



GS Kidd Memorial Public School children pictured at the cheque presentation in front of their pool with its rapidly deteriorating sunshade. The cheque was presented by director of Shenhua Watermark Coal, Joe Clayton, left, and technical director Chen Gang, to P&C President Vanessa Knight. Also pictured is Gunnedah Mayor Adam Marshall.

Shenhua makes a splash

CHILDREN at GS Kidd Memorial School for Specific Purposes will enjoy the benefits of year-round swimming next year thanks to a donation of \$72,000 from Shenhua Watermark Coal.

The funds will be used to construct a Shademaster Paradise Room pool enclosure over the existing pool.

Principal Heather Welch said the project had been on the P&C wish list for quite a while, with President Vanessa Knight, secretary Karen Rodstrom and committee members Debbie and Denis Buck putting the application together.

The funding is part of Shenhua Watermark Coal's commitment to the community during its six-year exploration licence period.

The grant has been a windfall for the school, which caters for children with special needs and provides NSW Board of Studies endorsed educational programs leading to enhanced life opportunities for all students.

The new enclosure will have a special "interlock" mesh fitted to make the Paradise Room pool safety compliant, while the gable insulated Hunter Douglas roof will reduce the need for sunscreen.

The walls will be fitted with

sliding sashes to protect the children from cold winds and help prevent evaporation.

The Paradise Room will be installed by Gunnedah's Greg Mackay, of North West Home Improvements, who is planning to start the job in the second week of January and "weather permitting" have it completed when the children return to school in February.

Meanwhile, the government funded multi-purpose room will also be ready for the youngsters at the start of the new term and with a record 31 enrolments in 2011, Heather Welch says it could not have come at a better time.