Dear Parents, Teachers & Students,

‘Creating Learning Opportunities through Quality Education.’

PARENT FORUMS:
As we progress through the year, there will be various opportunities for parents to attend interesting forums on a variety of topics. We are keen to involve parents in all aspects of the development of their children. Listening to outside experts discuss various issues has the potential to be extremely helpful to families. There are also many aspects of school life including operating policies that, once explained can be a valuable resource to parents. The currently forums currently being offered are –

‘Moving from Primary into Secondary School’ for Grade 4 & 5 Parents – Monday, 18th March at Killara PS – see note which went home this week for details. 12 tickets left. Available at the office.

School Council – ‘Annual General Meeting’ – Whole school invitation – Monday, 18th March 6.30pm at school. A review of 2012 will be presented as well as the goals and objectives for 2013;

‘Bullying – Our School’s Approach’ - Whole school invitation - Monday 25th March, 7pm at school. At this forum there will be an explanation of our Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy. – see school website for details and reply slip.

BULLYING – NO WAY!:
We are taking actions of unacceptable behaviour and bullying very seriously at school. Through the intentional work of our Primary Welfare Officer, Mrs Pinti and our School Chaplain, Asha Sebastian all incidents that are reported are being followed through. We are also working on providing whole school attitudes of acceptance, tolerance and our G.R.E.A.T core values.

To support this stance, on Friday, 15th March our school will participate in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. This day is organised through the Safe and Supportive School Community Project. Each class will participate in activities in their classroom and each student will receive a wristband on the day. We hope the day will provide our students with more knowledge and skills to make a stand against bullying.

I would encourage all families to explore the extremely helpful parents and students information which is outlined at www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

PARKING AT THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL:
There are specific road rules governing School Crossings. For the safety of all children, please obey them. The Council By-Laws Officer will be patrolling the area.
at random times. They simply take photos of illegally parked cars and send the owners hefty fines. Drivers will not even see them in action.

**Some common parking issues around schools are:**
- parking in ‘No Stopping’ areas
- parents staying in drop off areas for longer than permitted
- double parking, i.e. parking between the centre of the road and another vehicle that is parked at the side of the road.

**AND ONE MORE…:**
I am often amazed at why parents would risk serious injury or even death to their children by trying to save 30 seconds by walking them, including toddlers with unpredictable behaviour through the staff car park at busy times. Maybe someone can explain it to me one day. I hope it won’t be too late.

Alan Fairweather
Principal
fairweather.alan.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

**SWIMMING SPORTS:**
The Sunbury District Interschool Swimming Sports was held last week. It was a great success. All the schools in the Sunbury area participated. They are divided into two divisions – large and smaller schools. Goonawarra PS is in the small schools division which caters for schools with an enrolment fewer than 400 students. We currently have 290 students.

All our students participated with enthusiasm and as much effort as possible. Each event attracted a point’s value. At the end of the sports Goonawarra finished in second place behind Sunbury Primary (nearly 400 students)! It was a wonderful outcome for the school.

Two successful students, **Jack Newitt and Chloe Griffin** progressed this week to the next level – the Extended Zone Swimming Sports. This is the first time in many years that two students from here have progressed to the Extended District Level.

Both Jack and Chloe were successful again this week, winning their individual events at the Extended District Swimming Sports. They will now compete next week at the Zone Level. All the best!!

**JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL – EASTER EGG SPECIAL EFFORT:** The Junior School Council is planning to conduct an Easter egg special effort. It would be appreciated if each family could donate ONE Easter egg or empty basket (**Please NO RABBITS**)! All donations will assist us to provide a range of Easter egg hampers. Donations can be left at the office.

**ATHLETIC SPORTS:**
Students have been very busy with their training for today’s Athletic Sports events.
Grades 3 – 6 participated in our own House Sports at Boardman Oval today.

**Wednesday, 20th March** – Some successful students will progress to represent us at the Sunbury District Athletic Sports also at Boardman Oval.

**HORSE RAFFLE:**
Congratulations to **Aaron Tarantello** for winning the horse raffle.

**SUNFEST PERFORMANCE:**
The school choir will be performing on the Village Green next Saturday, 16th March at 9:30am as part of the Sunbury Sunfest.

**THE WANTED COLUMN:**
Thank you to **John Vicary-Lovegrove** who removed the fallen branches from the car park. Much appreciated!
Currently there are several tasks needing attention –
- Someone with a bob cat to spread piles of mulch
- Painting some external doors.
- Scraping paint off some windows.
- Levelling (grinding) some uneven concrete paths (trip hazards).
- Painting notice boards within some classrooms.
- Gardening and mowing are ongoing requests.

