"Learning for the future in a caring rural setting."

**Dates to Remember**

*A reminder that Prep students do not attend school on Wednesdays during February.*

**Next Week**
- Mon 20th Feb.  School Council

**Term One**
- Wed 1st Mar.  Preps first Wednesday at school
- Thurs 2nd Mar.  MARC Library
- Fri 3rd Mar.  Campaspe Cluster Swimming Carnival, (Grade Three-Six, Rochester).
- Mon 13th Mar.  Labour Day Public Holiday
- Fri 17th Mar.  MARC Library
- Mon 20th Mar.  School Council AGM
- Mon 27th Mar.  Gr. 6 Leadership Excursion to Melbourne
- Tues 28th Mar.  School Photos
- Fri 31st Mar.  MARC Library

**Last day of Term One, 2.15pm dismissal**

**2017 Term Dates**
- Tues 31st Jan.— Fri 31st March  Term One
- Tues 18th April—Fri 30th June  Term Two
- Mon 17th July—Fri 22nd Sept.  Term Three
- Mon 9th Oct.—Fri 22nd Dec.  Term Four

**Weekly Awards**

P-2: Values Award– Luke
Literacy– Alliera & Kahlia
Maths– Lillie

3-6: Values Award– Matthew
Literacy– Thomas
Maths– Natalie

Awards are presented each Friday at assembly at 3.00pm.

Congratulations to Ruby and Jimmy who have been elected school captains for 2017; and to Molly and Jai who are members of our Student Leadership Group.
STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP ELECTIONS

Well done to all of our Grade Six students who presented their School Captain speeches on Wednesday morning. I was very impressed with the quality of the speeches and the effort that the students had put into preparing them.

I am pleased to announce that Jimmy and Ruby have been elected as our School Captains for 2017, following a vote by their peers. Our School Captains will be greatly supported by Jai and Molly who are also members of the Student Leadership Group.

As I said to the students on Wednesday, leaders are defined by their actions rather than the title they hold. I encourage each of our Grade Six students to be excellent role-models and to demonstrate our school’s values on a daily basis. I look forward to working with our Student Leadership Group throughout 2017.

We will have a special assembly to present our Grade Six students with their badges in a few weeks—further details to come!

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

Some parents have asked me about what days our specialist subjects are on. Below is a summary of our timetable for Term one.

A typical day at Goornong PS looks something like this:

Our specialist subjects are on the following days.

- Garden Science / Cooking—Mondays.
- Chinese—Tuesdays.
- Art (Prep-Two) - Tuesdays.
- Art (Three-Six) - Thursdays.
- Music—Fridays.
- MARC Library—every second Friday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30am - 9.00am</td>
<td>Arrive at school and classroom reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00am - 9.25am</td>
<td>Word Their Way</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.25am - 11.00am</td>
<td>Literacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00am - 11.30am</td>
<td>Recess.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.30am - 12.30pm</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30pm - 1.30pm</td>
<td>Specialist subjects</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.30pm - 2.15pm</td>
<td>Lunch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.15pm - 3.15pm</td>
<td>Specialist subjects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRADE THREE-SIX SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Campaspe Cluster Grade Three-Six Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 3rd March at the Rochester Swimming Pool. This day will see our Grade Three-Six students compete in various events against students from the other Cluster Schools.

The purpose of the day is fun and participation and the events are designed to cater for the various levels of swimming ability amongst the students. Students are not asked to compete in events that are beyond their swimming ability or confidence level. Events range from walking races across the shallow end of the pool to freestyle races the length of the pool and students participate in the events that are at their swimming level.

Swimming carnival day is always a great day and parents are encouraged to come along and support (feel free to bring a deck chair or picnic rug to sit on). The first events are at 10am with the day usually finished by 2.00pm.

Permission Forms for the Swimming Carnival are attached to today’s newsletter.

2017 SCHOOL CAMPS

School camps provide a wonderful opportunity for students to gain new experiences, as well as building resilience and teamwork. Our school combines with schools from the Campaspe Small Schools Cluster for all camps. This gives our students the opportunity to meet and make friends with students from other schools. The following camps will be offered in 2017.

