

Goornong Primary School Newsletter

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Friday 16th Dec, 2022

Issue 21



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

Dates to Remember

Next Week

Mon 19th Dec Excursion to Goornong Pool—Fun Day!
Last day of Term 4, 2.15pm dismissal

2023 School Year

Mon 30th Jan Collect supplies and pay fees (10am-2pm)
Tues 31st Jan First day of school for all students

2023 Term Dates

Term One 31st Jan—6th Apr
Term Two 24th Apr—23rd June
Term Three 10th July—15th Sept
Term Four 2nd Oct—20th Dec



On Orientation Day the Grade P/1/2 class were excited to meet their new teacher, Mrs Brown. The students enjoyed Mrs Brown's craft activity where they made their own Santa's.

FOTS News

LOLLY JAR 'FUN' RAISER

Congratulations to the Mill family who successfully guessed that there were 51 lollies in the lolly jar. We hope you enjoy eating the lollies over the school holidays! Thank you to everyone who participated!



Principal's Report

With this coming Tuesday being the last day of school for 2022, today's is the final newsletter for the year.

From a personal perspective, it has been a pleasure to come to school each day and support our teachers, students and community. There are a number of people who make up 'Team Goornong' and contribute to making our school a vibrant and positive environment for teaching and learning.

Firstly, I congratulate all students on their successes throughout the year and thank them for making our school an energetic place to learn and work.

I thank our entire staff team for their care, enthusiasm and commitment towards the education of the students. We are very lucky to have such a strong team of classroom teachers, specialist teachers and support staff who come to work each and every day with a positive attitude and always with our core purpose in mind—the academic, social and emotional development of the students. Thank you all and enjoy a well-earned break!

Thank you to Mr D for his continued involvement and support of our school—you are always willing to help out when needed and this is really appreciated by the students and staff.

Thank you to our wonderful OSHClub coordinator, Trudy, who has made an enormous contribution to setting up a successful after school care program that is both engaging for the students and appreciated by the entire school community.

To all School Councilors, I thank you for your leadership, vision and support of our school; and for always making decisions based on the best interests of the students.

Thank you to all parents who have helped out at the school throughout the year with things such as morning reading and fundraising activities. Your support has been greatly appreciated by the staff and students.

To the members of our *Friends of the School* group, I thank you for your passion, commitment and willingness to 'have a go'. It has been a busy year with fundraising activities such as the Elmore Field Days Catering, Annual Raffle and Mother's Day stall.

Thank you to our cleaners, Nick, Ann and Jordan; and our groundskeeper, Ben, who together ensure that our buildings and grounds are kept clean and tidy for each and every school day.

Thank you to our bus driver, Mr Carty, who each day takes on the enormous responsibility of ensuring that the students arrive safely at school and home—thanks for your work Mr Carty!

Good luck to our departing Year Six students – Jesse, Jaxson and Wade. On behalf of the entire school community I wish you all the best at secondary school! Farewell also to the Read and March/Nally families who have their youngest child graduating. We thank you for your support of our school and wish you all the best for the future!

I wish all students, parents, staff and members of our school community a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. See you in 2023!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Congratulations to all students for putting on a wonderful show at last night's Christmas Concert—I was so proud to see our students performing with such enjoyment, pride and enthusiasm!

Well done to Mrs Kemp and Scott for their tireless work organising and preparing the students in the lead up to the Concert; and for their work on the night leading the production—great job!

A big thank you also to the classroom teachers and support staff who's contribution in the lead up and on the night was significant—my sincere gratitude.

Running the Christmas Concert is always a big team effort with many people contributing in various ways to make the night a success. Thanks to those who helped with setting up and packing up; and those who helped out with the BBQ afterwards. These jobs often go unnoticed but are critical to the successful running of the night—thanks to all who helped in some way!

ORIENTATION DAY

Tuesday's Orientation Day was very successful with all students 'stepping up' to their 2023 Grade level. It was a pleasure to see students from both the P/1/2 and 3/4/5/6 Learning Spaces engaging with new peers. The P/1/2 class also welcomed their new teacher, Mrs Brown, who visited for the day.

Orientation Day was the last of the six Little Learner's sessions for our 2023 Preps. Thanks to Mrs Grieves for her efforts coordinating the Prep Transition Program.

Principal's Report continued over page.

Principal's Report Continued

STUDENT REPORTS AND LEARNING PORTFOLIOS

Student Reports have been sent home with the students today. A reminder that Learning Portfolios are now done digitally and parents are able to access their child's portfolio via Class Dojo.

