Goonawarra is G.R.E.A.T!
At Goonawarra we all aim to be -
Generous Responsible Enthusiastic Ambitious Trustworthy

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Dear Parents, Teachers & Students,

‘Creating Learning Opportunities through Quality Education.’

WELCOME TO EVERYONE TO THE START OF TERM 2:
The year commenced extremely well with Term 1 being very successful in many respects – an increase in Prep enrolments, new staff, a new Science & Technology Specialist Area, a Government funded Primary Welfare Officer position, Play Groups established and operating in a specially equipped room (there are now 3 groups operating catering for approx. 50 – 60 children). There were also many other curriculum initiatives, excursions, incursions and sporting activities.

As we commence Term 2 there are a large number of activities and events that are being planned.

Why should the kids have all the fun? As an added incentive to gain fitness and funds, all parents are encouraged to seek their own sponsorship to see how many laps they can complete in a set time.

A Challenge! - If every child and parent who participates could raise $50 of sponsorship each we would reach our target!

See the LAP-A-THON forms for all the details.

Grade 6 sex education sessions
Students’ mid-year reports.

WHOLE COMMUNITY LAP-A-THON:
Get ready for the biggest event of the year!!
On Friday, 10th May (in 3 weeks’ time) the whole school community will have the opportunity to participate in a LAP-A-THON. This will be the major fundraising event of the year. The goal is to raise over $5,000 which will go towards air conditioning classrooms in the new building.

All students are encouraged to use the LAP-A-THON forms to obtain sponsorship to see how many laps they can complete in a set time.

IMPORTANT DATES!
Our CANTEEN is OPEN on Wednesdays and Fridays.
UNIFORM SHOP is NOW OPEN on Tuesdays from 8:45 – 9:30am.

- Monday, 22nd April: P & F Meeting at 9:30am in the staffroom.
- Tuesday, 23rd April: CLUBS from 2:30 – 3:30pm.
- Thursday, 25th April: ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY.
- Friday, 26th April: CANTEEN OPEN as normal.
- Monday, 29th April: Whole School “Bullying” Incursion.
- Tuesday, 30th April: BIKE ED Program at 9:00am.
- Monday, 6th May: SCHOOL PHOTOS.
- Thursday, 9th May: P & F Mother’s Day Stall.
- Friday, 10th May: Whole school Community Lap-A-Thon.

As we commence Term 2 there are a large number of activities and events that are being planned.

Not all events are for all grade levels. Some of these include – Visit by Sunbury Secondary College; Whole school community lap-a-thon fundraiser; Whole school Bullying incursion; Bike Ed; Clubs; School & interschool cross country events; School photos; Mother’s Day stall; NAPLAN; Education Week; Western Water incursion; Life Ed program 2014; Prep information sessions; Bundoora Park excursion; CERES excursion; Parent & Teacher interviews; Interschool winter sports events; Rugby Gala Day
**THE TIME HAS COME!**

As mentioned in the last Newsletter last Term, the school is embarking on a fundraising venture to raise $17,500 to install air conditioning in six classrooms in the new building.

Our goal is to have them installed in September / October during the Term 3 / Term 4 holiday period. We will need the funds before we can proceed.

The Parents & Friends group has put their support behind this project and will be targeting the installation with profits from various fundraising events throughout the year.

To assist with raising funds, the school has arranged a Tax Deductible Fund through the ATO. This means that individuals, families, businesses, groups etc. can donate money to the school and receive a Tax Receipt which can be included in their next Tax Return. For the donation to count in this year’s Return, the school would require the gift before 30th June.

‘I believe the need is real and I believe we can make it happen!’

The fund has had a great start with $1,900 being donated so far - $15,600 to go! The profits from the upcoming LAP-A-THON will also help the cause.

Your tax deductible gift to the school will help us in reaching our financial goal and the objective of providing a comfortable working environment for our current Grades 4 – 6 students and those who will follow well into the future.

**PREPS 2014:**

As the year progresses there will be many events and activities aimed at informing interested families about what the school can offer as well as sessions to assist with the transition process from preschool to school.

The first event will be an “ACTIVITY EVENING” at school on **Wednesday, 15th May** between 6.30 – 7.30pm. Preschool children will have the opportunity to engage in multiple activities with the assistance of Grade 5 students (2014 Grade 6 buddies).

Participation forms are available at Sunningdale Ave Preschool or the school office.

**INFORMATION SESSIONS** for parents will be conducted on **Wednesday, 22nd May** between 9.15 – 10.30am and 7 – 8.15pm. During these sessions parents will be given information about the school, the programs offered and the transition process. Following these sessions a tour of the school facilities will be available.

