

## Diary Dates

TERM 4  
NOVEMBER

Friday 18th

- PSSA Finals

Wednesday 23rd

- Year 6 fun day

Friday 25th

- School Spectacular excursion

Monday 28th

- Disco & BBQ (Night time)

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF

DATE

DECEMBER

Monday 5th

- Year 6 Orientation Day

Tuesday 6th

- Yrs 3-6 Excursion to Aquatic Centre

Wednesday 7th

- Year 6 Farewell

Thursday 8th

- Combined Scripture Christmas Assembly in Hall

Tuesday 13th

- Whole school presentation assembly at GRC Peakhurst High—12noon

Friday 16th

- K-2 excursion to the movies
- Last day of term for students.



# Best of the West

We are also on the web...

PENSHURST WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL PH:9570 4602

## Principal's Report

Dear Parents

I was very proud of our students at our school Remembrance Day Service last Friday. Student behaviour was excellent and our Glee Group's singing of *Lest we Forget* and *Imagine* was outstanding. Congratulations Mr Entwistle for organising this event and Mr Matthews for the singing. Additionally our school captains and prefects attended the opening of the new War Memorial at Penshurst. Though very hot, the team displayed excellent leadership at a very moving event.

Mrs O'Brien will be on leave till next week and Mr Entwistle is relieving Assistant Principal for this time. Miss Mourad is teaching KO.

Our Kindergarten 2012 students have now almost completed their "Kindy-Start" program. Year 5 have proven to be good "buddies" and we look forward to our new students starting next year.

If your child is not returning next year or will be late back to school due to an extended holiday please make sure a note or SMS as soon as possible has been sent to the office so we can hold a place in classes for 2012.

Wearing a clean and tidy uniform is part of our school uniform policy endorsed by our School Council and P&C. Please make sure your child has enough school shirts so that clean ones arrive at school each morning. If children take pride in their appearance, they feel good and work better at school. It is important that parents do a quick check that students have chosen to wear a

clean uniform each morning.

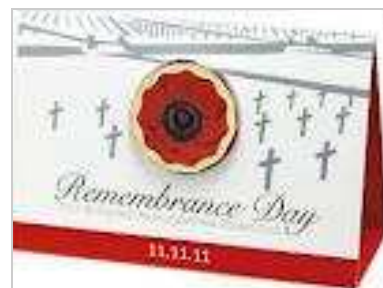
Don't forget to provide your child with a piece of fruit or vegetable as well as plenty of water for our morning "Crunch and Sip" break. All classes are now stopping briefly for this important snack.

Have you registered to get this newsletter by email direct to your inbox? If not follow the instructions that were sent home last week or go directly to the link on our website. Email is a far more reliable way to get news letters home.

Our end of year Disco and BBQ is on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 5:30-7:30pm. Our raffle prize - the holiday to the Gold Coast, will be drawn at approximately 7:15pm. Mr Mark Coure, Member for Oatley will be drawing the raffle. The Disco is a "Beach Party" disco. This is a great family event and an opportunity for everyone to get together to celebrate a great year of learning at Penshurst West.

Thank you for your support

**Merrilyn Jenkins**  
Principal



# Some News Reports on Sir Douglas Mawson by Senior M

## Sir Douglas Mawson

Mawson falls and thought of cutting the rope but made it back.

Sir Douglas Mawson was very famous in Australia as he had fallen down a Crevasse, he finally made it to the top but then fell back. Left there suspended he was losing hope but thought if he just tried he may make it out, and he did, he had managed to pull himself all the way up again. He probably just had enough strength and belief even without ten day worth of food, so no breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Sadly, he had made all the way back to the base, but the ship had left. Leaving Sir Mawson Douglas there by himself.

## Amazing survival

Amazing survival when Sir Douglas Mawson who walked through snow and ice and his sled that he cut in half to make it lighter for him.

Travelling with six dogs and three of his colleagues Morrison and his men trekked across the icy desert. Their supplies ran short and resorted to killing their dogs to eat and one of the three men died of food poisoning. After a couple of days the second man died and there was only Sir Douglas Mawson left alive.

On his way back to his station he fell into a crevasse but he was saved thanks to his trusty harness. While dangling high above the great cavern Sir Douglas was able to cut away his rope and climb it to safety. He escaped by pulling himself up the rope and when he got to the top he fell back into the crevasse and he started pulling himself and made it to the top.

He made it back to his base and when he got there he found out that no one was there and they had already left without him.

By Riley



## Great Escape

Sir Douglas, the first person ever to climb the top of Antarctica's volcanic mountain he made a great escape out of Antarctica's volcanic mountain.

Sir Douglas and Mertz were forced to shoot some dogs and eat them. But later Mertz became sick and died, poisoned by the dog's liver.

Alone, Mawson began one of the most amazing survival ever in his life. For 5 weeks he dragged himself and the sled he had sawed in half, over snow and ice through terrible blizzards, for more than 160km. He fell into a crevasse and was suspended by a rope until, after many attempts; he was able to pull his sick and weakened body up on the rope that held him.

