

Goornong Primary School Newsletter

26 Grant St, PO Box 199, GOORNONG, VIC, 3557
Tel: 5432 2236 Email: goornong.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.goornongps.vic.edu.au



Friday 2nd February, 2018
Issue 1

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

Please note that the school newsletter is uploaded to the school's website. Copies of past newsletters are also available!

Dates to Remember

**A reminder that Prep students have a rest day and do not attend school on Wednesdays during February.*

Next Week

Fri 9th Feb. MARC Library
First Friday afternoon Assembly, 3pm

Term One

Fri 16th Feb. Student leadership Group Speeches, 9am
Sun 18th Feb. School Families Fun Day at Goornong Pool
Mon 19th Feb. School Council
Fri 23rd Feb. MARC Library
Fri 2nd Mar. Cluster Swim Carnival, Rochester, Gr. 3-6s
Wed 7th Mar. Preps first Wednesday at school
Fri 9th Mar. MARC Library
Mon 12th Mar. Public Holiday
Mon 19th Mar. School Council AGM
Fri 23rd Mar. MARC Library
Mon 26th Mar. Grade Six leaders excursion to Melbourne
Wed 28th Mar. School Photos
Thurs 29th Mar. Last day of Term One, 2.15pm dismissal
Fri 30th Mar. Good Friday

2018 Term Dates

Tues 30th Jan—Thurs 29th Mar	Term One
Mon 16th Apr—Fri 29th June	Term Two
Mon 16th July—Fri 21st Sept	Term Three
Mon 8th Oct—Fri 21st Dec	Term Four

Welcome Back to School BBQ

Goornong Primary School invites all of our families and members of our school community to a **'Welcome Back to School BBQ'** at the Goornong Swimming Pool.



Sunday 18th February, 12noon—2pm.

Free Sausage Sizzle Provided.

Drinks available for purchase from the pool kiosk.

Please join us for a fun afternoon and to mingle with new and existing families of our school.

Please note that those who do not hold a valid Pool Membership will be asked to pay for pool entry admission—adults \$4, child (under 16yo) \$3, family \$10, non-Swimmers & children under 3yo free.

*To assist with catering, we ask that families please RSVP by returning the form attached to today's newsletter.

FOTS News

Christmas Raffle

The 2017 Christmas Raffle was drawn at last year's Concert on 21st December and the winners were:

1st Prize—Rashmin Luitel	6th Prize—Jennie Mathews
2nd Prize—Phil Nicholas	7th Prize—Wes White
3rd Prize—Bob Prime	8th Prize—Phil Watson
4th Prize—Wade Nally	9th Prize—G. McCrohan
5th Prize—Jennie Mathews	

Thank you to all who supported the raffle. We were able to raise \$983.40 for the school.

Bunnings BBQ

A big thank you to those who volunteered their time on 16th December last year to help out at the Bunnings BBQ. We are pleased to announce that \$806.35 was raised for the school—a great achievement! Thanks heaps to Melinda Smith for her efforts coordinating this fundraiser on behalf of the school.

Elmore Field Days

During the school holidays our school received a dividend of \$1851 from the Elmore Field Days Catering Committee. This is recognition of the volunteers that our school provided at October's Field Days. A big thank you to all who volunteered and to Tim McCrohan for his efforts coordinating this fundraiser on behalf of our school.

Principal's Report

Welcome to the 2018 school year! I trust that all students, parents, staff and members of our school community enjoyed a relaxing Christmas and holiday period with family friends.

WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

Welcome to our 2018 Preps—Jackson, Marli and Lucy. Welcome also to Indianna (Grade 3), Madison (Grade 3), Amelia (Grade 4) and Molly (Grade 6) who are also beginning at Goornong PS in 2018. We wish all of you many successes during your time at our school.

WELCOME NEW FAMILIES

This year we welcome five new families into our school community. We look forward to a building a strong partnership with you all and supporting your children to achieve their best. We understand that starting at a new school may be daunting so please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It has been wonderful to see all students proudly wearing the Goornong PS uniform over the first few days of the new school year. Thank you to all parents and students who have supported our uniform policy.

