FOR YOUR DIARY

Aug
Fri   8  Girls Touch - Dubbo
Thu   14 Life Education Van
      15 Primary Excs. Instalments Due
      Zoo Raffle Drawn
      District Athletics – Dubbo
Mon   18 Life Education Van

Tree Maintenance at Gilgandra Public School
At the beginning of this year at a Sydney school a young female student was killed as a result of a falling tree branch and several students and a staff member injured. The Department of Education and Communities then instructed the Maintenance Branch to do a tree audit on all school sites across NSW. The trees have been assessed by arborists and a report prepared for DEC. Currently our school is in the process of having several trees pruned at the DEC’s expense to get rid of diseased or dead branches to ensure the playground is safe for all students.

Early Action for Success
*Early Action for Success* is the Department’s strategy to implement the NSW Government’s Literacy and Numeracy Plan. The strategy aims to improve students’ performance through a targeted approach in primary schools. It involves the early identification of the level of attainment in literacy and numeracy of each individual child (K-2) and tailoring a specific program of learning to that child’s needs.

Gilgandra Public School and Gulargambone Central School will be working as a small cluster with an Instructional Leader position for a period of up to the end of 2016. The Instructional Leader appointed is Brenda Purvis. The Instructional Leader will:
- Coordinate the identification of the literacy and numeracy achievement of all K-2 students;
- Strategically plan tiered interventions;
- Work with the school executive to determine the professional learning needs of staff to differentiate instruction and
- Lead the professional learning of teachers in effective literacy and numeracy teaching practices.

CPR Update
On Wednesday 30th July all staff at Gilgandra Public School updated their CPR qualifications, as part of the DEC’s mandatory professional learning. The CPR was delivered by the Royal Lifesaving Association of NSW. Emergency Care will be updated by staff over the next two weeks also.
Medical Testing
Is it time to have your child's ears and eyes tested again?

Ears - Best practice for children age 4-8 half yrs old having hearing, speech, learning and behaviour problems is hearing testing every 4 months. Children 8.5-18yrs should have 1 test per year. Did you know Permanent Hearing Loss can occur at ANY age after sicknesses with constant high temperatures. In Dubbo please phone Community Health for a free test (up to 5 month wait) 68858999 or Hearing Life ($40) 68820807. Always share your results with your child's class teacher or the Hearing Support Team 68846714

Eyes yearly eye tests, free through Medicare, at any Optometrist in Dubbo

PBL Lion Head Disco
Last Friday all students at Gilgandra Public School were rewarded for receiving 10 lion heads per class. The students chose to have a disco as a reward for their positive behaviour. Congratulations to the students whose behaviour and participation during the social was exemplary.

Jeans for Genes Day
On Friday students were encouraged to wear jeans to school and to donate a coin to the Jeans for Genes Day foundation. Thank you to those students who supported this cause. The school raised $209.50

School Student Transport Scheme
Infants students who reside more than 1.6k walking distance from the nearest transport pickup point or who reside where no public school is available and primary students who live more than 1.6k from the nearest pick up point or more than 1.6k by the most direct practicable walking route to school are eligible for a subsidy. If this applies to you and you are not receiving the subsidy please contact the office for more information on how to apply.

Life Education Van
A reminder that the Van will be visiting the school shortly for three days. Please ensure you child is able to attend this worthwhile program by paying the $9 no later than Wednesday, 13th August.

Senior Girls Touch
On a fine and sunny Wednesday with a little high cloud, Henry, Noel and your correspondent Mrs Frewin travelled with the Senior Girls Touch team to Nyngan for their next round of the PSSA Knock-out competition. After some pretty slick warm-up exercises the teams were finally on the field with our girls defending with the wind at their backs. And defend they did! With Cassie Nolan and Tallara Walford-Fernando shooting like bullets, the Nyngan girls were restricted to only a few metres gained with each play. It was not long before there was a turn-over of possession and in the next set of six Jessica Keogh on the wing sprinted round the outside of her opponent and scored the opening try in the corner. The girls then continued as they began, with rock-solid defence allowing no Nyngan player to pass their line. When in attack they ran hard and fast looking for gaps, their play-the-balls were fast, and executed neat little run-arounds that generally resulted in a score. At the break, Gilgandra were up 5-0. When play resumed after half time our girls changed tactics a little with straighter running and more passing. Kameka Bamblett made some great breaks up the middle neatly side-stepping the Nyngan defence to score again and again. Taleitha Ashby also made a great break. A lapse in concentration when one of our players was winded allowed a fast Nyngan girl through for a consolation try. The final score was 9-1. In the final wrap up, there were three tries each to Kameka Bamblett, and Jessica Keogh while Camella Hazelton came up with two and Cassie Nolan scored once. Raigen Carter, Abbie Mills, and Tallana Walford-Fernando also played well, strong in defence and with good support in attack. A little more polish on the run-around move, and closer support for the ball-carrier and dummy half could easily have seen Gilgandra closer to 20 points at the final whistle. A great effort by a team that I am reliably informed could easily go all the way to the finals. Well done, girls!

The team will travel to Dubbo this Friday for the next round against Dubbo Public. Good Luck girls.

For Sale
Gilgandra Public School wrist bands are for sale for $4. Please have your child see Miss Cohen if they wish to purchase.
4 Leopards continue to strive to be safe respectful learners. In doing so, our class has identified some important goals for the term and we have decided that being nice, reliable, honest and happy are skills that will help us develop at school. All students are doing their best to achieve our goals.

One of our main focuses this term is to improve our problem solving skills in Mathematics. Students are working hard on breaking problems down into manageable parts and applying the correct mathematical skill in order to find an answer. Maths skills are improving as a result.

A highlight of 3/4 Leopards year so far was our recent HSIE unit. Students completed a study on the Maori culture and to finalise the unit our students were lucky enough to participate in workshops run by Quinten Karaitiana and his brother Zac. These two proud Maori men answered questions, explained their culture, sang songs and also encouraged and taught students how to perform a traditional dance and the Haka. The highlight for the students was watching the men perform the Haka; their energy and respect for their culture was well received by all students. A huge thank you to both men, I know the students enjoyed and appreciated the experience as much as I did myself.

Mr Darcy
Last term the SRC raised $203 for Royal Far West. As part of our fundraiser we ran a raffle for a free lunch with a friend and your favourite teacher. The winner of this prize was Chloe Wieland who chose Cadance Wieland and Mrs Jordison to have her lunch with. A good time was had by all.