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

Register to get your electronic copy of the newsletter via the 'Document' tab on our website. Make our webpage your homepage.

‘Creating, Nurturing & Expanding Learning Opportunities through Quality Education.’

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY TOMORROW!

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<td>29th Feb</td>
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<td>Incursion - Preps</td>
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<td>F.C visit</td>
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7th March
PUPIL FREE DAY

8th March
9th March
10th March
11th March
12th
13th

14th Labour Day Holiday

15th
16th
17th
18th
19th
20th

21st School Council AGM
6:30pm

22nd
23rd
24th
25th
26th
27th

End of Term Dismissal at 2:30pm
Easter Hat Parade 9:15am
Good Friday
School Holidays

Notice and payment reminders

MRS REILLY:
Following a very illustrious and influential teaching career which has included the last six years as Assistant Principal of Goonawarra PS, Mrs Karen Reilly has announced her decision to retire. Mrs Reilly has led the staff through countless professional development advancements and school improvements. She has also assisted so many students and families in a whole variety of ways. Her input to the school, on so many levels, has been invaluable.
Mrs Reilly will leave at the end of this Term, take some Long Service Leave and then retire later this year.
UNIFORM SHOP CHANGES:
As mentioned in previous Newsletters, the school is in the process of changing the way in which uniforms can be obtained.

There have been some delays in making the move to the Primary School Wear (PSW) shop in Sunbury which is near Aldi. Parents will be informed when the shop is fully stocked and ready to meet their needs.

Until this time, the Uniform Shop at school will continue to operate. If you are in need of any uniform items please check at school first.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS:

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.
Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

The School Council plays a vital role in the governance of the school. School Councils consist of elected parent representatives and staff members.

Nomination forms are now available at the front office and MUST be returned to the School Office by Friday 4th March.

School Council is made up of 7 parents, 4 DET employees and 1 community member – a total of 12.
There are currently 6 parent positions available (3 for 2 years and 3 for 1 year).
Please consider your possible involvement at this level of leadership and management.
Contact Alan Fairweather for further details.

The Annual General Meeting of the School Council will be held on Monday 21st March at 6.30pm in the Staff Room to which all members of the school community are invited to attend.

PARENTS & FRIENDS:
The Parents & Friends Group conducted their Annual General Meeting this week. A huge thank you to the past President Allison Crozier and her very effective and motivated team of helpers.
Throughout 2015 the P & F, through a variety of fundraising methods raised $11,600. This was a fantastic effort! Thank you to everyone who supported their endeavours.

The events/activities that will be attempted this year include —
Mothers’, Fathers’ and Christmas stalls
Easter Raffle
The Great Goonawarra Gnome Hunt!
The Goona Warrior!
Possibly an event involving comedians!
Possibly the End of Year Outdoor Concert.

It has the potential to be a fantastic year with many great events with the chance to raise funds for a range of ‘non budgeted’ items all aimed at improving the school environment and facilities for all students.

PUPIL FREE DAYS:
The next two Pupil Free Days are planned for Monday 7th March and Monday 30th May.
An all day care program will be offered on these days by Camp Australia.

TWO MINUTE PARKING AREA:
Thank you to the many parents who use the Two Minute Parking Area at the front of the staff carpark as a quick ‘kiss & drop’ spot.
The area works very effectively when everyone obeys the simple instruction to say goodbye to your children and drive on.
A reminder that the Council By Laws Officers constantly patrol this area and issue fines by mail to people who overstay their 2 minutes.
CAN YOU ASSIST US?
The Senior Building has attracted many cobwebs on the exterior colourbond walls. A broom or a gerni spray gun would do a great job! No spiders, just webs!

The school has ordered ten new pinboards and whiteboards for use in classrooms. If you could assist installing these boards please contact the office.

The school receives free garden mulch from a local tree lopper (The Tree Feller – Greg – Mobile: 0408 507 145). The mulch needs to be spread on the garden beds. If you can assist with this task it would be greatly appreciated. If you have access to a bob cat it would make the job a whole lot easier. Otherwise we have wheel barrows, shovels and racks available.

✔️ The new Prep garden beds need mulch spread around the plants. Mulch, wheelbarrows and shovels are all available. Thank you – this weekend!

✔️ There are garden beds around the front of the school and between the main building and the senior building that need weeding. Does that sound like a task you could handle? A great family experience? Thank you!

✔️ The new basketball backboard and ring was put up in the gym this week. Thank you!

The school is about to commence constructing a large community vegetable garden area in the spot where the old portable classrooms once stood. The concept is to construct about 12 above the ground garden beds and enclose the area with a cyclone fence. Western Water has already provided funds for a water tank. What is required to make it all happen is – 12 raised garden beds (colour bond type or wooden sleepers), a small tool shed, a watering system, soil and about 30 metres of cyclone fencing approximately 3metres high. If you have any contacts who may be able to assist with this project, please direct them to the office. This has the potential to be a valuable learning environment for all students and the community!