2023 SCHOOL YEAR

A reminder that the first day of school in 2023 for all students is Tuesday 31st January.

COLLECTION OF SUPPLIES & PAYMENT OF FEES 2023

As has been the case in previous years, we ask that parents collect their child's supplies and pay the Curriculum Contributions and Educational Items portion of the fees (\$185) on Monday 30th January (10am-2pm). The school now has an Eftpos machine which will be available on this day for parents to make payments.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY BUILDING WORKS

Over the coming school holiday period the final stage of the Outdoor Learning Space project will be completed. This will involve the construction of the decking beneath the roof structure that was completed earlier this year.

Given that there will be machinery and vehicles on the school site whilst these works are taking place, it would be best if children did not visit the school unsupervised during this time.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more?"

- Dr Seuss.

Jason Cox
Principal

End-of-Year Fun!



2022 Award Winners

As is tradition, the annual Grade 5/6 Awards were presented at the end of the school year. Congratulations to the following students whose achievements were recognised. A big thank you to the individuals and families who continue to support the presentation of these awards for our school.

- ◆ **The Nance Brown Award: Harry M**
- ◆ **The Marjorie Shaw Citizenship Award: Jesse C**
- ◆ **The John Bickley Encouragement Award: Wade N**
- ◆ **The School Council Academic Achievement Award: Jaxson R**
- ◆ **The Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Award: Audrey A**

The Nance Brown Award

Each year an achievement award is presented to a Grade Five student. This award is to honour the memory of Mrs Nance Brown and is made possible by money placed in a trust which was organised by the Goornong Branch of the C.W.A (Country Women's Association).

Mrs Brown dedicated her service to the community through involvement in the Goornong Hall committee, the Red Cross, the Goornong Brownies, the Barnadown Uniting Church, the 'Know your Bible' group and the welfare of children when she became involved with the Mother's Club.

Mrs Brown was a part of the Goornong C.W.A for 24 years. Mrs Brown's life epitomised a valued ideal of the C.W.A. Collect – 'A calm serene lady who takes time for all things'.

The recipient of the Nance Brown Award receives a certificate and a gift, courtesy of the Goornong C.W.A. The award was first presented in 2004.

The John Bickley Encouragement Award

The John Bickley Encouragement Award is presented to a Grade Six student as an incentive for students to achieve their best academically.

Whilst a Grade Six student at Wollert State School, John won a C.W.A. scholarship which enabled him to purchase all of his school-books for the following school year at Preston Technical College.

When John's children began attending Goornong Primary School, he became aware that there was a lack of incentive for students to achieve their best academically. Thus, the John Bickley Encouragement Award was established in 1977 to recognise students who were suited to the award.

The Bickley children and grandchildren have attended Goornong Primary School over the past years and it still gives John great pleasure to continue his award.

The recipient of the John Bickley Award receives a certificate and \$150, donated by John Bickley, to go towards the purchase of educational resources to support the student at secondary school.

The Marjorie Shaw Citizenship Award

The Goornong Branch of the C.W.A (Country Women's Association) presents an annual Citizenship Award to a Grade Six student. This award is given to honour the memory of Miss Shaw who was a member of the Goornong community all her life.

Miss Shaw was part of the Goornong C.W.A for more than 25 years; she participated in all aspect of the C.W.A. She was also involved with the Goornong Red Cross, the Goornong Memorial Hall committee, the Huntly Shire Home Help Service and many more. Miss Shaw also taught the Barnadown Presbyterian/Uniting Church Sunday School.

In January 1976, Miss Shaw was awarded a British Empire Medal for her services to the community. She is particularly remembered by those who knew her as a gracious lady who was dedicated to helping all in the community.

The recipient of the Marjorie Shaw Award receives a certificate and a gift, courtesy of the Goornong C.W.A. The award was first presented in 1986.

The School Council Academic Achievement Award

The School Council Academic Achievement Award is presented to the DUX of the school – the student who demonstrates the most outstanding academic achievement across the wide range of learning areas at Goornong Primary School.

The School Council is proud to present an award each year in acknowledgement of outstanding academic achievement, recognising that high quality learning outcomes for all students is ultimately what our school is striving for.

The recipient of the School Council Award receives a certificate and \$100 to go towards the purchase of educational resources to support the student at secondary school. The award was first presented in 2000.

The Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Award

The STEM Award was first presented at Goornong Primary School in 2017. The Award is presented to a Grade Five student who demonstrates a passion and capability in either Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics. The recipient of the award receives a certificate and \$50 as encouragement to continue to pursue their interest in STEM. The award is proudly supported by Tim and Glenyce McCrohan.