

Gerringong Public School Term 3 Week 2



Weekly Newsletter Term 3 Week 2

19th July 2021



UPCOMING EVENTS

19th July (tonight) - P and C Meeting via zoom at 7pm **26th July** - Education Week - "Lifelong Learners" **9th August to 3rd September** - ICAS Assessments

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, thank you so much everyone, for following our COVID-19 regulations and only coming into the school when necessary, using QR codes and wearing masks. This is very much appreciated. There have been some changes to sporting NSW PSSA state competitions and Gala days. Teachers will let students know of new dates and notes will go home. We remain on Level 2 guidelines, and if there are any changes, I will certainly let you know.

Congratulations to K/1S, in particular, Maya, Saoirse, Rafferty, Zoe and Angus for outstanding story writing. Kindergarten and Year 1 students have been working hard on their phonics and spelling to help them with their writing.



Last Wednesday we had a fabulous day celebrating NAIDOC week. All students participated in many fun activities such as Storytime and Sand Creations, Bush Tucker Scavenger Hunt, Aboriginal Traditional games, baking Johnny Cakes and art activities. Please have a look at our photos.





















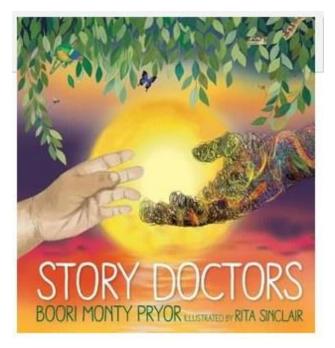






This years NAIDOC theme was Heal Country. The students learnt that :

When Aboriginal people talk about Country it is spoken of like a person. Country is like family, kinship, law, lore, ceremony, traditions, and language. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people it has been this way since the dawn of time. Through their languages and songs, Aboriginal people speak to Country; through their ceremonies and traditions they sing to -and celebrate Country – and Country speaks to them.



Increasingly, Aboriginal people worry about Country. Just like author Boori Monty Pryor. Who wrote this book called Story Doctor. He talks about how he is worried for Country and he talks about healing from Country. Each class read the book with their teachers.

For generations Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been calling for stronger measures to recognise, protect, and maintain all aspects of their culture and heritage for all Australians.

They have continued to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, their sacred sites and their cultural heritage.

Healing Country means embracing First Nation's cultural knowledge and understanding of Country as part of Australia's national heritage. That the culture and values of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders are respected equally to and the cultures and values of all Australians. The right to protect Country and culture is fundamental.

Destruction of sacred lands or ancient sites - some of the oldest human occupation sites on the planet – is an enormous loss for both our nation and the world. While we can't change history, through telling the truth about our nation's past we certainly can change the way history is viewed.

Healing Country is more than changing a word in our national anthem – it is about the historical, political, and administrative landscapes adapting to successfully empower and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, nations, and heritage.

The 2021 National NAIDOC Poster, 'Care for Country' was designed by Gubbi Gubbi artist Maggie-Jean Douglas.



Using the 2021 NAIDOC Week theme, <u>Heal Country!</u>, as inspiration; 'Care for Country'

is a bright and vibrant artwork which explores how Country has cared for and healed

First Nations people spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially and culturally.

The artwork includes communities, people, animals and bush medicines spread over dscapes of red dirt, green grass, bush land and coastal areas to tell the story of the many ways Country can and has healed them throughout their lives and journeys.

different lan

I know the students loved learning and participating in our NAIDOC activities this week and learnt about how we can contribute to Heal Country.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the National NAIDOC Committee for explaining this year's theme.

A reminder for all families

Students should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms should be sent home and should not return until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free. In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative te st.

Anyone who is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms is strongly encouraged to get tested and self-isolate until a negative result is received.

Kind regards and stay safe.

Mrs Kristie Goldthorp OAMJP



LIBRARY NEWS

Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to our latest students who have successfully completed the 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge. We now have 135 students who have successfully completed the challenge. Our infants classes are logging their final books during our library lessons over the next few weeks.

If any of our primary students need help logging your books online, just call into the library, I am happy to help.



Happy Reading, Mrs Cummins Librarian

OFFICE NEWS

ICAS

The following note was sent home last week to all students Years 2 to 6 to participate in 2021 ICAS Assessments. If your son/daughter did not receive one and would like to take part in the ICAS Assessments please go to the link mentioned in the note.

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Kindergarten 2022

Gerringong Public School is now taking the names of children who will be enrolling in Kindergarten in 2022. At this stage we are taking basic details – Name, Gender, Date of Birth, Parent/Guardian names, contact numbers and address, pre-school attended and sibling details.

Later in the year you will be given an enrolment form or alternatively you can complete an online enrolment form via the school website. Please be aware that you will be required to submit original documents (as per the following list) at the time you hand in your child's enrolment form. We cannot accept enrolments without these documents.

- 1. Proof of student's residential address (eg council rates notice, residential lease, electricity account, statutory declaration)
- 2. Birth certificate or identity documents.
- 3. Australian childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) Immunisation History Statement.

In addition, if your child is the subject of family law matters you will need to provide copies of any family law or other relevant court orders.

Also, if your child has health, disability or other support needs you will need to provide:

1. Copies of medical/healthcare or emergency action plans

2. Evidence of any disability or other support needs, including any learning and support plans.

When we give/send you your enrolment form, we will also include a blue form for you to provide permission for your child/ren to go on walking excursions outside the school grounds.

We just wanted to give you advance notice of documentation requirements so you can have everything ready when the time comes for you to hand in your child's enrolment form. It is a legal requirement to have the relevant documents before we can accept the enrolment.

Please call or visit the office to register your child's name and details.

CANTEEN NEWS



SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations Wave Winners !



Community News



Disclaimer: Gerringong Public School advertises in this column as a service to parents. Gerringong Public School does not endorse or accept responsibility for the management or organisation of the advertised events or services. Please note: The community deadline is 12 noon on Friday. Items received after this time will not be published until the following week.

upcoming sessions



Parents, Carers, and Community Members in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven are invited to attend a free mental health education session in Term 3.













The sessions aim to: * Strengthen your understanding

* Strengthen your understanding of mental health and the warning signs for suicide and self-harm. * Strengthen your skills in how to cope and where to find help.

Need more infomation? headspaceSchools@headspace.org.au

Kiama

Date: 19 July 2021 Time: 7 - 8.15pm Location: Venue TBC Registration: https://bit.lv/2Nm5cRh

Wollongong

Date: 20 July 2021 Time: 7 - 8.15pm Location: Venue TBC Registration: <u>https://bit.lv/2Nm5cRh</u>

Nowra

Date: 9 August 2021 Time: 12 - 1pm Location: Online webinar Registration: https://bit.lv/2Nm5cRh

Kiama

Date: 10 August 2021 Time: 12 - 1pm Location: Online webinar Registration: https://bit.lv/2Nm5cRh

Wollongong

Date: 30 August 2021 Time: 7 - 8.15pm Location: Online webinar Registration: https://bit.lv/2Nm5cRh

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

Contact Us



Gerringong Public School

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