Please encourage any families you know who have a Prep aged child for next year to attend one of these informative sessions.

As well there will be four transition activity sessions throughout the year. These sessions have been extremely helpful in familiarising the children with the school environment, allowing them to feel comfortable as well as making friends with other children. The dates for these sessions will be advertised soon.

**CAN YOU HELP?**

The canteen is in need of a hot water unit installed in the cupboard under the sink. If you could assist with supplying or installing the unit, please contact the office. Many thanks, in anticipation of support.

**FEEDBACK PLEASE:**

I would be interested to find out what response families would have to the option of receiving the weekly newsletter in electronic form – by email. Some initial thoughts are -

**Pluses** - it would be in colour on your screen, it could contain more photos, it could contain video clips of school activities, it wouldn’t get lost in the school bag, it would save a lot of photocopying etc.

**Minuses** - you can’t sit and relax with a hard copy while enjoying a coffee, you can’t read it while the children are at footy training, you need to print it off if there are any return slips on it etc.

Please email me / write a note with your thoughts. I would be very interested.

**WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN PROGRAM:**

It’s on again! In 2011 we raised 8,500 points which provided us with much needed resources for the library. In 2012 we raised 54,600 points! With these we were able to provide fantastic equipment for the Preps and our new playgroups. This year we are hoping to raise 70,000 points which will go towards supplying equipment for students across the school.

The collection program has commenced and goes through until Sunday, 9th June. Every $10 spent at Woolworths is worth one Earn & Learn point. The points (stickers) MUST be placed on a Points Sheet and returned to school and placed in the collection box near the office. Additional sheets are available from the office.

**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
- 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.

**OUR WEBSITE!**

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

**PARENTS & FRIENDS GROUP:**

The next meeting of the P & F will be held after Assembly next Monday at 9.30am in the staff room.
Agenda items will include the Lap-a-thon and the Mother’s Day stall as well as looking at the other fundraising events planned for the year.

All members of the school community are encouraged to attend this meeting and become involved in the life of the school through this group.

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

TERM DATES FOR 2013:
Term 2: 15 April to 28 June
Term 3: 15 July to 20 Sept
Term 4: 7 Oct to 20 Dec

Extend OSHC at Goonawarra Primary School
Our recap:
Hope everyone had a great break. I look forward to hearing about your holiday adventures.
This week I will be introducing a new staff member, Brittany to the children. Brittany will be working Thursday and Friday at before school care. – Amber

Activities next week:
Monday, 22nd April:
Jelly fish paper craft & bubbles outside

Tuesday, 23rd April:
Sponge painting

Wednesday, 24th April:
Weaving with craft materials

Thursday, 25th April:
ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Friday, 26th April:
Chalk drawing and ball games in the gym.

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

CANCENT ROSTER:
Friday, 19th April: Pat Oliver, Hanna Arafa, Donna Pasternak and Tammy Jackson.
Wednesday, 24th April: Pat Oliver, Melissa Williamson and Lisa Anderson.
Friday, 26th April: Pat Oliver, Donna Pasternak and Gwenda Griggs.

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.

TENNIS Coaching at Goonawarra Primary School
My name is Matthew Todd. I am a Tennis Australia Fully Qualified Advanced Tennis coach, who has been running Kids Tennis Foundation tenni9s lessons at Goonawarra Primary School for the past 8 years. I am very pleased to announce that commencing next term on Tuesday, 23rd April I will be offering regular group tennis lessons in the school hall. The lessons will be held before school from 8am – 8:45am on Tuesday mornings and fees will be $110 per term. For further details pick up a tennis form from the office and phone me on 0414 628 633 to book your place.

Cancer and Natural Therapy Foundation – What’s on in April/May, 2013

Singing Bowls Healing Session. Through a wide range of singing bowls, including crystal and traditional Tibetan bowls, you can experience a wash of different ‘sound vibrations’ that stem back centuries. Tuesday, 23rd April from 7.30 to 9.30pm. Cost: $5 CNTF members and $8.00 Non members

Building Self-Esteem and Assertive Communication Course

Conducted by Sandra Maqueda. A 4 week course every Thursday night from 2nd May - 23rd May, 2013 from 7.30 to 9.30 pm. Cost $80 CNTF members, $85 Concession and $95 Non-Members.

Held at Neighbourhood House and Community Centre, Elizabeth Drive, Sunbury. Phone: 9740 3977 (Mon/Wed/Fri) or Sandra on 0411 100 947
See Website for further details: www.cancernaturaltherapyfoundation.org/
ALL WELCOME!