

Goornong Primary School Newsletter

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Issue 20



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

Dates to Remember

Next Week

Mon 18th Dec	Swimming Program
Tues 19th Dec	Visitor from North Pole, 2.45pm
Wed 20th Dec	Last day of Term 4, 2.15pm dismissal

**Please note there will be no Breakfast Club on the last day of school, Wednesday 20th December.*








2024 School Year—Week 1

Mon 29th Jan	Collect Supplies & Pay Fees (10am - 2pm)
Tues 30th Jan	School starts (all students)
Wed 31st Jan	Rest day for Preps

2024 Term Dates

Term 1:	30 th January to 28 th March
Term 2:	15 th April to 28 th June
Term 3:	15 th July to 20 th September
Term 4:	7 th October to 20 th December

Weekly Awards

Award	This Week	Last Week
P-2 Literacy 	Bryttney B	Archie O
P-2 Maths 	Archie O	Chase R
P-2 Values 	Chase R, Mack S & Oliver S	Jackson L
3-6 Literacy 	Lucy O	Marli O
3-6 Maths 	Harry M	Lola A
3-6 Values 	Audrey A	Mayla P
Principal's Award 	Darcie F & Emilie J	Oliver S, Brock K & Mason D-F

FOTS News

LOLLY JAR 'FUN' RAISER

Congratulations to Jamar Welling who had the closest guess for the number of lollies in the Lolly Jar (626). Thank you to everyone who participated!

ELMORE FIELD DAYS

This week our school received a dividend of \$3831.80 from the Elmore Field Days Catering Committee for the volunteer hours that we provided during the Field Days in October. This is a terrific result. A big thank you to all in our school community who volunteered their time on our roster; and to David Mill for coordinating the roster for our school. Well done all involved!

GRAPEVINE CUTTINGS

A reminder that we have potted some cuttings from the old grapevine and these are available for purchase for \$10 as a fundraiser for the school. Please contact the school or keep an eye out on the Goornong-Barnadown Community Facebook page over the school holidays if you would like one.





Goornong Primary School + OSHClub

STAY
and
PLAY

To enrol your child go to: <https://www.oshclub.com.au/vic/goornong-primary-school/> and click on the *Join OSHClub* button. Please feel free to see Jacinta at the school office on a Tuesday or Wednesday if you need any assistance enrolling your child.

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Reindeer Cookies	9
10	11 Christmas cards	12 Hot Chocolate Christmas bar	13 Christmas decorations	14 Candy cane hunt	15 Bubble head snowmen	16
17 	18 Christmas treat presents	19 Christmas party	20 Surprise day full of fun	21	22	23 
24 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	25	26	27	28	29	

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Principal's Report

With this coming Wednesday being the last day of school for 2023, today is the final newsletter for the year.

From a personal perspective, I am extremely grateful to lead our school community and extremely proud of what our students and staff have achieved this year. 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 all parents for your support and assistance throughout the year; and for being outstanding partners in the education of your children.

Thank you to our wonderful OSHClub staff, Trudy and Mel, who continue to deliver an engaging after school care program.

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.

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.

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 and activities such as the Elmore Field Days Catering and the Bunnings BBQ.

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.

Good luck to our departing Grade 6 students – Ted, Harry, Milla and Audrey. On behalf of the entire school community I wish you all the best at secondary school! Farewell also to the Cowan and Piechowiak 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 2024!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

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

Well done to Scott, Mrs Kemp and the entire staff team 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!

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 2024 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 and for some, settling in to a new classroom.

Orientation Day was the last of the six Little Learner's sessions for our 2024 Preps. Thanks to Mrs Brown for her efforts coordinating the Prep Transition Program.

STUDENT REPORTS AND LEARNING PORTFOLIOS

Please be aware that the end-of-year student reports will be sent home with the students on Monday afternoon and Learning Portfolios will be updated and available via Class Dojo from next week.

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

2023 Award Winners

As is tradition, the annual Grade 5/6 Awards were presented at the Christmas Concert. 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 special awards for our school.



The Nance Brown Academic Achievement Award: **Lucy O**

The Marjorie Shaw Citizenship Award: **Harry M and Ted C**

The John Bickley Encouragement Award: **Audrey A**

The School Council Academic Achievement Award: **Milla P**

The Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Award: **Mayla P and Marli O**

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 schoolbooks 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 McCrohan Fixologist and his wife Glenyce.