

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 15th March, 2019
Issue 4

Our school values—**teamwork**, **respect**, **honesty** and **care**.

Dates to Remember

Next Week

Mon 18th Mar. Grade Six leaders excursion to Melbourne
Thurs 21st Mar. Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

Term One

Tues 19th Mar. Cultural Excursion to BSSC
Playgroup at the School, 10am-12noon
Fri 22nd Mar. MARC Library
Fri 29th Mar. Dental Screening
Mon 1st Apr. School Council AGM and Meeting
Tues 2nd Apr. School Photos
Fri 5th Apr. Last day of Term One, 2.15pm dismissal

Term Two

Mon 22nd Apr. Easter Monday
Tues 23rd Apr. First day of Term Two
Wed 24th Apr. ANZAC Day Service at School, 9am
Cluster Cross Country, Prep-Six
Thurs 25th Apr. ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Mon 10th June Queens Birthday Public Holiday
Fri 28th June Last day of Term Two, 2.15pm dismissal

2019 Term Dates

Thurs 31st Jan. — Fri 5th Apr.	Term One
Tues 23rd Apr. — Fri 28th June	Term Two
Mon 15th July — Fri 20th Sept.	Term Three
Mon 7th Oct. — Fri 20th Dec.	Term Four

Term One Newsletter Dates

Friday 1st February—Issue One
Friday 15th February—Issue Two
Friday 1st March—Issue Three
Friday 15th March—Issue Four
Friday 29th March—Issue Five

FOTS News

Tickets to the Eggstraordinary Easter Raffle have been attached to today's newsletter. We would like to thank everyone who has donated items or organized donations on our behalf. We have had a fantastic result! Prizes are below.

First Prize: Wood Ring valued at \$690, fire wood (6x4 trailer load) and \$25 Voucher to Jono & Johnno.

Second Prize: Perla Barb 61.5cc Chainsaw and \$25 Voucher Jono & Johnno, 20 Cadbury Easter Eggs.

Third Prize: \$150 Go Pest Voucher, Bottle of Brown Brothers Moscato & Chardonnay, Cadbury Crème Eggs block, Cadbury bunny, Plaster painting kit, Easter colouring pages, Kids book, Jewelry set, Voucher to Bendigo Pottery.

Fourth Prize: \$50 Coles Gift Card, Maroussia Perfume, Pete Cromer Collection Egg cups (x2) and Tea towel, Kids Book, Lindt Easter Eggs.

Fifth Prize: Easter eggs, Bendigo Art Gallery voucher, Smiggle Activity book.

Sixth Prize: Travel Monopoly, \$50 Woolworths Gift Card, Easter Eggs, Nestle Milky Bar Block.

Seventh Prize: Kids book, Easter eggs, Nestle Aero bar block, Bubbles, Kite

Eighth Prize: Easter eggs, Bouncing Egg, Sequin note book, Sticky Notes, Pens.

Ninth Prize: Roses Chocolates, Cadbury bunny, Frozen Stationery pack.

Tenth Prize: Cadbury Easter eggs, Dress up cape and mask, Dress up dog onesie.

Please return all tickets and money by Tuesday 2nd April
The raffle will be drawn at a special assembly on Wednesday 3rd April at 3.00pm.

Thank you to the following business's for their support with our latest Easter Raffle:

Coliron— Arnold St, Bendigo— 5443 3487
Jono & Johnno— 31 Carngham Rd, Delacombe—5303 0263
Go Pest— Huntly—5448 3407
Coles Mclvor Rd— East Bendigo—5443 0833
Bendigo Art Gallery— View St, Bendigo—5434 6088
Bendigo Pottery—Midland Hwy, Epsom—5448 4404

Principal's Report

STUDENT LEADERSHIP GROUP EXCURSION

This coming Monday 18th March our Grade Six students will travel to Melbourne by train for the 'Inspire' Young Leaders Conference at the Exhibition Centre. Our student leaders will join approximately 3000 primary school student leaders from across Victoria to listen to guest speakers and celebrities share their stories of leadership and inspiration.