A copy of our Uniform Policy is available on our website.

HATS AT SCHOOL

Well done to those students who have been organised with their hat for the first five days of school! A reminder that hats need to be worn during Terms One and Four as part of our school's SunSmart Policy. Please ensure that your child has a navy blue wide-brimmed hat to wear at school. Students who do not have a hat are asked to play in the shade on the veranda during playtime and lunchtime.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

From time to time parents may have a question or concern regarding their child's time at school. We find that effective communication between home and school and vice versa ensures that we are all on the same page with regards to any issues relating to your child.

Whilst our school staff aim to be approachable, we do ask that parents be aware that in the morning prior to school is a busy time with teachers getting organised for the day ahead and listening to students read. As such, this is not always the best time for an effective conversation to take place. Similarly, immediately after school the teachers are on duty to ensure the safety of the students as they exit the school.

As such, we encourage parents to make an appointment to see their child's teacher or the school principal if they have

a concern or have received a report from their child. This ensures our staff are able to allocate the time necessary for an effective conversation and we can work together to clarify the issue and work out a resolution.

SCHOOL FEES AND COLLECTION OF SUPPLIES

A big thank you to those parents and students who came into the school on Monday to collect the school supplies and pay a portion of the fees—your support with this is greatly appreciated!

For those families who are yet to pay the initial portion of fees, we ask that you please make arrangements with Tymika ASAP.

A reminder also for families to return the forms that were included with the packs that were collected on Monday. We apologise for the paperwork but this is necessary at the beginning of the school year.

Accompanying today's newsletter is a copy of our school's Student Engagement & Wellbeing Policy. We ask that parents spend a moment going through this with their child and then both parent and student sign the yellow agreement and return it to the school.

BUSINESS MANAGER DAYS

Please note that our Business Manager, Tymika, works every Tuesday and Wednesday and on alternate Fridays. We encourage parents to contact the school on Tymika's work days with any financial or administration queries as the reception desk is unattended on the days that Tymika does not work.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP ELECTIONS

Each year our Grade Six students are able to nominate for the position of School Captain. At Goornong PS we have a boy School Captain and a girl School Captain who are elected through a vote by the other students. Those candidates not elected School Captain become members of our Student Leadership Group.

This year's candidates will be presenting their speeches at a special assembly at 9.00am on Friday 16th February. Parents are invited to attend! (**continued over page**).

HIGH FIVES

A high five to the Johnson, McCrohan, Bruinsma and Garratt families who looked after the chooks over the summer holidays—great work!

Thanks also to our cleaner and groundskeeper, Les Varker, who has once again put in a power of work to ensure the buildings and grounds were neat and tidy for our return to school.



Principal's Report Continued

2018 CLASSROOM STRUCTURE

As was communicated to families at the end of last year, in 2018 the school will be operating under the following classroom structure.

Mrs Wickham will be the Grade Prep-Two classroom Teacher.

Mrs Patton and Miss Mac will be the Grade Three-Six classroom teachers and will work together to teach the class. The Grade Three-Six class will continue to be separated into groups for much of the week, including in Literacy & Maths and the specialist subjects, including MARC Library, Garden Science, Art, Music and Chinese. For this to be successful the class will be utilising both learning spaces on the southern side of the new building.

We welcome Mrs Shannon Tyler to Goornong PS who will be working in the Grade Prep-Two learning space on a part-time basis as an Integration Aide.

Team Goornong PS 2018

- ◆ Jason Cox—Principal and Teacher.
- ◆ Elaine Wickham—Grade Prep-Two Teacher & Art Teacher.
- ◆ Sheridan Patton—Grade Three-Six Teacher.
- ◆ Jane McAdam—Grade Three-Six Teacher.
- ◆ Shannon Tyler—Integration Aide.
- ◆ Tymika Weppner—Business Manager.
- ◆ Felicity Johnson—Garden Science Program.
- ◆ Sue Gentry—MARC Library Teacher.
- ◆ Les Varker—Cleaner & Groundskeeper.
- ◆ Jason Carty—Bus Driver.

