

Goornong Primary School Newsletter

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Friday 24th February, 2017

Issue 04



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

Dates to Remember

Next Week

- Tues 28th Feb. Student Leaders Badge Presentation, 9am
Swimming Carnival Lunch Orders due
- Wed 1st Mar. Preps first Wednesday at school
- Thurs 2nd Mar. MARC Library
- Fri 3rd Mar. Campaspe Cluster Swimming Carnival,
(Grade Three-Six, Rochester).

Term One

- Mon 13th Mar. Labour Day Public Holiday
- Tues 14th Mar. Parent-Teacher-Student-Conferences
- Wed 15th Mar. Parent-Teacher-Student-Conferences
- Thurs 16th Mar. Parent-Teacher-Student-Conferences
- 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— Savannah
Literacy— Ted
Maths— Ellsie
- 3-6: Values Award— Charlie & Natalie
Literacy— Will
Maths— Jimmy

Principal's Award—Bailey Ayres

Awards are presented each Friday at assembly at 3.00pm.

Please note that there will be no assembly next Friday 3rd March as the Grade Three-Six students are on an excursion.



FOTS NEWS

FOTS will be holding a BBQ Fundraiser at the Rodwell's Auction of the Cowan's property. If anyone is interested in helping out on the day or is interested in joining our wonderful FOTS team, please contact Jamie on 0409 141 584 .



Principal's Report

PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences are held twice a year, in March and again in June.

The first Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences for 2017 will be held after school on Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th (Grade Three-Six only) and Thursday 16th March. These are an opportunity for parents to talk to their child's teacher/s about how their child is progressing socially, academically and behaviourally following the first few weeks of school.

Whilst it is not compulsory for students to attend the conference, we do encourage students, particularly in the Grade Three-Six class, to be involved as this ensures that parents, students and teachers are all on the same page as to the learning goals of the student for the first semester.

Once again we are using an online booking system for Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences. Please find in today's newsletter a page detailing how to book your Parent-Teacher-Student Conference at a time that suits you.

GRADE THREE-SIX SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Next Friday 3rd March our Grade Three-Six students head to Rochester for the Campaspe Cluster Grade Swimming Carnival. 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.

Accompanying today's newsletter is a blue lunch order form for the sausage sizzle which will be held on the day.

Please note that the Campaspe Cluster Schools ask that parents attending on the day please respect that the day is about participation, rather than being first, second or third. As such, we ask that parents please remain on the grassed area at the western side of the pool with our school group whilst events are being swum. This ensures that the teachers and volunteer race officials are able to do their job effectively. Thank you.

SCHOOL DROP-OFF

The school staff have noticed many students and parents arriving at the school well before 8.30am. Whilst we admire people's eagerness to begin the school day, we would appreciate parents and students respecting our school's operating hours. Please do not arrive at the school prior to 8.30am.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Thank you to those parents who nominated for a parent-member position on our School Council.

This year we had five vacancies and received five nominations. As such, an election was not required. I would like to welcome Jamie Tuohey, Danielle Donnelly, Felicity Johnson, Tim McCrohan and Daneeta Ede as returning members to our School Council.

I would like to thank Mrs Wickham for her efforts as a staff representative on our School Council. Mrs Wickham has been a valuable contributor to School Council since 2009. Mrs Patton will fill the staff representative position on our School Council in 2017.

The first meeting of our new School Council is the Annual General Meeting on Monday 20th March at 7pm, followed by a normal council meeting. Finance Committee will meet at 6.30pm on this evening.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

At our most recent meeting on Monday 20th February School Council reviewed and approved our new Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan. These two documents outline the areas in teaching, learning, engagement and wellbeing that our school will strive for continuous improvement in over the coming four years. As is the case each year, our school has a strong focus on improving student outcomes in literacy and numeracy and this is reflected in both our Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan. Both documents will be available on our school website should you wish to look at them in further detail.

RELIEF TEACHER

Over the past two Thursdays the Grade Prep-Two class have had Mr Nicholls as a relief teacher. This has allowed Mrs Wickham to complete the mandated one-to-one English Assessments with each Grade Prep and One student. This assessment provides the teacher with valuable information regarding each student's strengths and weakness in Literacy.

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Principal's Report Continued

STUDENT LEADERS BADGE PRESENTATION

We will be having a special assembly at 9am this coming Tuesday 28th February to present our school captains and members of the Student Leadership Group with their leadership badges. Parents and family members are invited to attend.

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

We are often asked about the homework expectations for students attending our school. It is our school's belief that homework should not be a burden on families or impact on a child's ability to participate in more valuable after-school activities such as sport, music, Scouts, completing household chores or simply playing outside or playing a board game with other family members. As such, our school has the following homework expectations which we hope families are able to include in their nightly or morning routines.

All students are expected to read aloud to an adult at least four-five times per week at home and have their Reading Diary signed when they do so. Each student has a reader which they are expected to take home on a nightly basis. All students are also encouraged to study and practise their words with an adult. The Prep-Twos are tested on their sight words each Wednesday morning and all students have a regular spelling test on their Words Their Way word list.

For students in Grade Five-Six, in coming weeks a letter will be sent home with some further information and optional extra homework tasks that are designed to assist students in developing time management skills ready for secondary school.