A reminder for our Grade Six families that we are catching the 6.32am train from Bendigo Train Station on Monday. Please arrive at 6.15am to meet Mr Cox and Mrs Patton.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK EXCURSION TO BENDIGO SENIOR SECONDARY COLLEGE

A reminder that this coming Tuesday 19th March our Grade Three-Six students will be going on an excursion to Bendigo Senior Secondary College as part of Cultural Diversity Week. Our students will join with other primary school students from the Bendigo area to participate in a range of multicultural activities.

uEDUCATEUS SYSTEM



Thank you to those parents who have successfully installed the uEducateUs App on their phone or accessed their parent portal via PC. We are asking that all parents use their unique username and password that was sent home with last fortnight's newsletter to access their portal and familiarise themselves with uEducateUs.

Using their uEducateUs portal, parents are able to notify the school of student absences, book parent-teacher-student conferences and receive communications from the school via push notifications.

A reminder that uEducateUs is an online portal which parents are able to download onto their smartphone or tablet as an app or access on their PC via the uEducate website. This new system replaces the current Goornong PS App which has now been closed.

Please feel free to contact or come and see Tymika at the school on Tuesday or Wednesday should you require any assistance with uEducateUs.

STUDENT ABSENCES

It is now Education Department Policy that schools notify parents on the day when a student is absent and the school has not been provided with a reason for the absence. As such, we ask that parents please notify the school in the morning if their child is going to be absent from school that day. Parents are able to notify the school of absences via their uEducateUs portal or by contacting the school by

phone. Please note that the school is not able to accept verbal messages from siblings of absent students.

To ensure our school is meeting the requirements of the Education Department, each morning, our teachers mark the attendance roll for the day using the uEducateUs system. The system automatically generates a notification that is sent to parents where a student is marked as an unexplained absence.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL—EVERY DAY COUNTS!

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 very 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.

With approximately 200 days in the school year, our goal is to achieve an average of under 10 absence days per student. As was the case last year, in 2019 we will be presenting awards at the end of each term to those students who achieve 100% attendance.

PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES

Thank you to those parents (and students) who were able to attend a Parent-Teacher-Student Conference this week. It was a pleasure for the teachers to have the conversation with parents about the successes, challenges and progress of the students.

Please note that the uEducateUs booking system is now closed. However, parents are welcome to contact their child's teacher should they wish to make a time next week for a conference.

Each year we offer formal Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences in Term One and again towards the end of Term Two. However, parents are encouraged to make an appointment to talk to their child's teacher at any time should they have any questions or concerns. We find that by communicating and working together when issues arise we are able to achieve the best result for the child. **(Principal's Report continued over page).**

Principal's Report Continued

2019 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION

Once again I wish to thank the four candidates who nominated for the three parent-member vacancies on our School Council.

Following the counting of votes, I am able to announce that Danielle Donnelly, Jamie Tuohey and Daneeta Ede have been elected to the three vacant positions.

The first meeting of our new school council is the Annual General Meeting on Monday 1st April, beginning at 7pm.

I will be sending out welcome packs to our School Councillors in the coming weeks, prior to the AGM.

Following the nominations process, I wish to acknowledge our outgoing school councillors, Tim McCrohan and Felicity Johnson.

Felicity began on our school council in 2010 and over the past nine years has been a reliable and valuable contributor in a range of areas, including in the role of secretary. Felicity's knowledge and passion for the environment has been an asset to our council and was of great benefit during and after construction of the new school building.

Tim joined school council in 2013 and was president during the period 2013-2016. Tim's passion for fundraising and the development of the school's facilities was highlighted with the completion of the new playground—a project of which he was a key figure.

I thank Tim and Felicity for their significant contributions to our school in their role as councillors.

Quote of the Week

"Never discourage anyone who continually makes progress, no matter how slow."

