Welcome back to our many wonderful parents - we hope you have had a truly wonderful Christmas and New Year holiday break.

Welcome also to our many new families. This year we have another new class - this time on the North Entrance Campus. Our demountable building known as Room 7 at North Entrance has been fully refurbished inside and should be ready today for our students to move in. It now has a huge storeroom for the teacher’s resources as well as therapy equipment and a new bathroom and change area for students. It will be a welcome change for the senior students who use a wheelchair as some of them have been in the same or similar classrooms for years. The new room is enormous and I am sure Mr Garstang and Mrs Gilmore will have great fun with their students as they turn the room into a wonderful learning place for our children.

Refurbishment of the exterior of the building will continue in the next school holiday break to minimise disruption to the school.

NEW STAFF and STUDENTS

As is often the case, a new year brings changes to staff. This year we welcome Judy-Ann Cluff who is an experienced Assistant Principal, replacing Mrs Radley who moved to Lake Munmorah Public School. Mrs Cluff is teaching a senior class on the Narara campus. On the North Entrance campus we welcome Mrs Katrina Smith who is a new school learning support officer. Mrs Smith has been appointed to the new class that has been established there. Mr Paul Williams has taken leave for this year and is replaced for the year by Mrs Sue Perry. Both Mrs Smith and Mrs Perry are working with the younger students at North Entrance. Mrs Elliott has begun her maternity leave and Mr Paul Kannapinn is relieving as Assistant Principal for the year in her place. We have two vacant teacher positions due to the establishment of the new class as well as Mr Herrick’s transfer to Berkeley Vale High School. The positions will be advertised next week and filled from the start of next term. Mrs Ware and Mrs Moulder are also on leave at present.

While it is always sad to say goodbye to our year 12 students, it is time for them to move on to the start of their adult life. All of our year 12 students last year were successful in receiving funding for their post school programs. In addition to that funding, two students have also accepted the offer of two days per week permanent work at Lasercraft at West Gosford. We congratulate Steven Bruerton and John Staines on this admirable achievement. We know they will make wonderful employees.

We welcomed many new students this year. It is lovely to meet new children and new families. For some it is their first experience of school and it has been great to see them settle in so quickly. For others it is their scary big step of starting ‘high school’ and these children, too, have settled in really well. Welcome to all those families. We look forward to working with you to ensure that your young people have the success at school that they deserve to have.
CANTEEN

Canteen day continues each Wednesday for both lunch and morning tea. There is a new menu which you should have received earlier this week. Joy Dawes runs this canteen with the support of some of our other members of the parent group. If you wish your child to buy their lunch or morning tea on a Wednesday, you can send in your order any day. Orders are held in the office until Joy collects them at 9.30am on Wednesday mornings.

Voluntary School Contributions

At a parent group meeting last year, parents decided that our annual school contribution should rise in line with the greatly increased costs over the many years since the contribution was last raised. Every public school asks for a small contribution towards the many costs associated with education programs. At Glenvale, from this year we ask that parents contribute $35 per child each year. Parents considered raising the contribution to more than this, but decided to keep the increase lower for this year. This is still very low in comparison with other schools even though our costs can be much higher. Please consider sending in the $35 as soon as you are able to do so.

All donations to the school over $2 are tax deductible as Glenvale is registered with the Australian Tax Office as a deductible gift recipient.

Dates to Remember

End of Term 1 - Thursday 2nd April
Term 2 begins - Tuesday 21st April
School photo day - Thursday 14th May
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Last year, Miss Mee and her class were visiting the park near the Japanese Gardens at East Gosford. They noticed that the swing was damaged and used a mobile phone to report the damage to Gosford Council. The next time they visited the park, the swing had been repaired, much to Ashleigh’s delight. Gosford council are obviously very responsive when their equipment is vandalised, but we need to report what we see to them. Well done to the staff and students of Room 4 last year.
SCRIPTURE

We are currently organising scripture classes.

The Department Policy is that all students attend scripture (special religious education) unless parents advise us that they do not wish their child to do so or have not indicated a religion on the child’s enrolment. Arrangements continue on from year to year, but parents may advise that their child may or may not attend these special religious education classes at any time.

At Glenvale School, due to the needs of our students there is one non-denominational scripture program on each campus, rather than classes for specific religious persuasions. Sufficient teachers and SLSOs attend the classes with students to ensure that children’s individual needs are being met and children not attending are supervised in their own or another classroom. Scripture lessons usually consist of a story that has a moral, for example, music and a prayer, and last for about 20 minutes. The visiting teachers go to a lot of trouble to make/bring resources so that the lessons are very visual and interesting for our students. Lessons are usually Senior and Junior classes that alternate, meaning that children attend fortnightly.