Later, he reported how close he came to deciding to just cutting the rope and plunging to a quick death in the crevasse below. Mawson returned to Antarctica in 1929 again in 1931. He studied marine biology and oceanography in Antarctica.

By Annabelle

## Mawson survives the Antarctic CREVASSE

It was a very sad day for Sir Douglas Mawson, as he was stranded in a crevasse but how did he get there?

Mawson set out to lead the first Australasian Expedition to Antarctica. He set out with 2 partners Mertz and Ninnis. Tragedy struck after just five weeks when Ninnis, six dogs and the sled with the tent, most of the food, spare clothes and other valuable supplies, disappeared down a crevasse.

Mawson and Mertz then had terrible food rations for only 10 days and no food for their six dogs. They were forced to shoot their dogs and eat some of it, but Mertz became sick and died, poisoned by the dog liver that he had earlier consumed.

Alone Mertz began to what has been described as one of the most amazing survival stories of all time. He had trekked over 5 weeks with a sled he had sawed in half, over snow and ice through terrible blizzard and for more than 160 kilometres. He fell into a crevasse and was suspended by a rope held up by his sled. After many attempts he was able to pull his sick and weakened body up the rope that held him up.

Later, he reported how close he came to cutting the rope and plunging down having a quick and easy death in the crevasse below.

By Brodie



All students and parents are invited  
to Penshurst West Public school  
End of year beach party, BBQ &  
Disco with entertainment by  
**'DANCE2BFIT'**

Disco, BBQ & live entertainment all for  
the cost of a gold coin at the gate!  
Come dressed in your favourite beach  
outfit.

(Please enter at Scott Street)

Date: Monday 28 November 2011

Time: 5.30pm – 7.30pm

- \* All children must be accompanied by an adult.
- \* Sausage sizzle, chicken kebabs, drinks, lollies for sale.
- \* Hope to see everyone there!!



To make this possible we will need your help! Please fill in and return the slip below to the office, even if you can only spare an hour or so.

Yes, I can volunteer some time on Monday 28th November to assist with the BBQ/  
canteen sales.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Students Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Students Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I am available at the following time: \_\_\_\_\_

## Dragon Tag Gala Day

On Wednesday 9th November students from years 3 to 6 went to Evatt Park to participate in the Dragontag Gala Day. The games were non-competitive. The emphasis was on participation and fun. The Junior Mixed, Senior Boys and Senior Girls teams demonstrated a high level sportmanship and teamwork throughout the event. Thankyou to Ms Leone for coaching the Senior Boys Team during this event. The best and fairest players were Jayden M, Fadwah A, Andrew C, Anthony M-D, Sarah M and Elyce C.

## FUNDRAISING FOCUS

### Gold Coast Holiday Raffle

All ticket booklets and money must be returned to the office no later than the **18<sup>th</sup> November**. The draw will now take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> November at the End of Year Christmas BBQ / Disco. There will also be tickets available for purchase on the night.

**Christmas Hampers** Each class is preparing their own Christmas Hamper that will also be raffled at our end of year Christmas BBQ / Disco. Raffle tickets for the class hampers will be sent home with this newsletter. Each family will receive 1 booklet of 10 tickets. Tickets are \$1 each. If you wish to purchase the booklet, please fill out and return your tickets with \$10 in an envelope marked "Christmas Hamper Raffle" to the office before the 25<sup>th</sup> November. If you do not wish to purchase the tickets, please return the booklet to the office. There will also be tickets available for purchase on the night.

## TERM 4—CANTEEN ROSTER FOR NEXT TWO WEEKS

<b>TERM 4</b>	<i>Tuesday 15th</i>	<i>Wednesday 16th</i>	<i>Friday 18th</i>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	Sandy Xu	Sandu Xu	Annie Inskip Shayestah Sadeghpour
<i>Monday 21st</i>	<i>Tuesday 22nd</i>	<i>Wednesday 23rd</i>	<i>Friday 25th</i>
Rebecca Harrison	Sophie Barclay Dina Stojanovska	Abigail Pita	Ziba Matanagh Shayestah Sadeghpour
<i>Monday 28th</i>		<b>Please be at the canteen as close as possible to 9am for opening</b>	<b>THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP</b>
Guang Yang Nino Piro			

### **WOMEN'S COURSES!**

**SUTHERLAND COL-  
LEGE LOFTUS & GYMEA CAMPUSES  
SKILLS FOR WORK & TRAINING**

These courses are for women who wish to prepare for further study or refresh their skills to re-enter the workforce. Classes are within school hours for 18 weeks, commencing February 2012. No administration fee.

Subjects include: Computing, Communication, Hospitality, Workplace Writing, Everyday Maths, Bookkeeping, Resumes, Interview Skills and more. Childcare may be available on campus. **Information sessions:** At Gymea College, The Kingsway, Gymea, Block E 11am on Tuesday 6 December 2011 and 11am on Friday 27 January 2012 **enquiries:** Phone 9710 5812

SYDNEY INSTITUTE



**Applications close on 21st November 2011 for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2013.**

For more information please go to the following website:  
[www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement)

For parents of Year 5 Girls  
If you are applying for Selective High School for 2013, Auburn Girls High School has now been added as a selective high choice.