-Plato

Jason Cox

Principal

HIGH FIVES

A high five to our FOTS team and all parents who have donated goods for our Easter Raffle. It is a credit to our small school community that we are able to work together to organise a substantial raffle—well done all involved!



WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

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

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.

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!

Weekly Awards

Awards are presented each week at the 3pm Friday assembly. Parents are welcome to attend!



<u>Award</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
P-2 Values	Olivia M	Max M
P-2 Literacy	Saanvi P	Mayla P
P-2 Maths	Lucy O	Charlie A
3-6 Values	Charlie C	Ellsie T
3-6 Literacy	Tom E	Savannah M
3-6 Maths	Olivia H	Wade N
Principal's	Elizabeth N	Claire H

Classroom News

GRADE PREP-TWO

Over this fortnight it has been fantastic to have the preps now attending school full time. Although we have had a few tired students by Friday everyone has transitioned nicely to full time.

During Literacy we have focused on Monitoring our reading, making sure that if we don't understand something we stop and re-read. In Writing we have started our Narrative stories and the students have been excited to create their own interesting characters. Grade 1-2's this week worked on sizzling starts to hook the readers' attention and wow they did an awesome job! We are all excited to see where their stories will go next...

In Maths we have continued our investigation of shapes both 2d and 3d. The 1/2s have been working on place value and using manipulatives to represent and count large numbers.



Milla, Marli & Mayla practicing skip counting



Max making a picture with 2d shapes

Ways to support your child's learning at home-

*Attempt to listen to your child read for 15 minutes, 4-5 times a week.

*Grade 1/2s can practice fortnightly Words Their Way words (spelling and sound focus).

*Any additional maths practice would be a bonus, for example counting objects or rolling 2 dice to practice quick addition.

Over the next fortnight we will continue to explore narrative in both writing and reading, with a focus on summarising the events that occurred in a story. In Maths we will be starting our unit on addition, looking at friends of ten, doubles and quick single-digit mental addition.



GRADE THREE-SIX

Over the last two weeks of school the Grade Three-Six students have continued to write their narratives, using lots of description to keep the reader hooked! In our Reading Block, we have begun to focus on understanding 'Literal' comprehension using images.

During Maths, the Grade Three-Fours have continued their Place Value work, focusing on rounding off numbers to the nearest 10 and 100 as well as ordering numbers.

This week the Gr.5 and 6 maths class began a new topic, focusing on prime and composite numbers. This focus really enables students to practise and further develop their ever expanding knowledge of multiplication and the number patterns within mathematics. It will be very interesting to see the development of students multiplication skill set throughout the topic. Bring on the challenge!

In music, the students continue to enjoy learning an array of circus tricks and skills with Ms Hayes. Some of the activities are Devil Sticks, Spinning Plates, Scarves and even a unicycle!



In Music with Ms Hayes the students have been working on circus skills. Tess with a spinning top. Tom on the unicycle and Braydon with the devil sticks!

(Many thanks to Madi for taking these great photos :)

Just a reminder for parents and students regarding homework expectations. For Grade Three-Six students. Students are required to read their reader at home during the week to practise their reading goal. In addition, each fortnight the students receive Words Their Way spelling words to work on at home. The next new spelling words will be sent home today!

For our Grade Five-Six students, at the beginning of Term Two we will be sending home a letter regarding extra homework opportunities which students may wish to take up.

Goornong Playgroup



The next playgroup session will be held on

Tuesday 19th March

at the school, beginning at 10am.

We invite all members of the Goornong community with young children to please come along and meet other people in the area who have young children; and also use some of your local school's facilities.

Morning tea will be provided for both parents and children.

We hope to see you there!



Student Banking– Bendigo Bank

Once again our school will offer Student Banking for students that bank with the Bendigo Bank.

Students need to place their completed bank book with their money in the locked Student Banking box in the staffroom each Tuesday morning before 9.00am. Their deposits will be made during the week and deposit books returned by Friday.

New bank accounts can be opened at the Elmore branch.

