

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 12th June, 2020
 Issue 10

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

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

Dates to Remember

Term Two

Mon 15th June School Council Meeting
 (via videoconference)
 Fri 26th June MARC Library
 Last day of Term Two

Term Three

Mon 13th July First day of Term 3
 Fri 18th Sept Last day of Term 3, 2.15pm dismissal

2020 Term Dates

Term One Wed 29th Jan — Fri 27th Mar
 Term Two Tues 14th Apr—Fri 26th June
 Term Three Mon 13th July—Fri 18th Sept
 Term Four Fri 5th Oct—Fri 18th Dec

Weekly Awards

With all students now back at school, we will no longer be publishing a virtual edition of our weekly assembly. Instead, individual classroom assemblies will be held on Friday afternoons to present the students with their awards.

<u>Award</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
P-2 Literacy	Lola A	Olivia M
P-2 Maths	Lucy O	Lola A
P-2 Values	Eddie S	Marli O
3-6 Literacy	Indi A	Daniel J
3-6 Maths	Brayden P & Wade N	Bailey A
Principals	Harry M & Charlie A	Tyler B

Welcome back to school Grade 3-6s!



Principal's Report

GRADE 3-6s RETURN TO SCHOOL

This week we welcomed the Grade 3-6s back to face-to-face learning at the school. After almost 8 weeks of remote learning, it was terrific to see the students re-connecting with their peers and excited about getting back to school. I was very impressed to hear many students reflecting with their peers about how much they missed school and how much they realised being at school helped them to learn.

I wish to congratulate both Mr Tooley and Mrs Sexton for their work this week ensuring the students' transition back to on-site learning went as smoothly as possible.

GRADE 3-6 CLASSROOM ARRANGEMENTS

A reminder of the arrangements for the Grade 3-6 classroom. Unfortunately, Mrs Patton will be taking leave from 9th June until the end of Term 2. As such, Kellie Sexton will be replacing Mrs Patton for the final three weeks of Term 2, working on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Sexton has worked at Goornong PS as a relief teacher for a number of years. She knows most of the students and is also familiar with the operations of our school and the routines of both classrooms.

On Mondays and Tuesdays the 3-6s will have a combination of Mr Tooley, Mr Cox and their usual specialist teachers.

GRADE 3-4 AND GRADE 5-6 CAMPS

I ask that parents please find accompanying today's newsletter a letter regarding the cancellation of both the Grade 3-4 and Grade 5-6 camps for 2020. This is a real shame for our students but is necessary given the current climate. Please be aware that the school is currently working on refunding all camp deposits and money paid towards these camps to parents.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The next school council meeting will be held remotely via Webex and is scheduled for Monday 15th June, beginning at 7pm. Finance Committee will begin at 6.45pm. Jason will send out the meeting number to join via Webex on Monday afternoon.

Council packs were sent home on Thursday.

FAREWELL TYMIKA

It is with sadness that I announce that our wonderful Business Manager, Tymika, will be finishing up at Goornong PS at the end of this term. Tymika has been Business Manager at Goornong PS for the past 7 years, always demonstrating integrity and professionalism in her work. From a personal perspective, Tymika has been a great support in the administration of the school and I thank her very much for her dedication and commitment. On behalf of our entire school community, I wish Tymika, Jake and the boys all the best!

BUSINESS MANAGER

I am pleased to announce that Melissa Payne has been appointed as the school's new Business Manager. Melissa has experience working as the Finance Manager at a larger school in Bendigo and I'm sure she will be an asset to the Goornong PS staff team. Melissa will be working on Tuesday and Wednesdays, beginning on the first Tuesday of Term 3.

PARENTS ATTENDING THE SCHOOL SITE

I have had some parents asking for clarification with regards to parents being on school grounds. The advice from the Education Department is that parents should only be on the school grounds if it is absolutely necessary; and that they should minimise the time they spend on the school grounds in these instances. We understand that for young students it may be necessary for parents to walk their child to the school building in the morning. So there is no confusion, we ask that parents only do this if it is necessary. Again, we thank parents for their understanding with respect to this.

Principal's Report continued over page.

CARDBOARD BOXES & CYLINDERS WANTED

For a project the students will be completing in Term 3, we require cardboard boxes of all sizes (including small ones) and cardboard cylinders (not loo paper ones). If you have any spare and are able to drop them off at the school we would be sincerely grateful!

Principal's Report Continued

SEMESTER 1 STUDENT REPORTS

Student reports for Semester 1 will be sent home towards the end of this term.

The Department of Education and Training has adjusted the expectations of Student Reports for Semester 1 in recognition of the Covid-19 situation and the transition to remote and flexible learning during Term 2.

While our school has continued to deliver a teaching and learning program and monitor the achievement and progress of each student, there have been some unprecedented changes to our usual program.

As such, there will be some changes to this semester's student reports. The reports will include information on the curriculum areas taught and a comment about student achievement for English and Mathematics. However, the usual A-E scoring system will not be included. This is because students have not had the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills through school-based assessments and in an independent manner. Instead, student reports will show whether a student is working towards, at or above the expected level of achievement. We will report on progress at the end of the year using the A-E scoring system.

As per our school's usual process, formal Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held midway through Term Three. These will either be held on-site or via videoconference, depending on the situation at that time.

Of course, parents are welcome to make an appointment to speak with their child's teacher at any time throughout the school year should they wish to discuss their child's progress at school. We encourage parents to take this opportunity should they have any queries regarding their child's report.