Grade Three-Four Camp

Destination: Billabong Ranch, Echuca.


Grade Five-Six Camp

Destination: Canberra

Dates: Mon 20th—Fri 24th November.

Approx. Cost: $ 400

An Expression of Interest Form and further details will be sent home closer to the date of each camp. Please note that these are approximate costs for a student to attend the camps. The final cost will be confirmed closer to the date of the camp.
WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

A reminder of our school’s policy regarding Working with Children Checks.

All school staff such as teachers, relief teachers and support staff are required to have a Working with Children Check as part of their employment and our school maintains a register to ensure that staff WWCCs are up to date.

There are also instances where volunteers such as parent and community helpers are required to have a WWCC. These include situations where volunteers have direct contact with students from our school and where there may not be a teacher present. As such, we require parents/volunteers attending camps or excursions to have a WWCC.

Please note that parents helping with morning reading are not required to have a WWCC.

Key considerations for School Council in establishing our WWCC policy are to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the students who attend our school; and to ensure that our school’s procedures continue to meet the current legislation.

The process to obtain a Working with Children Check is quite simple and there is no cost to applicants. It involves completing an online form and then attending an Australia Post outlet to lodge the form.

We encourage parents who may wish to help out with excursions (such as the Prep-Two excursion later in the year) to contact Tymika who will be happy to help with the application process. Tymika is able to sit with parents at a school computer and complete the process.

A copy of our WWCC policy is available on the school website or from the office on request.

Please feel free to come and see Jason if you have any further questions.
Bring News Day

At present Prep 1/2 students will again have their news day on Tuesday. Students are encouraged to bring along an item to share or have something to speak about. This is a component of our Oral Language program. It encourages and promotes speaking before an audience in an audible voice as well as developing and strengthening questioning and listening skills.

ART

Just a friendly reminder that all students need an Art smock to use during Art, this can simply be an old oversized shirt or a more protective smock which is available for purchase at school. Thank you to the families that have already done this.

COOKING CLASS

With much excitement the students spent their cooking class creating fruit kebabs topped with yoghurt. Guided by the My Plate program we discussed the importance of fresh fruit and dairy in our diet. A high five to all the students for showing great organisational skills, working well as a team and following all health and safety systems that have been put in place.

Felicity Johnson

Community News

Is your child in Grade Three or above and wants to play footy??

Runnymede Junior Football Club

Under 12 and Under 14 Registration Night

When – Friday 24th February 2017

Where – Colbinabbin Swimming Pool

Time – 5.00pm – 7.00pm

BBQ tea will be provided – All boys and girls welcome to come along.

The Runnymede Junior Football Club is made up of kids from the Colbinabbin, Elmore, Goornong and surrounding areas. This year we will enter teams in the under 12 & the under 14 competition to play in the Goulburn Campaspe Junior Football League. Training will take place in both Elmore and Colbinabbin and majority of the games are played on Friday night. All are welcome.

Any queries please contact;

Dea Brown 0418 333 177 or David Trewick 0425 710 481
Family Fun Day in Goornong

Saturday March 4, 4pm – 8pm
Goornong Recreation Reserve

This is a FREE event covered by the funds from the Goornong and District Community Group closure.
Lots of fun activities will be held. Pool will be open until 7pm. Roast and salads provided.
For catering purpose please RSVP by February 20 to goornongcommunity@outlook.com or phone or text Narelle on 0414 446 646.

For more information please contact Lyn Talbot at the City of Greater Bendigo on 5434 6028 or StrategyUnit@bendigo.vic.gov.au

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Seeking Primary Grade Netball Players!

We are looking for primary age netballers grades 4 to 6 to join our team at Elmore Football Netball Club.

- We encourage a strong sense of belonging and team work, children will make friends for life.
- We aim to help children develop their netball skills in a positive and fun learning environment.

First training on Wednesday 22nd of March at 4:30pm

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

For registration or any questions please contact Primary Grade Coach, Sheryn McCormick on 0437322452

Keep Kids Healthy, Active and Happy!