Last year, we updated our lists and all new enrolments this year should have indicated their preference on their child’s enrolment form. If you are unsure whether or not your child attends scripture on a Thursday afternoon, you may ring the office on 4325 7783 and staff will tell you. If you wish to change or indicate your preference, please send in a note in your child’s communication book.

Regards,

Gwenda Williamson
AWARDS

**Week 2**

**Narara**

Room 1: Benjamin Haley  
Room 2: Edward Vale  
Room 3: Maddisan Martin  
Room 4: Ashleigh Collins  
Room 5: David McEwen  
Room 6: Lachlan Burkwood  
Room 8: Bethany Harris  
Room 9: Ned Hawke  
Room 10: Angus Kent  
Room 11: Adam Jones  
Room 12: Daniel Cowdrey  
Room 13: Dante Murphy  
Room 14: Nicholas Hedge  
Room 15: Mahalia Serrano

**Week 2**

**North Entrance**

Room 1: Macy Page  
Room 2: Ethan Bates  
Room 3: Krystal Woods  
Room 4: Jasmin Murdoch  
Room 5: Brian Ford  
Room 6: Sam Leeson  
Room 7: Eternity Wilson

---

**TEEN TIME**

Teen Time’s after school care program at 76 Woy Woy Road, Woy Woy currently has vacancies. They operate from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. If you need to access this service, please contact Caitlin Boler, Disability Programs Groups Co-ordinator on 4321 1022 or email caitlin@coastlink.org.au
This is an essential conference for anyone working with a student with Down syndrome.

The conference aims to equip attendees with a toolkit of practical strategies, information and resources to best support students in various educational contexts from K-12. The presentations are appropriate for all teachers and support staff working with students with Down syndrome, developmental delay, intellectual disability and other chromosomal disorders.

Conference topics include:

- An overview of Down syndrome
- Literacy
- Communication and behaviour
- Mathematics
- Assistive technologies
- Friendships and social skills
- Sensory processing
- Curriculum differentiation

Embracing Success brings together the latest research and practical classroom strategies to support educators to maximise student outcomes.

Full Program details are available on www.downsyndromensw.org.au

REGISTER NOW to take advantage of the early bird discount.
Down Syndrome NSW
2015 DOWN SYNDROME EDUCATION CONFERENCE
Registration Form

Early Bird Registrations
To be received and paid in full by 16 February 2015
2 Day $450
1 Day $250
10% discount for DS NSW members

General Registrations
2 Day $510
1 Day $295
10% discount for DS NSW members
All prices include GST

Delegate Details
I am a:  ○ Teacher  ○ Support Staff  ○ Other
Delegate Name .................................................................
Delegate Email .................................................................
Dietary Requirements ...........................................................
Age of student/s .................................................................

Registration Details
I am/my organisation is a current financial member of Down Syndrome NSW Y / N
I would like to become a member of Down Syndrome NSW
○ Individual $30  ○ Organisation $132
I will be attending
○ Full conference  ○ Thursday 26 March  ○ Friday 27 March

Total Payment $ ........................................ All prices include GST
Date: ........................................

Payment Details
○ Please issue an invoice
Organisation name ............................................................
Billing email / postal address (for invoicing purposes)
...........................................................................................
Phone .................................................................
or PAY NOW
Credit Card
○ Mastercard  ○ Visa
Name on card .................................................................
Credit Card Number ..........................................................
Expiry date .........................  Amount .........................
Signature .................................................................

Direct Deposit
Acc: Down Syndrome NSW  BSB: 062 315  Acc No: 0090 1136
Include your name in the transaction record and email remittance advice
to admin@dsansw.org.au
Cheque
Make payable to Down Syndrome NSW and include with Registration Form and send to PO Box 107, Northmead NSW 2152

Cancellations received in writing 60 days prior to the event will be refunded in full. A 50% refund will be provided for all cancellations received in writing 30 days prior to the event. No other refunds will be made. Any requests for changes to registrations must be made in writing and will be notified of the outcome by email. Please email all enquiries, cancellations and change requests to: events@dsansw.org.au with the subject line – Education Conference.
Gosford City and Wyong Shire Councils invite NEW RESIDENTS to join a FREE kayak and rowboat tour of Wyong River to learn about our water supply system.

- Enjoy a leisurely row on the 1.5km long weir pool.
- Visit the fish ladder and pumping station.
- Learn about our local platypus population.
- Tour times give participants the best chance of seeing platypus.

When:  Friday 13 February 2015 4pm – 8pm (dusk) and Sunday 15 February 2015 7am – 11am (dawn).
All equipment, instruction and meal included.

Where: The Old Milk Factory, Alison Rd Wyong.

Cost: Free!

Bookings are essential and places are limited, so reserve your place by using the online booking form at www.gwwater.nsw.gov.au or phoning Council’s Water Education Officer on 4350 5555.

Remember to send in your old mobile phones. Every phone, whether working or not, is worth money to the school. Your old phones have already raised much needed funds for Glenvale.