Given the remote learning situation for Term 2, student learning journals will not be sent home this term.

Thank you for your continued support during remote and flexible learning.

COVID-19 MANAGEMENT AT SCHOOL

Without wanting to cause unnecessary alarm, it is timely to remind parents of the following important points regarding how any potential Covid-19 cases would be managed in the school context.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) has comprehensive procedures in place with the Department of Health and Human Services to manage suspected or confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in schools.

The school will contact the Department of Health and Human Services and notify the DET central office to activate the established procedures if a student or staff member:

- *is a **confirmed case**.*
- *has been in close contact with a **confirmed case**.*

DHHS defines 'close contact' as someone who has either:

- had at least 15 minutes of face-to-face contact with a **confirmed** case of coronavirus (COVID-19).
- shared a closed space for more than two hours with someone who is a confirmed case.

Anyone who is, or who has come into contact with, a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) is required to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days.

All unwell staff and students must stay home.

Staff or students experiencing compatible symptoms with coronavirus (COVID-19) (fever, cough or sore throat) whilst at school will be isolated in an appropriate space with suitable supervision and their parent/carer contacted to come and collect them as soon as possible.



Friday 12th June, 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Campaspe Small Schools Cluster Camp Program

- **Grade 3 and 4 camp – Camp Kookaburra, Corop**
- **Grade 5 and 6 camp – Anglesea Adventure Camp.**

The Campaspe Small School Cluster principals have made the decision to cancel the Cluster camp program for 2020, due to the current COVID-19 restrictions.

We acknowledge that this is an unfortunate decision, as the camping program offers many benefits to our children. However, the current advice from the Department of Education and Training is that all camps must be postponed, rescheduled or cancelled. Our camps bring a greater risk as they bring 6 schools together in one location. Therefore, we have made the decision to suspend our 2020 camping program.

School principals will make contact with parents with regard to camp deposits already paid, in the near future.

We ask for your understanding in this matter and apologise for any inconvenience caused by this decision.

Yours Sincerely,

|

Jason Cox

Principal

On behalf of the Campaspe Cluster of Small Schools.



Department of Education and Training

Office of the Secretary

2 Treasury Place
East Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: 03 9637 2000
DX270083

Dear parents and carers,

Term 2 in 2020 has been like no other school term in Victoria's history, and so I am writing to thank you for your support.

As you know, this week Grade 3 to Year 10 students joined Prep to Grade 2, VCE and specialist school students in face to face learning. It is great to see our school communities come together again.

In responding to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic over the past few months, the Department of Education and Training has asked a lot of our teachers and schools, and we have also required your support as parents and carers.

I want to acknowledge the extraordinary effort you have all made in working in partnership with your teachers and schools to support your children while they have been learning from home.

When I wrote to you a few months ago as we transitioned to remote and flexible learning, I acknowledged that it would be a challenging time for everyone, but that it was important to work closely together to provide the best possible support for students.

Many of you have since told me that there have been difficult, rewarding and challenging experiences during this unique and uncertain time that we have been through together. I thank you for your support, commitment, patience and perseverance.

But despite difficulties, I've been impressed to hear inspiring stories of education innovation. The innovative and creative approaches adopted during remote and flexible learning have been outstanding, and many schools will bring new approaches with them to on-site schooling.

Many school communities have forged even stronger relationships and partnerships — with families and teachers gaining a greater mutual appreciation of their shared contributions to school education.

Our schools now have a range of precautionary measures to protect the health and safety of your children, your family, teachers and staff, and your local community.

I hope these measures, along with the knowledge that the Victorian Chief Health Officer and Victorian Government have approached the return to on-site schooling with the utmost precaution and careful planning, have helped ease any anxiety about the return to on-site schooling.

The changes at your school are consistent with health advice, including enhanced cleaning in schools and frequent handwashing. Your school has also asked you to practice physical distancing during drop-off and pick-up times.

Your children may be feeling anxious about returning to school. Reassure your child that it's safe for them to go back to school and reinforce what they've been practicing at home around hand hygiene

and coughing and sneezing. Reassure them that extensive cleaning is being carried out in schools and public transport to keep them safe.

Please remember the health advice: if you or your child is unwell, please stay at home. This is vital to ensuring the effective management of the pandemic.

Information about how to speak to your child about coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found here: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/Pages/Talkingtoyourchildaboutcoronavirus.aspx>

Visit the Department's website for the latest information about coronavirus (COVID-19) at: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

Thank you once again for working with your schools to support your children while they were learning at home and for your patience during the staged return to on-site schooling.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Atta
Secretary

Department of Education and Training

Goornong Primary School

Lunch Order List- Drovers Arms Hotel

Sandwich & Wrap

Vegemite	\$2.50
Ham or Chicken	
With cheese	\$4.00
Plus salad	\$4.50
Salad only	\$4.00

Hot Food

Meat Pie	\$4.00
Sausage Roll	\$3.50
Hot Dog	\$3.50
Kids Pizza (ham, cheese & pineapple)	\$6.00

Specials

Honey Mustard Chicken Wrap (Chicken Tenderloin)	\$6.00
Carbonara & Bacon	\$6.00
Fried Rice	\$6.00
Spaghetti Bolognese	\$6.00

Drinks

Water 600ml	\$1.00
Golden Circle 250ml Apple	\$1.50
Nippy's 375ml Milk Chocolate or Strawberry	\$3.00

Friday is lunch order day. Please clearly write your child's name on a lunch order bag containing correct change for your order. Place in the lunch order tub at school by 9.00am on Friday.