**NEW WEBSITE!**
You are encouraged to log on to [www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au](http://www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au) and view our website.

**TERM DATES FOR 2013:**
- **Term 1:** 29 Jan to 28 March
- **Term 2:** 15 April to 28 June
- **Term 3:** 15 July to 20 Sept
- **Term 4:** 7 Oct to 20 Dec
Our weekly recap
We enjoyed re-using the cardboard boxes we had from moving rooms and turn them into large construction pieces. The children enjoyed making cars, spaceships and tall towers in addition to a lot of imaginary play happening between the children, which was great to see.
The checkers board has been out and matches between children of all ages were played with great gusto. Fantastic to see the children teaching each other how to play and seeing good sportsmanship with whatever the result was.
- Amber

Our Extend Superstar is…
Taryn D. for helping around the room and encouraging others to do so.

Next week’s activities:
Monday, 11th March:
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Tuesday, 12th March:
Paper crafts
Wednesday, 13th March:
Plasticine and Playdough
Thursday, 14th March:
Science activities
Friday, 15th March:
“Finishing off Friday” & ball games in the gym

ONLINE BOOKINGS:
extend.com.au
CALL OUR OFFICE: 1300 366 437

CANTEEN ROSTER:
Friday, 8th March: Pat Oliver, Sharon Snook, Hanaa Arafa and Sharon McRae.
Wednesday, 13th March: Pat Oliver, Regina Reid and Lisa Anderson.
Friday, 15th March: Pat Oliver, Gwenda Griggs and Donna Pasternak.

If you unable to make it on your rostered day, you MUST ring one of the numbers on the roster to swap your day. Thank you.

BOOK CLUB:
Goonawarra Primary School participates in the “SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB”. Each term Book Club magazines are sent home, giving parents the opportunity to purchase books, computer software and other items, often at well below retail costs. The school is awarded bonus point for purchases made and these points are used to buy extra resources for the library. Each child will have received the first Book Club magazine by the end of this week. If you would like to place an order, please complete the form on the back of the magazine (please ensure that your child’s name and grade is included) and return it to the school with your payment. Cheques should be made payable to Scholastic Book Club. Orders close TUESDAY, 12th MARCH. For further information, please see Sue Lavars in the Library.

THE ARTS NEWS:

THANK YOU:
Sharon McRae & Doug McCloud thank you for the kind donation of shelving for the drama resource room and Gary Hoiles for kindly putting the unit together. Our drama resource room will be very tidy now. Also thank you so much to Jamie Tremayne for making our puppet theatre safe and ready to use. Your time and effort is very much appreciated. Sonja – Arts Teacher.

SUNFEST:
I am pleased to announce that our school choir will perform on Saturday, 16th March at Sunfest. We will take part in “Battle of the Choirs” with two songs – potentially being eligible for a 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize Bunning voucher to be put to great use in our school. If you would like your child to enter Sunbury Idol or Sunbury’s Got Talent, contact Graham Hanley-Smith on 0147 337 976 OR go to info@sunfest.org.au for more information.
SUNBURY TIGERS JRLC  
RUGBY LEAGUE HOLIDAY CLINIC  
When: Thursday, 4th April, 2013  
Where: Langama Park, Sunbury – Home of the Tigers.  
(Time: 10 – 12pm)  
(Ages: 6 – 18)  
Cost: FREE  
Learn how to play Rugby League in a safe, fun and friendly environment with NRL/Melbourne Storm Game Development Officer. For more information please contact Ryan Walker on 0448 890 012 or rwalker@nrl.com.au.

SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISORS NEEDED  
Do you enjoy being outdoors, working with children and giving back to the community while you get paid?  
We have vacancies in the Hume Municipality. Uniform provided; on call work and regular rostered shifts; multiple positions available for an immediate start. To be successful you must: be available Monday – Friday 8 – 9 am and 3-4pm; have/be willing to obtain a Working with Children’s Check; have a current Australian Drivers Licence and own a reliable car… Call Hoban Recruitment on 9325-3200 or email: Laverton@hoban.com.au.

SUNBURY ROTARY CLUB  
Family & Craft Market  
Sunbury Neighbourhood House & Community Centre  
Saturday, 6th April from 9am – 2pm  
There will be more than 60 stalls on the day with various activities including: Cart boot sale, plants/pottery, clothing/jewellery, woodwork – live demonstrations, live entertainment, sausage sizzle, various food stalls, face painting and jumping castle. NationalPet Register discounted micro-chipping.  
Dogs & cats for the discounted rate of $25.  
Bookings essential by phoning 1300 734 738