

GEPS NEWS

Term 1 Week 6

Thursday 6th March, 2013

The Newsletter of Glendale East Public School

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Glendale East dominate the show!

4/5D designed and made a garden with the help of the fabulous Mr Higgins to enter into the Newcastle Show competition. We created a mini edible vegetable garden filled with lettuce, herbs and strawberries.

We had an in-class competition and vote about the design and name of the garden. It was unanimous that we would design a bright lolly pop garden called 'Lolly Plant Paradise'. We chose this design because lollies are edible and the garden had to be filled with edible plants!

Our garden returned to school on Monday morning with a blue ribbon attached to it! We had won first prize in the competition!! Our class now gets to go on a special excursion to Hunter Valley Gardens during the year! We are all very proud and extremely excited!

We have removed the plants from our garden and planted them into the school's veggie patch. When they grow we will be selling some of produce to families and cooking with the rest.



COMING EVENTS, please note these important dates on your calendar:-

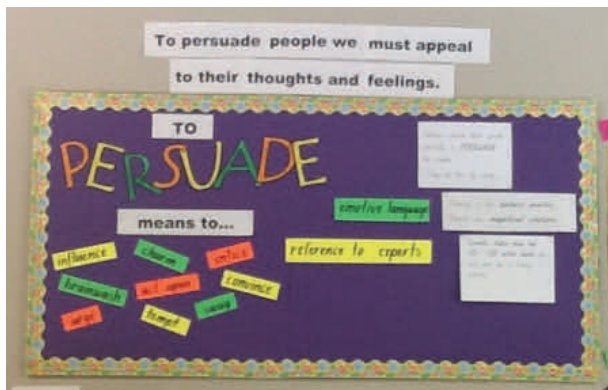
19/3 School Photos
20/3 School Cross Country 2-3pm
21/3 Hunter Rugby League Trials
27/3 Years 1&2 Transport Excursion
28/3 Easter Hat Parade
29/3 Good Friday (no school on this day)
ASSEMBLY—Every Friday at 10.30am

Glendale East Public School values Respect, Honesty, Care, Love, Tolerance and Responsibility.

5/6BM News..

The students in 5/6BM have been reading and writing persuasive texts and looking at the techniques writers use to persuade an audience. In our joint construction below we have used high modality words (*strongly believe*), reference to an expert source (*dentists and dieticians*) and technical terms such as *obesity and sugar*. Read on and see if we have convinced **you** that school canteens should not sell soft drinks...

Dentists and dieticians strongly believe that school canteens should definitely sell water instead of fizzy drinks. If canteens continue to sell soft drinks, obesity levels in children will rise because too much sugar and not enough exercise will lead to weight gain. If canteens only sell water, students won't be tempted to buy soft drinks and they will be able to concentrate better in class since they have consumed less sugar.



The students have been considering the questions 'How do we find happiness? And once we have found it, how can we hold onto it?' in our reading of the text, *The Island* by John Heffernan. John Heffernan is an Australian author and has written other books that the students may like to borrow from their local library. Some of his other titles include, 'Spud' and 'Rachel's Forest'. We have been exploring the theme of sea creatures in our art works.

Students have been busy designing a fun run course around the school grounds during measurement lessons. Students had to design a 1km course using trundle wheels and had to create an appropriate scale to match the perimeter on paper and the actual distance. Students are looking forward to getting other classes involved in running the fun run courses!

Have you ever wondered what would happen if all of Australia moved to Antarctica? Or what would happen to Antarctica if the world's temperature increased by 20 degrees? Well, these are just some of the challenging questions we have been asking each other in group activities in HSIE lessons this term. The students have come up with some interesting discussion points which have included: over population, extinction of marine species, rising sea levels and unsustainable ecosystems. On a lighter note, the students have created some fabulous penguin landscapes using watercolours. As you can see, they look great in the included photo!



2D News..

2D have been learning about Transport with Miss Kelly and are all looking forward to the excursion to Newcastle Airport. The children have talked about various forms of transport and their uses and effects on our daily lives. The children have also enjoyed crumbling coloured crepe paper and using it to decorate out lines of hot-air balloons.

