Dear Parents, Teachers & Students,

‘Creating Learning Opportunities through Quality Education.’

MOVING FORWARD,
LOOKING BACK:
As I prepare reports for the school Annual General Meeting which will be held next Monday night, I am reminded of some of the great initiatives and advancements that were undertaken during last year. Some of these were –
- The 25th Anniversary of the school on its current site. The fete organised by the Parents & Friends was a great celebration of this occasion.
- The embedding into the culture of the school, the motto ‘Goonawarra is G.R.E.A.T!’ and ‘At Goonawarra we aim to be Generous, Responsible, Enthusiastic, Ambitious and Trustworthy.’
- Twenty eight notebooks were purchased and continued to be used with great enthusiasm by the Grade 4, 5 & 6 students.
- An online booking service for Parent & Teacher discussions was introduced and is proving to be very successful and appreciated.
- Asha Sebastian, the School Chaplain commenced at the school.
- Transition activity days for preschool children increased to four. These were greatly appreciated by parents and prepared the children very well for school this year.
- Parent and Staff Opinion Surveys as well as the Student’s Attitude to School Survey all returned extremely positive results.
- A more intentional evaluation of student data and how it can be used to improve student learning opportunities was undertaken by all staff.
- Eftpos facilities were installed in the office and has become extremely useful to parents when settling accounts.
- A new three year Strategic Plan was prepared and implemented. This document focuses on the key areas of ‘Student Learning’, Student Engagement and Wellbeing and Student Pathways and Transition.

Our CANTEEN is OPEN on Wednesdays and Fridays for counter sales and lunch orders.

UNIFORM SHOP is NOW OPEN on Tuesdays from 8:45 – 9:30am.

- Saturday, 16th March: Choir performing at SUNFEST.
- Monday, 18th March: School Council AGM at 6:30pm.
- Tuesday, 19th March: Grades Prep – 2 Sunbury Heritage Walk.
- Wednesday, 20th March: District Inter-School Athletic Sports.
- Friday, 22nd March: Ride 2 School Day – Get your bike ready!
- Saturday, 23rd March: P & F Bunnings BBQ.
- Thursday, 28th March: Prep – 2 Easter Hat Parade in Gym at 9:15am.

EARLY DISMISSAL at 2:30pm.

Goals for each of these areas were set at -

- Student Learning: To improve student outcomes in English, Mathematics and the broader curriculum.
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing: To improve the levels of student engagement in their
learning and feelings of wellbeing as reflected in their attitudes to school, their positive behaviors and their learning outcomes.

- **Student Pathways and Transitions:**
  To improve student outcomes relating to the various forms of transition that the students experience during their primary schooling.

My full report will be tabled at the AGM, along with financial information and student academic progress. You are most welcome to attend.

**PARENT FORUMS:**
The forums currently being offered are –

- **‘Moving from Primary into Secondary School’** for Grade 4, 5 & 6 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 at 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 at 7pm at school. At this forum there will be an explanation of our Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy. See the school’s website for details and reply slip.

  **BULLYING – NO WAY!:**
  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 information which is outlined at [www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)

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

  **SWIMMING SUCCESSES!:**
  Our two swimming sensations, Jack Newitt and Chloe Griffin both won their races at the larger District Swimming Carnival last week. Yesterday they competed at the Zone Carnival. There is a high standard of swimming ability at the Zone level. Many competitors are in swimming squads and train several times a week.

  Congratulations to both Jack and Chloe for getting to the Zone level. An excellent effort, individually and for the school. Based on the results of yesterday’s races, Jack and Chloe will not be competing at the next swimming level.

  **ATHLETIC SPORTS:**
  **Wednesday, 20th March** – Some successful students from the recent School House Sports will progress to represent us at the Sunbury District Athletic Sports at Boardman Oval.

  **SUNFEST PERFORMANCE:**
  The school choir will be performing on the Village Green as part of the Sunbury Sunfest event on Saturday, 16th March (they will be the 4th to perform). **For those involved, please meet Sonja at 9:30am at the School’s banner.**

  **RIDE2SCHOOL DAY:**
  Get ready! Next Friday is the day! Last year we participated in the Bicycle Victoria ‘Ride2School Day’. On the day 120 students rode to school accompanied by 20 parents. This year we are attempting to break this record! Be part of the fun and ride your bike SAFELY to school next Friday, 22nd March.

  **THE WANTED COLUMN:**
  Currently there are several tasks needing attention –
  - Sweeping leaves out of the staff carpark - blower or broom.
  - Someone with a bob cat to spread piles of mulch.
  - Painting some external doors.
  - Scrapping 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

  **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.
Extend OSHC at Goonawarra Primary School

Our weekly recap:

We hope everyone had a great long weekend and found a way to keep cool! Last week we made play doh and everyone had a helping hand making the recipe. New cookie cutters were well received and the children enjoyed making 3D sculptures out of the blue doh as well. We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Tremayne, Grace’s father, who brought in some fantastic shelving! The room looks great with this additional piece of furniture. - Amber

Our Extend Superstar is… Will C. for using his manners.

Next week’s activities:
Monday, 18th March: Sink or float
Tuesday, 19th March: Sand castles
Wednesday, 20th March: Easter paper crafts
Thursday, 21st March: Redecorating our cupboard
Friday, 22nd March: “Finishing off Friday” & ball games in the gym

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

CAZZIEN ROSTER:
Friday, 15th March: Pat Oliver, Gwenda Griggs and Donna Pasternak.
Wednesday, 20th March: Pat Oliver, Louise Callaghan and Sharon Snook.
Friday, 22nd March: Pat Oliver, Alison Rae, Sharon McRae and Hanaa Arafa.

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.

THE ARTS NEWS:
WOODEN PAIL:
Please stop looking. I have decided that I will need more than one. They will be purchased from the reject shop as I need 4 pails. Thank you.
SUNFEST:
For those of you attending Sunfest, our school choir will be 4th on stage. See you there. Sonja.

Goonawarra Classifieds

HOLIDAY EXCITEMENT AND FUN!!
AT JETS GYMNASTICS GISBORNE
NEED SOME FUN AND EXCITING THINGS FOR THE KIDS TO DO DURING THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS?
Then we have the answer for you!
Enrol your child into our School Holiday Program and let us entertain them in our action packed program.
We now have new extended hours of operation from 8.00am to 6.00pm. Simply jump onto our website www.jetsgym.com.au to view all the themed based activities.

The process is easy. You can simply enrol and pay online to enable your child to participate in this great program. Remember we can take the stress out of finding somewhere and something for your children to do during these school holidays.
Please note that the first Monday of the School Holidays is a public holiday and is therefore not included in our program.

ALSO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON ALL THE OTHER FUN PROGRAMS WE OFFER FROM GENERAL GYMNASTICS, TO TUMBLING AND TRAMPOLINING AND EVEN PARTIES!!!!!!! If you have any queries please give us a call on 54 288 255.

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 NationalPet Register discounted micro-chipping. Dogs & cats for the discounted rate of $25. Bookings essential by phoning 1300 734 738