



Goulburn East Public School Celebrates 125 Years

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School has changed greatly since 1887

A message from Illawarra South East Region, School Education Director, Cheryl O'Connor:



CONGRATULATIONS to Goulburn East Public school - 125 years is a significant milestone!

When this school was established, public education was a courageous innovation in New South Wales.

The children rode a horse or walked to school. They used slates and dipping pens and inkwells.

There were canes and lines and lots of facts to learn.

Their reports were short and very simple - 'good work', 'talks too much', 'could try harder'.

Very few schools would have had an electric light.

They'd have helped chop wood to keep the class warm in winter.

When it was time to harvest, the kids were expected to stay home to help.

Most would not have an education much beyond their primary years.

What would those first students think if they could see Goulburn East Public school today?

Who would dare to guess about the next 125 years?

What has not changed after 125 years, however, is the important place education holds in the hearts and minds of the community and parents.

In 2012, Goulburn East Public school is a wonderful example of the ongoing commitment to the education of our young people.

It is also a testament to the dedication of school staff throughout the school's 125 years to provide the best possible learning experiences for the children in their care.



• Above: Goulburn East Public School captains (centre front) Regan Handley and Josh Wearne with vice captains (l-r) Skye Whittaker and Daniel Waters along with the year 2/3 class are looking forward to meeting the former students and teachers on September 9.

• Above right: Principal Bede Darcey checks out some library books to Brianna Bourke.

Meeting the challenges

THE changes Goulburn East Public school, formerly Eastgrove Public school, has seen in its 125 years has been extraordinary according to current school principal Bede Darcey.

"The school and its community has experienced a vast array of social, environmental and cultural changes occur," Mr Darcey said.

"Of course, the revolution of our education system and educational practice has been vast; from blackboards to

interactive whiteboards, individualised student solitary learning to group work, technological and peer tutoring forming current quality teaching practices.

"I share with the school and our community the enthusiasm and excitement toward this important occasion in our schools history and am confident our school will continue to provide a setting where children learn to be safe, responsible, kind and compassionate members of our mixed and varied Australian society."

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Happy Birthday Goulburn East Public School

Read all about it in your local newspaper!

Proud to have the opportunity to wish you a happy 125th Birthday

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