**NEWSLETTER**  
*Tuesday 3rd March 2015*

**Important Dates To Remember!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>TONIGHT Tuesday 3rd March</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM - 7pm in the 5/6 classroom</td>
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<td>Friday 7th March</td>
<td>Assembly 2.15pm, 5/6 Power Point Instead of 3/4.</td>
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**Term Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28th January</td>
<td>Term 1 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st April</td>
<td>Term 1 ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21st April</td>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
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<td>Friday 26th June</td>
<td>Term 2 ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14th July</td>
<td>Term 3 begins</td>
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<td>Friday 18th September</td>
<td>Term 3 ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6th October</td>
<td>Term 4 begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17th December</td>
<td>Term 4 ends</td>
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**Dear Parents**

It is astounding to think that we have already completed half a term’s work! Please find attached the synopsis of work, for the second half of the term, for your child’s class.

Sue Kominek

**Absence**

On Friday I will be absent at a School Education Group Principal’s meeting. Mrs Nicola will be taking my class.

**Assembly Changes**

Please Note: I will be away on Friday so Years 3/4 will NOT be doing Assembly. Instead Mrs Nicola is keen for the 5/6 students to show the power points they’ve been developing in computer lessons.

**Cross Country Training**

Tomorrow morning we will begin our Cross Country training. We plan to do it at 9am each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We’d love parents to help at a check point, if available, after the school drop off. Duties include encouraging the flower-picking “athletes” and acting as a speed bump on an intersection.
P&C AGM and March Meeting

The P&C’s AGM will be held TONIGHT March 3rd, 7pm at the school.

At this meeting the executive committee for the upcoming year will be elected. All positions are open for nomination and include:
President, 2 x Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer.

Please come along, support your school and consider nominating for one of these positions.

If you would like to know more about the AGM or about any of the positions being elected, please feel free to contact
Bronwyn Blake (P&C) p: 0439 718580
e: blakesos@hotmail.com

At this meeting we will also be discussing our future projects and plans ... perhaps you have some ideas, we would love to hear them.

We look forward to seeing you!
YEAR 6 HIGH SCHOOLS

Please return the expression of interest forms if you haven’t already done so.

BAND REHEARSALS

We have had a great start to Band Rehearsals

Rehearsal times:

Training Band - Wednesday 8.30-9am
Senior Band - Thursday 8.30-9am

Second Flagpole

The P&C and staff would like to thank those all the parents who provided feedback regarding the question of whether to install a second flagpole to raise the Aboriginal flag next to the Australian flag.

A range of perspectives were raised including the importance of using symbols to create awareness, respect and understanding; meanings of national flags; children’s age appropriate understanding of symbols; multiculturalism; racism; Indigenous disadvantage; ‘reconciliation in action’. Overwhelmingly all the respondents (including those against) acknowledged that the school is already committed and invests in raising awareness of Indigenous culture and history and that the installing of a flagpole to raise the flag would continue this commitment. In total there were 16 letters of support; 1 letter against (an additional three anonymous ‘againsts’, one letter and two verbal); and 2 undecided. In addition, four families offered to contribute to pay for the flagpole and we would like to specifically thank those families. The school consultation has been backed by discussions with relevant Aboriginal organisations which includes Elders, and we are committed to continue to engage with additional local Elders to ensure that any ‘reconciliation’ process undertaken at Gundaroo School is culturally appropriate. As a result of these discussions, the P&C, with the support of the teachers, have decided to install the second flagpole. This will occur in the next few weeks and we hope to be marking the first raising of the Aboriginal flag by inviting a local Elder to deliver a Welcome to Country, possibly during the 150th celebrations.

The Aboriginal Flag

The Aboriginal flag was designed by Harold Thomas, a Luritja man from Central Australia. It was created as a symbol of unity and national identity for Aboriginal people during the land rights movement of the early 1970s. Gary Foley took the flag to the East Coast where it was promoted and eventually recognised as the official flag of the Australian Aboriginal people. The flag was first flown at Victoria Square in Adelaide on National Aborigines Day, 12 July 1971. The flag was chosen as the official flag for the Aboriginal Tent Embassy and was first flown there in 1972. In 1995, the Australian Government proclaimed the flag as an official 'Flag of Australia' under section 5 of the Flags Act 1953.

Symbolic Meaning

The symbolic meaning of the flag colours (as stated by Mr Harold Thomas) are:

- Black: Represents the Aboriginal people of Australia
- Red: Represents the red earth, the red ochre and a spiritual relation to the land
- Yellow: Represents the Sun, the giver of life and protector
WHO IS COMING TO THE SCHOOL’S 150TH

We have been rehearsing a musical to be performed on Saturday, 21st March. The children will be needed at 1.45pm sharp, until about 3pm.

We understand that some families have other plans e.g. Fin who has qualified for a state athletics carnival on the same day.

Please detach this note and return to school notifying us of your child’s availability, or not, on Saturday 21st.

_____________________________________________________________________

Family name: ______________________________________________________

Our child/ren will be/ will not be available to perform on Saturday, 21st March from 2pm till 3pm.

Signed: __________________________________________________________

Date: ____________________
Gundaroo School P&C is running a stall at the school for the NSW state election on 28 March 2015.

We will have a small coffee machine so we can sell coffee and cake on the day. In addition, we will be selling whole cakes (to take away) and also jams, preserves and fresh produce.

The stall will run from 8 am to 2pm. We need volunteers to staff the stall and make coffees. We are keen for the kids to help too, and encourage students from Year 4, 5 or 6 to volunteer as well as parents. Please place your name on the roster in the front office.

We also need volunteers to make cakes – those that can be sold individually with a cup of coffee/tea like muffins, biscuits. If you’re not able to make a cake, we would also appreciate donations of other home-made goods (perhaps you have a glut of plum jam or tomato chutney on your shelves at home?) and of fresh produce from your garden (fruit, vegetables, eggs, bunches of herbs or flowers, plant seedlings).

We have provided labels as all ingredients need to be listed, especially marking any nut products, and then stick the label to the top of the bag.

The P&C will be also selling 150th Anniversary Memorabilia.

Cakes can be delivered to the school on Friday 27th March or directly to the stall on Saturday morning.

If you can help out in any way, please indicate on the form below and return to the office.

If you have any questions, please contact Maxine Webber on 0428 368477.

Name: ___________________________

☐ Yes, I can help serve at the stall on 28 March 2015

Preferred time (please circle):
7am to 8am (set up time)
8am – 9 am
9 am – 10 am
10 am – 11 am
11am – 12 noon
12 noon – 1pm
1pm – 2pm
2pm – 3pm (pack up time)

☐ Yes, I will be able to make a cake/s for the cake stall.
Supporting our School Community

FAMILY NAME: ______________________________________________

I would love to support our school community by assisting with the:

☐ NSW Election Day Cake Stall 28th March

☐ District Cross Country 29th April

☐ Quiz Night 12th September

☐ Community Breakfast 11th December

*** Don’t forget to sign up to help at our ***
150th Anniversary Celebrations!

THANK YOU – PLEASE RETURN TO THE FRONT OFFICE