I encourage parents to contact me if you have any questions regarding our classroom structure.

SCHOOL DROP-OFF

We remind parents that students are not to arrive at school prior to 8.30am, as we are not able to meet our duty of care with regards to supervision prior to this time. We thank parents for respecting our school's operating hours.

SCHOOL PICK-UP

3.15pm can be very busy as the students head home after a day at school. To meet our duty of care we allocate a staff member to be on duty at the 'bus gate' on Langdon Street, another staff member to be on duty at the main entrance on Grant Street and a third staff member to be on duty at the 'bike' gate near the large green tank

on Grant Street.

To ensure that students are safe at this busy time, we ask that parents please meet their child on the school side of Grant Street at the main entrance when collecting their child from school and then walk with them if needing to cross the road. Grant Street is very busy with lots of cars taking off and this will help to ensure that everyone gets home safely after school.

BIKES AT SCHOOL

It is fabulous to see many students riding to school over the first few days of the school year.

To ensure the safety of the bike riders and reduce the congestion at the main entrance on Grant Street, we have asked the bike riders who need to head east along Grant Street after school to exit the school via the gate at the north-eastern corner of the school grounds (near the big green tank).

For the safety of others, we do ask that students walk their bike when on school grounds. Bikes need to be stored at the bike rack in the shelter shed.

FRESH FRUIT AT SCHOOL

The school day can be very long for some students and as such, our school offers a short break during class time where the students may eat some fresh fruit. This break is usually at about 10am and runs for about seven minutes. In this time students are able to eat fresh fruit such as apples, bananas, grapes or carrots.

We do ask that parents send only fresh fruit which their child is able to eat promptly during the fruit break. Other foods such as chips and processed fruits can be eaten at playtime.

In the past we have found that some students have used the fruit break as an opportunity to delay returning to their schoolwork. As such, once the fruit break is finished we ask students to place any unfinished fruit in their lunchbox, which can then be finished at playtime.

LUNCH ORDERS

Monday is lunch order day. A lunch order list is included with today's newsletter. To place a lunch order, write the student's name, their order and the total cost on an envelope and place the money inside (correct change is appreciated). We collect all lunch orders at school on Monday mornings and take them to the shop.

Jason Cox

Principal

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

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

From 2018 Goornong Primary School asks that all parents have a valid WWCC card. This is to maximise the safety for all students, eliminate any confusion regarding activities that a non-cardholder can and cannot engage in; and to ensure that our school meets the legislation with regards to the *Working with Children Act (2005)*.

The process to apply for a Working with Children Check card is not arduous and the school is able to support parents if necessary. We strongly encourage parents who do not currently have a WWCC card to now begin the process of applying for one. Parents who do not hold a valid card will not be able to participate in school activities such as morning reading, attending excursions or volunteering at sports days.

Currently, 22 parents have provided the school with a copy of their WWCC card.

Please feel free to contact the school if you require support or have any questions regarding Working with Children Checks.

We thank our school community for their support!



BUSHFIRE AT RISK REGISTER

A reminder for our school community that our school is included on the Bushfire At Risk Register, as set by the Education Department, for the 2017-2018 Summer. This means that our school is required to close on days declared as Code Red in the Northern Country Bureau of Meteorology district.

Code Red days are announced by the Emergency Management Commissioner of Victoria no later than 1.00pm on the day preceding the Code Red day. Once a Code Red day is announced, our school will notify all families that the school will be closed.

Food Allergies

We wish to inform parents that this year we have a number of students enrolled at our school with nut allergies. Whilst there is no specific ban on particular food items we encourage all parents to be thoughtful about the sandwich fillings and snack products packed in lunchboxes.

