

# Goornong Primary School Newsletter

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Friday 30th June, 2017  
 Issue 14

**"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

### First week of Term Three

Mon 17th July First day of Term Three  
 Fri 21st July MARC Library

### Term Three

Mon 24th July School Council  
 Thurs 27th July Parent Information Session  
 Fri 4th Aug. MARC Library  
 Thurs 17th Aug. Bendigo Health Dental Screens @ school  
 Fri 18th Aug. MARC Library  
 Fri 25th Aug. Cluster Athletics Carnival, Gr. 3-6s  
 Fri 1st Sept. MARC Library (Book Week Dress-Up Day)  
 Fri 8th Sept. Jump Rope for Heart, 2.15pm-3.15pm  
 13th—15th Sept. Grade 3-4 Echuca Camp  
 Fri 15th Sept. MARC Library  
 Mon 18th Sept. School Council  
 Fri 22nd Sept. Last day of Term Three, 2.15pm dismissal

### 2017 Term Dates

Mon 17th July—Fri 22nd Sept. Term Three  
 Mon 9th Oct.—Fri 22nd Dec. Term Four

## FOTS News

### Wood Raffle

A huge thank you to all those who have supported our wood raffle by selling tickets. The raffle was drawn at a special assembly on Wednesday.

Congratulations to Steve Filbey who won the major prize—a new 6' x 4' trailer + the load of fire wood in it.

The raffle has raised \$1,400 for our school, which will go towards the installation of a sandpit, seating and further landscaping of the playground space.

### FOTS Meeting Term Three

We will be having a meeting on Tuesday 18th July at 2pm at the school. All current and new members are welcome to come along.

## Weekly Awards

<u>Award</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
P-2 Values	There are no awards this week.	Beau C
P-2 Literacy		Wade N
P-2 Maths		Saanvi P
3-6 Values		Olivia H
3-6 Literacy		Bailey A
3-6 Maths		Ruby A
Principal's		Tom E



Goornong Primary School

## PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

For prospective parents, including those with students beginning Prep in 2018.

If you have a child beginning Prep in 2018, or are considering enrolling your child at our school for 2018, please join us at our Information Evening.



When: Thursday 27th July, 2017

Time: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Where: Goornong Primary School

If you are unable to attend at this time, please feel free to contact the school and we will be happy to make an alternative appointment.

GOORNONG PRIMARY SCHOOL  
 Principal: Mr Jason Cox  
 Grant Street, Goornong, VIC 3557.  
 Phone: (03) 5432 2236



# Principal's Report

Wow! How quickly the first half of the school year has gone! I wish all students, parents and staff a safe and relaxing school holidays. See you all for the beginning of Term Three on Monday 17th July.

## **PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES**

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend their conference earlier this week. It was a pleasure for the teachers (and students) to share the learning successes and discuss challenges facing your child.

We especially thank parents for their positivity and willingness to work in partnership with the school to support the learning outcomes of their child. Through positive communication and teamwork we are able to provide the best opportunity for your child to make progress.

Although there are no more formal parent-teacher conferences scheduled for the remainder of the year, I encourage parents to make an appointment to meet with their child's teacher should they wish to discuss the progress of their child or clarify any concerns.

## **STUDENT SURVEY**

Last week students in Years Four, Five and Six completed the *Student Attitudes to School Survey*. This is a survey that all students Years Four, Five and Six at State Schools complete on an annual basis. The purpose of the survey is to provide our school with valuable information relating to the students' attitudes and feelings about school. The results are provided to our school later in the year and are published in the school's Annual Report. The information gathered from the survey is one of a range of data and feedback sources our school uses to evaluate strengths and weaknesses as we continually strive to improve the teaching, learning and wellbeing programs that our school offers.

## **PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT**

Our Information Night for the parents of 2018 Prep students (and any other potential students) will be held on Thursday 27th July (second Thursday of Term Three) at 5.30pm at the school. We encourage all parents of 2018 prospective students to come along and find out what our school is able to offer, details of our Little Learner's Program and the enrolment process for 2018.

To help ensure that we attract as many potential parents as possible, we ask our existing families to please share this information with anyone you know who has a child beginning Prep in 2018.

## **BUSINESS MANAGER POSITION**

A reminder that our Business Manager, Tymika, is on long service leave for the last three weeks of Term Two and the first week of Term Three. We welcome Joanne Egan who will be working on Friday's only whilst Tymika is away.

## **GYM PROGRAM**

Last week saw the conclusion of our Gym Program for 2017. The value of this program cannot be underestimated as it is one of few physical activity programs where all students are able to achieve success, regardless of their sporting ability. It has been a pleasure to see the students jumping, bouncing, balancing and somersaulting throughout the four weeks of the program. Well done to all students on the way they have conducted themselves whilst on these excursions—you have all set a very good example for our school!

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS**

At our most recent School Council meeting on Monday 19th June, the allocation of fundraising money for 2017 was discussed. Council has decided that fundraising money will go towards the installation of a sandpit, to be integrated into the new playground space; and to include some seating and landscaping features into the new playground space. Both projects were part of the original playground design and Council is eager to see them completed as they will finish off the entire playground space for our students. Council's goal is to have these projects completed by the end of 2017.

