27 JUNE 2023



TERM 2 WEEK 10

# **FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER**





## **NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS**

We are delighted to share the cultural celebrations that took place at Gulgong Public School on NAIDOC Day. NAIDOC is an annual event that recognizes and honours the rich cultural heritage, achievements, and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The students, staff, and members of the local community came together to embrace Indigenous culture and celebrate this year's theme For Our Elders.

To begin the festivities, an Acknowledgement of Country ceremony was conducted, acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands. This included opening of our Yarning Circle and Outdoor Learning Space with the Smoking Ceremony. Furthermore, we planted our first plant towards our new native garden. This set the tone for the day, fostering an atmosphere of respect, unity, and reconciliation.

The day was filled with a wide range of engaging activities, performances, and educational opportunities that left a lasting impact on everyone involved.

Throughout the day, students were immersed in a variety of interactive workshops and cultural experiences. From storytelling sessions that shared ancient Dreamtime tales to engaging in traditional artifacts and art activities, our students had the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Indigenous traditions and values.

The highlight of the event was the mesmerizing performances by talented Indigenous artists Dinawans Connection, showcasing their traditional music and dance heritage. The rhythmic beats of the clapsticks and song echoed through the school grounds, embracing the audience and creating a sense of appreciation for the diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

NAIDOC Day at Gulgong Public School was a testament to our commitment to inclusivity, respect, and cultural diversity. It served as a powerful reminder of the importance of acknowledging and honouring the rich history, achievements, and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, not just on this special day, but every day.

We extend our thanks to all the students, staff, families, and community members who contributed to the success of our NAIDOC Day celebrations.















#### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

NADOIC Week Assembly Celebrates Community and Culture at Gulgong Public School

Today, our school community came together to commemorate National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Observance Committee (NADOIC) Week. It was a remarkable day filled with cultural celebration and community engagement. We were delighted to witness the active participation of community members who joined us in our NADOIC Week assembly.

The highlight of the event was the opening of our newly established learning circle, a space where students can gather for discussions, storytelling, and collaborative learning. As a symbol of our commitment to the land and its traditional custodians, we took the opportunity to plant native and bush tucker plants behind the circle. These plants not only add beauty to our surroundings but also provide our students with an opportunity to learn about and engage with the natural environment.

To mark the significance of the occasion, we commenced our assembly with a powerful Smoking Ceremony. Led by the Dinawan Connection, the Smoking Ceremony involved the burning of native plants to release their smoke, which is believed to cleanse the space of negative energy and promote positive vibes. This ancient practice allowed us to commence our learning circle with a renewed sense of harmony and respect.

The participation of community members in our NADOIC Week assembly was fantastic. Their presence and active involvement reaffirmed our commitment to fostering a strong partnership between the school and the local community.

As we continue to celebrate NADOIC Week throughout the school, we encourage all students to engage with our learning circle and explore the wonders of Indigenous culture. Our commitment to reconciliation and cultural understanding remains steadfast, and we believe that by creating opportunities for our students to connect with the rich history and traditions of Australia's First Peoples, we are fostering a more inclusive and harmonious society.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all community members who joined us today and contributed to the success of our NADOIC Week assembly. Together, we are building a brighter future for our students and cultivating a deep appreciation for Indigenous cultures.





















### 4 R'S - RESPECTFUL, REASONING, RESPONSIBLE AND RESILIENT

Each week at Gulgong Public School students learn about being Resilient, Responsible, Respectful and Reasoning learners in the classroom and playground. The 4 R focus for week 10 is - what we need to improve. Students are able to select their own 4 R to work on this week.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

If your child/children are away from school, you will receive an automated text message from the school. Please reply to this message with the reason your son/daughter is away from school. E.g. Sarah is sick and is unable to attend school today.





**LEARNING TODAY - LEADING TOMORROW** 

#### **CLASS IN FOCUS - 1M**

During English this term we have been learning about dialogue in stories. We have also discussed the types of punctuation we see in some stories, what each punctuation mark means and how it used. Students have worked hard in their writing tasks and have come up with a number of reasons why the Pigeon should not drive the bus. We have been working hard on learning new digraphs including the 'Bossy e'!

During Mathematics, we have been learning about data collection, putting collected data into a picture graph and learning how to read a picture graph. We have also been practicing our number skills of counting by 2s, 5s and 10s, recognising and identifying numbers before and after and mastering our knowledge of friends of 10.

We have been practicing our athletic skills for our upcoming athletics carnival. The students have been practicing the correct techniques for shotput, running, relays and long jump. There are some impressive skills!

We have had a big focus on our healthy choices in PDHPE unit this term, looking at how we can stay healthy by exercising, which foods are healthier than others and how often we can have certain foods.











#### 2024 KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION SESSIONS





#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**