Peanuts and peanut additives have the potential to cause severe and life-threatening anaphylactic reactions in allergic students. Even mild allergic reactions can cause swelling of the face, vomiting and hives.

Parents should be aware that allergic reactions can be brought on through skin contact (such as leaning in peanut butter that is on the table), not just through ingestion.

We ask parents to be mindful of this when packing their child's lunchbox.

We also wish to make parents aware that the sharing of food is not permitted at school and that students should only eat food items provided from their home—please do not send along food to be shared with other students!

We thank parents for their support with this.

Assembly

There are two assemblies each week at Goornong PS. The first is at 11.30am on Monday mornings where the students and teachers sing the National Anthem and are filled in on upcoming events for the week.

The second is on Friday afternoons at 3pm. This assembly is hosted by our Student Leadership Group and is where student awards are presented.

Parents are most welcome to attend both assemblies!

Please note the first Friday afternoon assembly will be on Friday 9th Feb at 3.00pm.

Egg Cartons

We are running short on egg cartons. If anyone has any spare egg cartons to donate to the school, please drop them off in the staffroom.

Also a friendly reminder that our eggs are for sale in the staffroom fridge for \$4 per dozen.

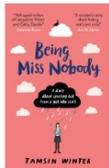


MARC MONTHLY!

February

Welcome back to 2018!

I hope your holidays have been wonderful, and I certainly hope you managed to squeeze in some reading material! I love reading on holidays. My top reads were:



Being Miss Nobody by Tamsin Winter. This one is new to the truck. It is about a girl with selective mutism and the fine line between being bullied and being the bully.



When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead. This has been on my 'to read list' for over a year now. It has mystery, friendship and a really great twist at the end that you don't see coming.



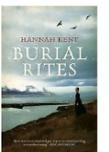
My Life as an Alphabet by Barry Jonsberg. This book was short-listed when it was published and has received accolades ever since. Every student who has read it has loved it.



The Great Mouse Plot by Roald Dahl. This short novel is an extract from Roald Dahl's autobiography 'Boy'. An easy to read, hilarious book.



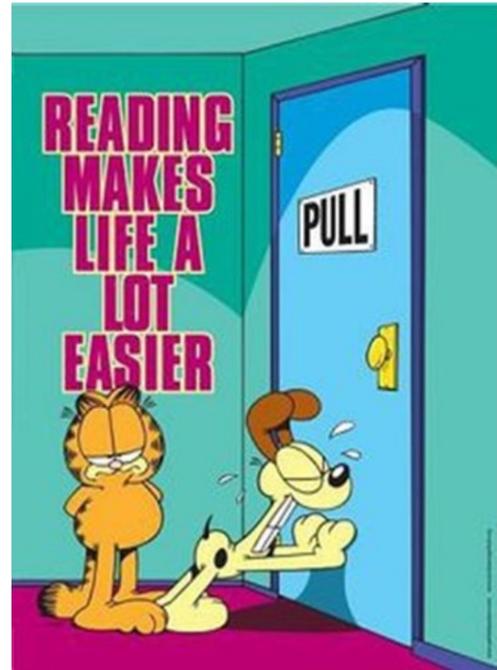
Drama by Raina Telgemeier. A graphic novel that is suited only to upper primary. It deals with drama both on stage and off.



