by our provider, Mrs Desbois, from Home Hill State School delivering the 'Swim and Survive' program endorsed by Royal Surf Life Saving which complies with Department of Education requirements and regulations. Permission notes have been sent home.

Rotary Community Raffle

All books are to be returned to the school this week please. If you have any unsold they still need to be returned. Thank you to all of those that have supported this cause.

P & C Meeting

The next P & C meeting will be on Thursday 9th November. If you would like to participate in the decisions being made at the school please come down and voice your opinions. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to hold a position but as already stated I would love to hear your opinions (I do provide chocolate)

A request from the P&C is that book fees and book lists are handed out and paid for before the end of the year. 2018 book list are available from the office now. If you do leave our school before next year all money paid to the school for 2018 will be refunded.

Self Defence

Boxing and martial arts will now be held on Thursday's from 2:30 to 3:30pm. This is provided by an outside instructor and the school is only providing facilities. These lessons are only being currently offered to Parents and their children enrolled at Gumlu State School. All participants are required to bring a water bottle, Towel and hand mittens or cloth gloves. The school will provide all training materials.

Can I ask that you try to be available to watch your child participate in this activity. Having parents present will help the lessons flow.

Evolution Mining Kindy

Share a story

This fortnight the students in Evolution Mining Kindy have been talking about books with a animal themes. The students have been discussing these books including their favourite animals.

There is a great website I have found for 'pre-school' resources for parents called Let's Read – fact sheets etc. for parents on early literacy

<http://www.letsread.com.au/>

Music and Games

These concepts have been managed through a Physical, social and emotional focus this term.

All students in Evolution Mining Kindy at Gumlu State School can use the correct pencil holding technique, they are building houses and creating shapes using their hands for fine motor skills development.

Learning and Playing

The girls' fairy garden is growing well. They made an obstacle courses which involved overs and unders. They had fun on the flying fox and on the hopscotch field. They are catching a ball and really enjoying the obstacle course.

Technology

Reading eggs and IXL is going well. Students are starting to receive rewards as they become confident and reach targets. They were using a 'paint' program to explore ways to use tools and art ideas, such as line, colour, shape and pattern.

If you have any old boxes or ice-cream containers that you wish to donate to E Kindy please send them with your child/ren. Thank you.

The three rules needed to be successful in Evolution Mining Kindy
Be safe, Be kind and Be helpful.



This weeks' proverb – “Dreams become reality when we come together to make the impossible happen”

Award Winners	Last Week
Student of the Week:	Riley Chapman
Principals Award:	Beau Land
Gumroo Onya:	Amy Hennegan
Writing:	

At Gumlu we are amazing because we are;

- Responsible
- Respectful
- Safe
- Have a go (Effort)

My email address is tharr315@eq.edu.au if you ever want to discuss anything school related please contact me.

Thomas Harrington



“We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land the Juru People on which we work, travel and live. We pay our respects to the Elders, their Ancestors and Future Generations for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and the hopes of their people. We must remember that under the concrete and asphalt this land is, was and always will be traditional land”.