Student banking will begin from Tuesday 19th March.



FREE DENTAL SCREENING

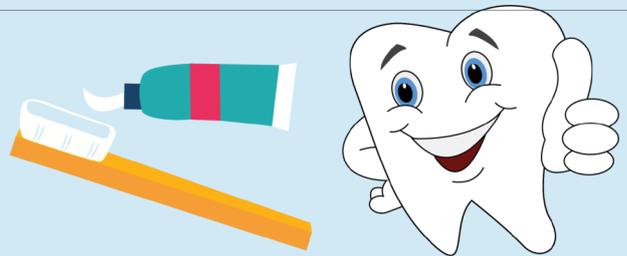
'The oral health of your children is important to us'

Bendigo Health is offering a free dental service to children at Goornong Primary School on Friday 29th March 2019

The service will include a dental screen, application of fluoride varnish and learning activity related to developing good dental habits.

Consent forms are available if you want to have your child seen.

If you have any questions please contact Bendigo Health Dental Service on 5454 7994.



MARC MONTHLY!

March

Massive THANK YOU!!!

I would like to thank **Sarah Mayor-Cox** for her very generous donation of **over \$3,000** worth of brand new books to the MARC van. Sarah is a Children's and YA Literature lecturer at LaTrobe University and is currently a PhD candidate at RMIT where she is researching Australian picture book illustrators. She reviews books (she is on the ABC radio fortnightly) and is the Regional Director of the CBCA. I have met Sarah through the ALEA (Australian Literacy Educators' Association) meetings I attend. She receives books from publishers to review, and she kindly donates the books periodically to schools around Bendigo. At the end of last year it was our turn! My study is now stacked with beautiful books that I will be cataloguing to add to our MARC library. Each one will have a little blue label on the front recognising Sarah's donation (blue being her favourite colour!). The students will be sending a 'Thank You' book they have made to Sarah and I will be singing her praises for a very long time!

What I have read...

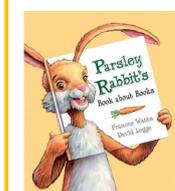
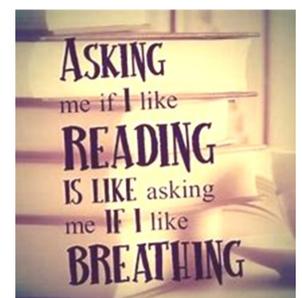
A beautifully written book about a girl called Lenny and her brother Davey who won't stop growing. Lenny and Davey don't have much, but they do have the weekly instalment of the Burrell's *Built-It-at-Home Encyclopaedia* which takes them to places they can never go and fills their minds with bugs and eagles (among other things!) (Highly recommended by Mrs G)



My daughter Charlotte read *Graciously Grayson* during the summer holiday and spoke so highly about it I had to read it. This is not a book for everyone. Grayson has been holding onto a secret for what seems like forever; "he" is a girl on the inside, stuck in the wrong gender's body. The book deals with the weight of this secret and Grayson's bravery; lying out [successfully] for the lead female role in the school play. If there families who are happy for their children to read this one just send me a note and I will pass it on.



I finally got around to reading *Ugly* by Robert Hoge. And I wasn't disappointed. If you enjoyed *Wonder* (and who didn't!) then you will like this true story of an Australian man born with facial deformities and malformed legs. This book details his childhood and coming to terms with being 'ugly'. You can also watch a TED talk in which he discusses 'owning your face'.



We have used *Parsley Rabbit's Book about Books* by Frances Watts to discuss the features of texts. Students have discussed title pages, endpapers, blurbs, author, illustrator and imprint pages as part of our activities. Older students managed to find lots of information about the book on the imprint page (the one that no-one usually ever reads, except teacher librarians!) which can tell you when and where a book was published.

We also discussed the importance of treating a book's spine well: not over bending it, never leaving a book spread open on a bench and absolutely no dog earring! Everyone made a bookmark which is the very best way to know where you are up to!