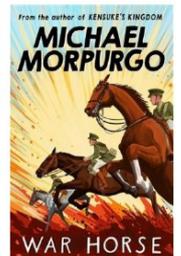
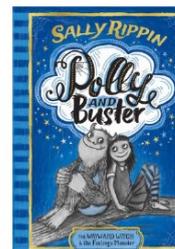
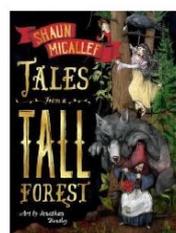
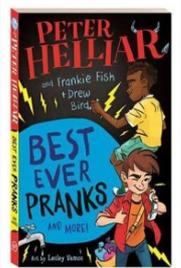
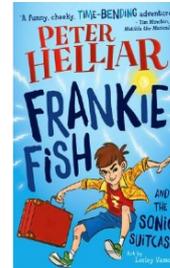
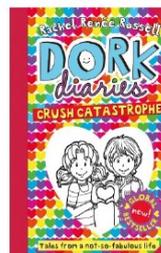
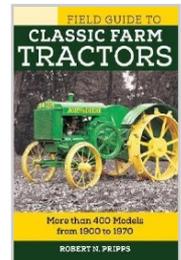
And for the grown ups out there I can highly recommend **Burial Rites** by Hannah Kent. I read it as I am parenting a Year 12 person this year, however I can't believe I haven't picked it up before. A magnificent debut novel by an Australian author soon to be made into a movie.

Trialling something new ...

So that students are exposed to a variety of books (rather than always just going to their favourite shelves), I will be displaying different genres and themes. The 2 themes for February are **Australia** and **Craft**. Students are free to continue borrowing anything they choose however I will encourage them to consider some new material.



Just a few of the new books in the truck...



2018 Goornong Primary School

Lunch Order Items

White rolls, sandwiches or wraps.

Buttered	\$1.50
Vegetarian	\$2.00
Ham, Chicken, Cheese or Egg.	\$3.50
(2 serves eg - ham and cheese in one sandwich)	\$4.00
Salad (lettuce, tomato, carrot, cucumber)	\$4.00
Ham, Chicken or Cheese and Salad	\$4.50
Lettuce, Tomato, Carrot, Cucumber, Beetroot	\$0.50ea
Salad Plate	\$4.50

Sandwiches can be toasted on request (at no extra cost)

Hot Food

Meat Pie (Gillies)	\$3.75
Cornish Pastie	\$3.75
Sausage Roll	\$3.20
Sauce - Tomato	\$0.20
BBQ	\$0.30
Hot Dog (can have Tomato Sauce or Mustard)	\$3.50
-with cheese	\$4.00
Steamed Dim Sims (with or without Soy Sauce)	\$1.00
Chicken Schnitzel Wrap (includes 2 strips of hot chicken schnitzel, Cheese, Mayo and your choice of two salads) TOASTED	\$6.00

Drinks

Golden Circle Juice (Pineapple 250ml)	\$1.20
Extra Juicy Pop Top	
(Apple or Orange or Apple/Blackcurrant 250ml)	\$1.50
V8 Juice Tropical (300ml)	\$3.00
Milk – Nippy's	
(Chocolate or Honeycomb or Strawberry 375ml)	\$3.00
A Bottle of Water (600ml) (cold)	\$1.00

Juices are as close to 100% juice we can source and the milks are reduced fat.

Juice boxes can be ordered frozen.

Zing (frozen yoghurt based ice confection)	\$0.80
--	--------

REMEMBER - **Monday** is lunch order day!

To place a lunch order, write the student's name, their order and the total cost on an envelope and place the money inside (correct change is appreciated). The school collect all lunch orders at school on Monday mornings and take them to the shop.

*Parents can call the Goornong General Store (5432 2203) if children forget their lunch.

A sandwich can be provided and paid for the next day.



Welcome Back to School BBQ RSVP

To assist with catering, we ask that families please RSVP by returning this form to the school if planning to attend our 'Welcome Back to School BBQ'.

Goornong Primary School invites all of our families and members of our school community to a **'Welcome Back to School BBQ'** at the Goornong Swimming Pool.

Sunday 18th February, 12noon—2pm.

Free Sausage Sizzle Provided.

Drinks available for purchase from the pool kiosk.

Please join us for a fun afternoon and to mingle with new and existing families of our school.

Please note that those who do not hold a valid Pool Membership will be asked to pay for pool entry admission—adults \$4, child (under 16yo) \$3, family \$10, non-Swimmers & children under 3yo free.

Yes, the _____ family will be attending the 'Welcome Back to School BBQ'.

Number of people attending _____.