With Mrs Hamilton the class has been practising telling the time on the hour and half hour and enjoyed playing "time bingo" to help understand the concept. They have also learned to use tally marks to count objects and make a column graph from their data. Very clever!



Year 1 and Year 2 Excursion to Newcastle Airport on 27th March, 2013 children from Year 1 and 2 will be participating in an excursion to Newcastle Airport where they will have a 90 minute presentation on the workings of an airport. They will then experience a ferry ride from Stockton to Newcastle and then catch the train to Cardiff. The cost is \$15 but if you paid for the Swimming "Fun Day" you need only pay \$8. **Please note that final payment is needed by 21st March. No further payments will be accepted after this day.**



Homework Feedback

There was a huge response to the Homework survey, thank you to everyone who returned the surveys and made comments it is much appreciated.

In response to the first question: Should homework remain as is for the remainder of the year 87% of people responded in the affirmative.

In response to the second question: I wish homework to revert to a more traditional worksheet as used in the past. 44% of people responded in the affirmative.

Some comments included:

- I am shocked homework has become an option, are we raising a society of lazy children unable to be educated?
- I like that the homework is what my child needs help with
- Is it possible to have a homework sheet and written comments from the teacher with areas to work on.
- I did like the way the homework was done he got a lot out of it.
- We are happy for homework to be done either way as long as it is regular, level appropriate and gives an adequate explanation of what is required.
- We have no time for homework.
- I don't think a list of words and home reading is enough.
- Homework sheet is much more structure and the child knows what is expected of them for the week.

There were many more comments and some of the above are only parts of what was written.

It is clear to see that parents prefer homework that is more tailored to the needs of the individual child but there needs to be some refinement. As a school we will continue to work on "getting the balance right" and will do further review towards the end of term. From this we will develop a homework policy which is reflective of the communities input.

Thank you for your time in completing this survey.

Youth and Family Support

Worker-Kate Ismay

It is hard to believe that we are half way through term one already! I am really excited to be working at Glendale East again this year and I would like to welcome all the new students and families that have started at the school this year. For those of you who are not aware, I am employed at the school through the National Chaplaincy and Student Welfare program and my role is to support students and families at the school wherever I can.

Some of the things that I do at the school includes working with students and families experiencing grief, separation or divorce, child behavioural issues and supporting new students/families that may need help settling into the school community. This is not a school counsellor's role, but rather a welfare and guidance position which may involve direct support or referrals to other services within the school and wider community organisations.

If you have any questions about my role at the school or would like to discuss any concerns or issues that you or child may be facing please feel free to contact me. I work at the school on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** and I am based in the school counsellor's office which is next door to 1M's classroom in E block. Also, you are welcome to leave a message with the front office or child's teacher at any time and I will make contact with you the next day that I work.

P & C News

The P & C need donations of Easter eggs for our annual raffle. Anyone who can make a small donation please bring them to the office. Thankyou

PSSA Zone Trials

The crossroads PSSA are about to start winter sports organisation. The first activity is to be held this coming Friday with zone trials. Soccer is being held at Barnsley and Zac Silvestri 4/5D and Ethan Burnes 5/6BM will be trying out. Mikaela Savin 5/6BM is trialling for the zone netball team at Gateshead.

We wish all students the best of luck. They are playing with the very best children from the 17 schools that make up the Crossroads Zone Rugby League trials are to be conducted in the near future.

Extension Dance Group

The audition piece for the extension dance group will be filmed next Tuesday and students will be able to access this in a number of different ways. There have been some unforeseen delays in preparing this and we apologise for this inconvenience.

Attention Year 6 parents

Any parents of students in year 6 who would like to apply for the Extension class at Glendale High School for 2014 please contact Mr Pryce to discuss the application process.

CANTEEN ROSTER 2013

Monday 11th Mar	CLOSED
Tuesday 12th Mar	M Cooper
Wed 13th Mar	S Munro
Thursday 14th Mar	D Wilson
Friday 15th Mar	C Mayton & T Morris
Monday 18th Mar	CLOSED
Tuesday 19th Mar	K Lawson
Wednesday 20th Mar	T French
Thursday 21st Mar	M Abra
Friday 22nd Mar	L Mayer

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