

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 4th September 2020
 Issue 15

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 Three

Sun 6th Sept Father's Day
 Mon 14th Sept School Council Meeting
 Tues 15th Sept School Photos (Tentative date. More to come!)
 Fri 18th Sept Last day of Term 3, 2.15pm dismissal

Term Four

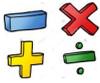
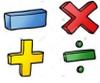
Mon 5th Oct First day of Term 4
 Fri 30th Oct Book Week Dress Up Day
 Fri 18th Dec Last day of Term 4, 2.15pm dismissal

2020 Term Dates

Term Three Mon 13th July—Fri 18th Sept
 Term Four Fri 5th Oct—Fri 18th Dec

Weekly Awards

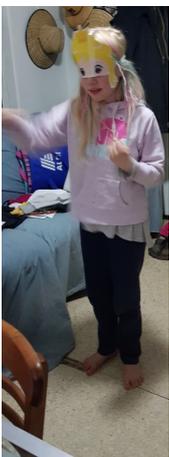
Congratulations to our award winners.

<u>Award</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
P-2 Literacy 	Mary K	Lucy O
P-2 Maths 	Lola A	Mayla P
3-6 Literacy 	Bailey A	Kahlia R & Charlie A
3-6 Maths 	Harry M	Charlie C

HOME LEARNING

Parents, it's great to see the students' smiling faces learning from home!

Feel free to send some photos through to Tearna, to put into our newsletter. Email: Tearna.Filbey@education.vic.gov.au



Principal's Report

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

This week was the first week of the Term Three Parent-Teacher Interviews. Thank you to those parents who used the UEducateUs portal to book either a telephone or videoconference interview. It was a pleasure for the teachers 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 students to make progress.

Interviews continue on Tuesday and Thursday next week and there are still times available for parents who are yet to book.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we are not able to offer parents an on-site interview. Instead, we are offering parents the choice of two different options for their interview. When booking your interview time via UEducateUs, parents will have the choice of:

Option 1: Interview via videoconference. *The school will provide instructions for parents on how to connect. A computer and internet connection is required.*

Option 2: Interview via telephone call. *Teachers would contact parents on their mobile phone number at the allotted interview time.*

Please note that different to in the past, there is no expectation for students to join their parents at the parent-teacher interview. However, parents are welcome to include their child with if they so wish.

Once again, parents are asked to book their parent-teacher interview via the UEducateUs system either on their mobile device or PC. Simply login to your UEducateUs Portal where a notification will appear regarding parent-teacher interviews and follow the links to book your time.

For parents with more than one child, please note that we have fixed the gremlin in the system that has been an issue in past. Parents should now be able to book back-to-back interviews where they have two or more children at the school. However, please let us know if there continue to be issues with this.

Bookings will be able to be made up to 48 hours prior to the appointment time.

REMOTE LEARNING 2.0

I again wish to congratulate all students for their efforts during remote learning. The teachers and I have been very impressed with the resilience and work ethic of our students during this time. During the Home Room Handouts and class catch-ups on Google Meet the teachers and I have enjoyed connecting with the students and sharing some of the high quality work that has been completed. Keep up the good work boys and girls!

This week marks the completion of the fifth week of remote learning. As such, I understand that parents and students may be beginning to feel some level of frustration with the current situation. I encourage everyone to look after their mental health as a number one priority and to contact me at the school if there is anything we can do to support you.

I note that the Victorian Government has indicated that they will be announcing the 'road map' ahead this coming Sunday. As such, I expect that we will know more regarding the duration of remote learning and what to expect for Term Four. As always, we will communicate with our school community via UEducateUs should any significant announcements be made.

WEEROONA COLLEGE STUDENTS 2021

Weeroona College has begun sending out enrolment packs and information to those families with a Grade 6 student heading to their school next year. If you have not received your pack, please contact The College on 5443 2133.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next school council meeting will be held on Monday 14th September at 7.00pm. Finance Committee will meet at 6.45pm. As has been the case previously, this meeting will be held remotely via WebEx videoconferencing.

Jason Cox

Principal

Community News

Elmore Tennis Club

Saturday Tennis

The Elmore Tennis Club is looking for players for the 2020/21 season. Players of all experience are welcome! Competition typically begins in October and finishes in March. Juniors play on Saturday mornings and Seniors play on Saturday afternoons. Please register your interest by Friday 25th September.

For more information or to register your interest please contact Bryce (0458111544) or Jordan (0429520495).

IMPORTANT COVID-19 INFORMATION

STUDENT ILLNESS

A reminder that unwell students must not attend school, regardless of whether their symptoms are compatible with Covid-19 or not. Students who are unwell must not return to school until their symptoms have ceased. If students begin to feel ill whilst at school we will contact their parents and ask that the child be collected as soon as possible. We continue to encourage parents to seek the advice of their medical practitioner should their child display any symptoms compatible with Covid-19.

We draw parents' attention to the Australian Government Health Department website which has the following information regarding Covid-19 symptoms:



Australian Government
Department of Health

Symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild illness to pneumonia. Some people will recover easily, and others may get very sick very quickly. People with coronavirus may experience symptoms such as:

- *Fever*
- *respiratory symptoms such as coughing, sore throat and/or shortness of breath.*

Other symptoms can include runny nose, headache, muscle or joint pains, nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting, loss of sense of smell, altered sense of taste, loss of appetite and fatigue.

To stop the spread of COVID-19 people with even mild symptoms of respiratory infection should get tested.

Source: www.health.gov.au

We thank everyone in our school community for their vigilance and support in helping to keep our students and staff safe and healthy. It continues to be important that our community remains attentive to this.

COVID-19 MANAGEMENT AT SCHOOL

Given the recent spike in coronavirus cases Victoria, 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.



WHEN IS MY CHILD OK TO COME TO SCHOOL?

The circumstances where students are not to attend school are when:

- 1) They are a confirmed Covid-19 case.
- 2) They are a close contact of a confirmed case.
- 3) They have been directed to self-isolate by DHHS.
- 4) They are unwell.
- 5) They are able to be supervised at home.

If your children fits into any of the categories above, they should not attend school. Otherwise, they would be right to come.