I would be interested in discussing ideas I have with a landscape designer in regard to the front entrance area of the school – around the main front entrance doors. Please see Mr Fairweather if you may be able to help think through this process.

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

Term Dates for 2016:
Term 1: 28th January to Thursday 24th March.
Easter is the first weekend of the Term holidays.

Term 2: 11th April to 24th June
Term 3: 11th July to 16th September
Term 4: 3rd October to 20th December

Please keep up with school events by reading the newsletter each week. It is also available in colour each Thursday afternoon on the school website at www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY:
All proceeds from Out of Uniform Day tomorrow will support the Leukaemia Foundation. A gold coin donation will help towards finding a cure for blood cancer.

MY WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE:
On March the13th I’m doing World’s Greatest Shave. I am shaving all my hair off to raise money for blood cancer research. Today 34 Australians will be given the devastating news that they have Leukaemia Lymphoma or Myeloma and they will turn to the Leukaemia Foundation for help.

On Friday 26th February we will be having an out of uniform day. I am hoping everyone comes in casual clothing and brings a gold coin donation to help sponsor me.
Please go online to: www.worldsgreatestshave.com.au and sponsor Charlotte Dougherty. CHARLOTTE.

EASTER RAFFLE;
Each year the Parents & Friends organise an Easter Raffle. Families are encouraged to send an Easter Egg, a rabbit or a basket to the office as a donation. These Easter items are made up in to hampers of various sizes. Raffle tickets are then sold throughout our community. The winning tickets for the Easter Egg hampers (of which there could be ten or more) will be drawn at the conclusion of the Easter Hat Parade at school on the last day of this Term. Winners who are not present will be called. Please put a phone number on your ticket.
The funds from every ticket that is purchased will help the P & F with their fundraising efforts for our students.
CAMPS, EXCURSIONS AND SPORTS FUND:
All eligible families are reminded to apply for this funding, as previously explained. If you have a HealthCare Card or Pension Card, you may be eligible to receive government assistance.
By applying for this funding, if eligible, the school will receive $125 to be used for your child’s excursions, camps and sporting events. This amount will be held against each eligible child’s name and utilised accordingly.
Applications MUST be finalised by 29th February 2016. Forms are available from the school Office.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB:
The Library is currently running the Redgum Book Club, however if parents would like to order from the Scholastic Book Club catalogues, you can collect these from the school office. Loop ordering is available now. Please contact Sue Lavars on 9744 7137 if you have any questions.

REDGUM BOOK CLUB:
A reminder that any orders being placed through the school need to be in buy Tuesday 1st March.
For more information about the books in the catalogue, go to the Redgum website. You will also find hundreds more great titles with books starting from $2.00. www.redgumbookclub.com.au.
How to place an order:
• Order and pay online by credit card or PayPal at www.redgumbookclub.com.au
• Email your order with your credit card details to: orders@redgumbookclub.com.au
• Call our customer service team on 02 8445 2355 and order over the phone.
• Fill out the order form on the back of the catalogue and return to the school Office with payment.

If you have any questions about Redgum Book Club orders, please contact Lesley at schools@redgumbookclub.com.au

Thank you

Camp Australia- Goonawarra Primary School OSHC
The service will usually be run in the Gym except when the gym is booked by other providers. The service will be run in the Library on:
Tuesday: After School Care
Wednesday: Before School Care
Thursday: After School Care (We may return to the gym from 4:30pm onwards when it will be available for use depending on what the children would like to do.)

There will be a sign on the gym door during these times for families, with directions to the Library. A staff member will be at the gym to collect children when they arrive in the afternoon to take them to the library.

Lastly if you child is away sick or absent from school for another reason and are booked in to after school care, please call 0429 086 349 to make the coordinator aware of your child’s absence. This would be greatly appreciated as it avoids time spent looking for you child.

Arrangements for Pupil Free Days.
Camp Australia will conduct a program at school on Pupil Free days providing there is a minimum of 18 bookings.
Pupil Free Day 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Fees are:
Full Fee $53.88 Out of pocket * $8.29 to $26.94

Bookings need to be made by Monday 29th February.
If we have insufficient numbers, the day will not operate/be offered.

CANTEEN ROSTER

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<tr>
<td>Friday 26th February</td>
<td>Nicole Huybers, Marcelle Miller</td>
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<td>Monday 29th February</td>
<td>Nicole Huybers, Peta Hoiles</td>
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Goonawarra Classifieds

THE CHOOK PEN
Now open for breakfast
Monday – Friday
8am

Badminton Anyone?
Sunbury Ladies Bat’n’rough Club welcomes ladies to join for some fun-filled badminton.
Cost: $8.00 per week, per person. Annual membership if you choose to join. Child minding available.
Where: Boardman Reserve Stadium, Wilsons Lane, Sunbury.
When: Monday mornings 9:45am-12:00pm
Contact: Cath on 0409 256 123