Dear Parents, Teachers & Students

PUPIL FREE DAY / PARENT & TEACHER INTERVIEWS:
School Council have given permission for a Pupil Free Day to be held on **Thursday, 13th December**. On this day, Parent / Teacher interviews will be held. Due to prolonged award negotiations between the Education Department (DEECD) and the teachers’ union (AEU), the AEU has advised members not to write comments on the end of year reports. Therefore parents will receive a report containing only the progression points (dots). This will affect the majority of Goonawarra classes.

The Goonawarra staff, while supporting the AEU action, would also like the opportunity to communicate with parents the many other developmental areas of students in their care. The staff is willing to deliver this information in a verbal form to parents. Therefore School Council has approved a Pupil Free Day to allow these discussions to be undertaken.

The interviews will take place within the normal working hours of staff, being 9am – 5pm. I appreciated that the 9am – 5pm time slot for interviews will not suit everyone, but I commend the staff for their willingness to make time available and the School Council for supporting the move. The online booking process will be used again for these interviews. To arrange an interview time go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and use the code Z8ZU2.

**STUDENT REPORTS:**
The December student reports will be distributed, via students, on **Friday, 7th December**. Students will be informed of their class placement for 2013 on their Transition Day on **Tuesday, 11th December**.

**Student Book & Material Requisites & School Development Contributions for 2013:**
Costs for these supplies are $120 per child and $35 per family for School Development Contributions.

**Selling Dates are:**
- **Tuesday, 29th January – All year levels from 9:00 – 4:00pm.**
- **PREP 2013 TRANSITION DAY:**
  Yesterday our 2013 Preps had a great time exploring the gym equipment! This was their 4th school experience. Their parents will be attending a meeting on **Monday, 10th December** at school commencing at ****. Enrolments are still being accepted at all grade levels for next year. Please pass this information on to your friends or neighbours who may be looking for a suitable school for their children.
NEW WEBSITE!
The new, revised and updated website is now up and running! You are encouraged to log on to www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au and check it out.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
TERM 4:
Distributors needed!
Nearly every Term recently, we have distributed a Community Connections Flyer. The purpose of this is to inform the local community about various aspects of the school and the many activities and events that we undertake. The next flyer, which discusses the 25th Anniversary celebrations, will be published and ready for distribution by the middle of next week. Families are encouraged to assist with the distribution (letter box drop) by calling in to the office and collecting flyers. It is essential that they are all distributed before the Fete on the 8th December. Can you help?

STUDENTS LEAVING:
In order for class structures to be finalised for next year, could any families who are leaving the school (other than Grade 6 students), please contact the office in person or by note.

EFTPOS FACILITIES:
Eftpos facilities are now available in the office. This means families can now pay school accounts (camps, uniforms, excursions, subject contributions etc) by debit/credit cards. Please note that no money can be given out through this process.

PLAY GROUP INITIATIVE:
A planning gathering has been arranged for Monday, 10th December at 9.30am in the staffroom to gauge the interest from the area in regard to establishing a Community Play Group at school, catering for 0 – 5 year old children. We have a fully equipped large room, close to toilets and a hall available and we would love to see it used for this purpose. Contact Karen Reilly via the office for additional information.

25th ANNIVERSARY FETE:
Goonawarra PS is turning 25 and we are celebrating with a large fete on Saturday, 8th December between 9am & 3pm. Keep the day free to join in the celebrations! Invite friends, neighbours, family etc.

Your help is required. Please contact your child’s classroom teacher for ways you can assist.

The day will include food stalls, car boot sales, spinning wheel with great prizes, laughing clowns, dunk tank, book stall, Devonshire teas, cake stall, BBQ, handball competition, rides, choir, Preps singing, displays from the fire brigade and other community service groups plus lots more!

The Parents & Friends Group has opened a Face Book page to advertise and inform the community about the 25th Celebration events. Check it out! Look up ‘Goonawarra parents and friends.’ There is also a link off the school webpage.

STARTING DATES 2013:
Monday, 28th January is the Australia Day public holiday. Tuesday, 29th January is when Staff will officially begin. Wednesday, 30th January is the first day of school for all students.

TERM DATES FOR 2013:
Term 1:
29th January to 28th March
Term 2:
15th April to 28th June
Term 3:
15th July to 20th September
Term 4:
7th October to 20th December

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

A message from the Team Leader:
“Last week the children chose from a variety of board games from our cupboard here at Extend. These included Connect 4, Boggle, Guess Who? and Ker-Plunk. The new dinosaur puzzle proved to be a hit with the boys who had all 100 pieces placed and completed in one session. The children also made their own fruit ice cubes using watermelon which will be added to the fruit cordial in the afternoon sessions this week. The girls have been constructing some very impressive marble runs. Some have even been standing over two feet high after looking at problems of balance and sequence.” Amber.

STAR of the week… Shaneela B. for getting along well with others and always helping to tidy up after the activities.

What’s on next week…
Monday, 26th November: New colouring pages, dominos and card games.
Tuesday, 27th November: Marine animal memory game, UNO, board games and bubbles outside.
Wednesday, 28th November: Marine animal crafting and sand castles
Thursday, 29th November: Cooking
Friday, 30th November: Finish off Friday and work on Gilbert the Gecko book.

Staff update: Please note current team member Amber Amezdroz has stepped up from her shared position to a full-time Team Leader role at the Before School Care service. Amber is an experienced team member and has been running the Before and After School Care service for the past couple of terms. We are delighted to have Amber on board with us full-time in rolling out a fantastic program.

End of Term 4 Early Release
Book now for After School Care

Please note After School Care WILL be available on the last day of Term 4, Friday, 21st December from 1.30pm.

Book now for this Early Release session by contacting our office on 1300 366 437.

This will be charged as a separate session to the regular After School Care session, so parents have the option to book their child(ren) in for the Early Release session ONLY, or both the Early Release session and regular After School Care session.

If you would like to know what your out of pocket expense will be please contact our Head Office on 1300 366 437.

School Holiday Program bookings

NOW OPEN at Sunbury Primary School!

Monday, 14th January – Wednesday 30th January

Enjoy our special Summer discounted rates!

Call 1300 366 437 to calculate your out of pocket expense!

We have heaps of jam-packed activities and incursions. Come along and celebrate Australia Day with an exciting party afternoon with themed activities and games! Or join in our selection of Summer team games and compete with your friends!

Visit the Extend website at extend.com.au for locations, program timetables, booking forms, and activity descriptions.

Bookings close: Monday, 17 December

Book now to avoid disappointment!


CANTEEN - ROSTER:

Friday, 23rd November: Pat Oliver, Lynn Paton, Hanaa Arafa and Tracey Edwards.

Wednesday, 28th November: Pat Oliver and Lynn Paton.

Friday, 30th November: Pat Oliver, Lynn Paton, Hanaa Arafa and Andrew/Vanessa Ouston.

IGNITE Personal Training

- One on One Training
- Group Training
- Boot Camp / Fitness Challenges

Benefits of participating in personal training: Weight loss and management, build and tone muscle, improve general health, stability training, increase overall fitness, boost strength and stamina, relieve stress, improve confidence and wellbeing, boxing fit, injury rehabilitation, sports specific training.

Contact Trainer Danny on 0409 754 077.

Christmas Tree Sales

Freshly cut Christmas Trees from $35
Miller St Scout Hall on 1st & 2nd Dec and 8th & 9th Dec

Delivery available.

To pre order trees contact Mike 0419 810 727 or Liz 0419 887 648.