STUDENT TEACHER

Next week we will welcome a student teacher to our school. Miss Mac is a fourth year teaching student at La Trobe University in Bendigo and will be working in both learning spaces on Wednesdays for the remainder of Term One.

Quote of the Week

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." -Benjamin Franklin

Jason Cox

Principal

COOKING CLASS

The students enjoyed making chocolate muffins this week which involved following a recipe (procedures) and using their measuring skills (understanding fractions etc.). The kitchen is a great place to practise and extend their knowledge and various skills, including team work and planning.



Felicity Johnson



Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences—Online Booking Information

Dear Parents,

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences are held twice a year and are an opportunity for parents to find out about how their child is progressing socially, academically and behaviourally at school.

Whilst it is not compulsory for students to attend the conference, we do encourage students, particularly in the Grade Three-Six class, to be involved as this ensures that parents, students and teachers are all on the same page as to the learning goals of the student for the first semester. We are able to excuse the student from a period of the conference if necessary.

As was the case last year, our school is using an online booking system for Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences. This system allows parents to choose a time that best suits them to have their Parent-Teacher Conference, rather than the school allocating the time.

The system will work on a 'first in best dressed' basis and as such, we encourage parents to book their conference time early, particularly those with more than one child and requiring multiple conferences on the same afternoon.

We understand that not all families may have access to the internet or that some may need support to complete the online process. Our school is able to support these parents to ensure they are still able to have a Parent-Teacher-Student Conference (see options below).

There are three ways for parents to book their Parent-Teacher-Student Conference.

<p>Option 1 – Takes 2 minutes!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Go to www.goornongps.vic.edu.au and click on the School Interviews link. Enter the event code vds9h and click 'Go'. Enter your details (your name, your child's name & your email address). Select the teacher/s you wish to see. Select an available time for your Parent-Teacher-Student Conference. Click 'Finish' and you're done! A confirmation email will be sent to you. 	<p>Option 2</p> <p>The school staff will be running a workshop this Monday 27th February at 3.30pm. Parents are able to come to the school and the school staff will support you to make your booking using a school computer.</p>
	<p>Option 3</p> <p>Contact Tymika in person or by phone on a <u>Tuesday or Wednesday only</u> and Tymika will complete the online booking for you.</p>

Whichever booking method is used, parents are reminded to take note of their booking time for their Parent-Teacher-Student Conference.

Please note that bookings are open now and need to be made by 3.30pm on Friday 10th March.

The following times are available for Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences:

(Each conference is for 15 minutes eg: 3.30pm, 3.45pm, 4.00pm).

	Tuesday 14 th March	Wednesday 15 th March	Thursday 16 th March
Grade Prep-Two	3.30pm – 6.00pm	<i>Not available.</i>	3.30pm – 6.00pm
Grade Three-Six	3.30pm – 6.00pm	3.30pm – 6.00pm	3.30pm – 6.00pm

Please feel free to contact the school if you have any further questions.

Home Reading Information and Ideas

Research shows that children who are regular readers achieve higher Literacy outcomes than those who are not. Regular readers are exposed to a greater range of vocabulary and develop the fluency and expression necessary to take meaning from what they are reading.

At Goornong Primary School, we encourage students to read to an adult at home for 10-15 minutes four-five times per week. We understand that this can be difficult for families as households can be busy places. If parents are not able to listen to their child read perhaps grandparents, aunties, older siblings or family friends may be available.

We also recognise that many students enjoy reading quietly to themselves at home which is fantastic! In this instance, we encourage the child to read one or two pages aloud to an adult and then continue with some quiet reading.



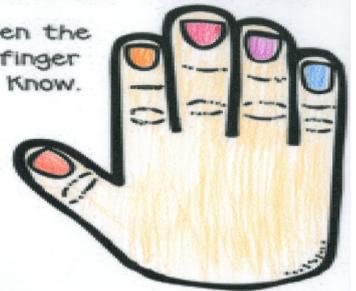
Some ideas for reading at home with your child.

- ◆ Establish a routine for home reading—perhaps for 10-15 minutes before bedtime each night.
- ◆ Share the reading with your child. It helps a child's reading to hear a fluent adult read aloud. Perhaps take it in turns to read a page.
- ◆ Understanding what you've read is the goal of reading. Support your child to understand by:
 - * Looking at the cover and asking what they think the book is about.
 - * Discussing what is happening in the story.
 - * Asking questions about the story such as "Why did the character act in that way?" or "What do you think will happen next?"
- ◆ Give children time to sound out a difficult word before giving them assistance.
- ◆ Have fun!

5 FINGER RULE

What To Do: Pick a book. Open the book to any page. Put one finger up for each word you don't know.

- 0-1 Too Easy
- 1-2 Perfect Choice
- 3-4 Give It A Try
- 5+ Too Hard



It is very important that children are reading a text that provides a challenge but is not too difficult. At Goornong PS we encourage the students to use the *Five Finger Rule* when choosing a text. A text that is too difficult can impact on a child's ability to develop their fluency. In the Prep-Two room the students have book boxes to ensure they are reading a text at the right level.



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.



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 Treweek 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