Council also discussed more substantial projects to be considered over the coming years, including the creation of an outdoor learning space for the students, installing some form of roof structure over the tiger turf; and improving the front entrance & landscaping the Grant Street side of the school.

The next meeting of our School Council is on Monday 24th July at 7.00pm. Finance Committee will meet at 6.30pm.

## **TERM TWO KIWANIS CLUB AWARD**

Our school is pleased to have formed a partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Bendigo. Kiwanis is a world wide service organisation of men and women who want to improve their communities, including providing assistance to young people. Each term one student receives an award in recognition of their efforts and citizenship within our school community.

Congratulations to Jazmin (Grade Five) who is the Term Two recipient of the Kiwanis Club Award.

**Continued over page.**

# Principal's Report Continued

## ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL—EVERY DAY COUNTS

I wish to congratulate our parents for their efforts to ensure that their children attend school as often as possible. As of last Friday (23rd June) there had been 88 days of school and our school was averaging 3.71 days absent per student. This is a fabulous result and means we are well on track to achieve our goal of averaging less than 10 days absent per student for the year—keep up the good work!

Well done to the following students who have achieved 100% attendance in Term Two—Jazmin, Jimmy, Tom, Bree, Jesse, Daniel, Savannah and Wade.

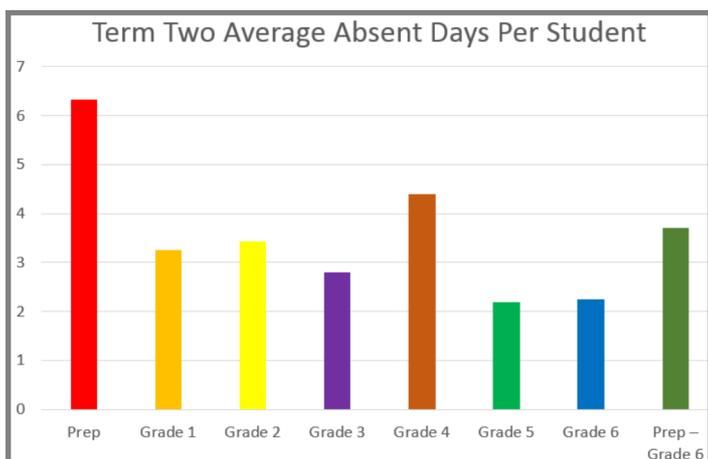
The Education Department's motto is that *Every Day Counts*, as there is strong link between consistent attendance at school and a child's social and academic development.

We understand that there are times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill.

Attendance patterns are established early—a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school creates habits which can be difficult to break.

At our school, we encourage parents to return an absent note or contact their child's teacher when an absence occurs.

We also encourage parents to meet with their child's teacher if they are having attendance issues so we can work together to get your child to school each day.



## BENDIGO COMMUNITY BANK—STUDENT BANKING

Accompanying today's newsletter is an envelope containing a \$10 voucher to open a student Piggy Bank account with the Bendigo Bank. This is courtesy of the Elmore, Lockington & Rochester Bendigo Community Bank branches.

I encourage parents (and students) to take up this offer and attend the branch in Elmore to open an account. For those who do take up this offer, please see Tymika when she returns about how our school's Student Banking can be used to make deposits into these accounts.

## PRINCIPAL'S FORUM

On Monday and Tuesday of this week I attended the North-West Victoria Region State School Principal's Forum in Melbourne. The North-West Victoria Region extends from the inner suburbs of Melbourne right up to Mildura and includes approximately 450 state primary and secondary schools.

Over the two days I was able to hear from a number of internationally renowned education consultants and network and share ideas with principals from across the North-West Region. In particular, the forum focussed on topics related to;

- System reform—how the state education system in Victoria can move from achieving 'good' results in terms of student outcomes to achieving 'great' results.
- Teachers as leaders—how to build the capacity of classroom teachers to be school leaders.
- Collaboration—how we can better work together across schools in order to enhance the teaching and learning in all schools.

Pleasingly, the forum validated much of the work that our school is currently undertaking to enhance classroom practice. I look forward to sharing the key learnings with our staff team and School Council over the coming weeks as we strive to continually improve student outcomes at our school.

## Quote of the Week

"My role, as teacher, is to evaluate the effect I have on my students."

- John Hattie

**Jason Cox**

**Principal**

## HIGH FIVES

What a fabulous result to be able to raise \$1,400 via the Traylor/Wood Raffle! A high five to Danielle and her team for coordinating this fundraiser; and to all in our school community who supported the raffle by selling and/or purchasing tickets. Goornong is certainly a 'can do' community and the fundraising achievements of our small school are the envy of many other schools (big and small) in the Bendigo area.



### **Catholic Religious Instruction**

As the school is no longer able to offer Religious Instruction Classes, Mrs Judith Mann will be running Catholic Education Classes on Mondays after school at the Recreation Reserve, beginning in Term Three.

The classes will begin at 3.30pm.

The first session will be held on Monday 17th July.

Parents are asked to make a gold coin donation per child for each session.

*If you are intending for your child to walk from the school to the Recreation Reserve on Mondays to participate in this program, we ask that you please provide written consent of this arrangement to the school. Thank you.*