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.’

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Notice and payment reminders

PUPIL FREE DAY:
Next Monday 7th March is a Pupil Free Day.

The staff will be exploring ‘Seven Steps to Successful Writing’ with a trained guest speaker.

Due to lack of enrolments, Camp Australia will not be offering a service on this day.

UNIFORM SHOP CHANGES:
Until further notice, the Uniform Shop at school will continue to operate. If you are in need of any uniform items please check at school first. At some stage in the future the uniforms will be all available from Primary School Wear in Sunbury (near Aldi).
SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS – CLOSE TOMORROW:
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.

There are 7 parent positions that need filling.

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.

MEET THE CHAPLAINS DINNER:
As you would be well aware we are very fortunate to have Ben Smith as our School Chaplain. There are also several other Chaplains within the Sunbury schools.
On Tuesday 15th March at 7pm there is a dinner at the Goonawarra Golf Club to meet them all and hear about the invaluable work they undertake in schools.
It would be great if members of our school community could attend and support Ben at this event.
See the information insert in today’s Newsletter. Contact the office or the person on the form directly.

MRS REILLY’S RETIREMENT:
Just another notice that Mrs Reilly will be leaving Goonawarra PS at the end of this Term, then enjoying some Long Service Leave before retiring later this year.

OH&S AUDIT:
This week the school has undergone an Occupational Health & Safety Audit by an independent company engaged by the Department of Education and Training. All schools go through this process about every 3 – 5 years.
There are many Policies and Procedures that the school is required to have in place. These include –

- OHS Policy & Planning
- OHS Risk Management
- Staff Training & Induction
- Consultation & Communication
- Hazard Management
- Emergency Management and Preparedness
- First Aid and Infections Control
- Contractor Management
- OHS Purchasing

As well as going through all the essential paperwork, the Auditor undertook a comprehensive inspection of the school – both inside (offices, classrooms, cupboards, sports store rooms, art room, library, corridors, cleaners storerooms, staffroom etc) and out (shipping containers and drain pits!)

A full report of the audit will be provided to the school in the future, but in summary the Auditor was very impressed with the documentation and the physical environment. As audits go, there always has to be some areas for improvement. These will be addressed over time.

CHAPLAINCY CONSENT FORMS:
Attached to today’s newsletter is a letter from our School Chaplain Ben outlining his role within the school.
In order for Ben to spend meaningful time with students, a Department of Education Parental Consent Form is required. A copy of this form is also included along with a Frequently Asked Questions document.
Please complete the Consent Form and return it to school by the end of this Term.

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. Currently the Council By Laws Officers are patrolling this area on a weekly basis issuing fines by mail to people who overstayed their 2 minutes.
Now we need to address the number of parents with their children who walk through the staff carpark on a regular basis.

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! THANKS!

The school has ordered ten new pinboards and whiteboards for use in classrooms. If you could assist installing these boards please contact the office. Wall plugs and drill supplied! The boards have all arrived.
The four backboards on the Grade 3 / 4 basketball courts need painting. Please see Alan if you could assist with this much needed task.

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. **Thanks to Lucy for doing the front of the school, but there are still more areas to go. Can you help?**

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.

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

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**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](http://www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au)

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**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.

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Last Friday we held the first Casual Clothes day for the year. We were raising money to support Charlotte Dougherty, a student in 5/6 R who is raising money for the Leukaemia Foundation. Charlotte is shaving her head at Sunbury Square on the 12th March. You will be able to see her outside Hair House Warehouse at 9 am.

A total of $374.65 was raised on the day which is a great effort. Donations can still be left at the office.

The next Casual Clothes Day will be on the last day of term Thursday 24th March. Money raised on the day will go to the Good Friday Appeal for the Children’s Hospital.

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**BOOK CLUB:**
For those families who have taken issue 2 of the Scholastic catalogue, please return payment and order forms to the Office by Wednesday 9th March.

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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**Camp Australia- Goonawarra Primary School OSHC**
We hope everyone had a lovely week and it has been great seeing new faces at the service. We also have had some new assistants in the morning due to the increase of numbers, these have been, Jessica on Mondays, Brandon on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Tonia on Friday mornings. And of course Yelena who is our Wednesday morning assistant.

On Wednesday 9th March, Yelena will be at the service with an additional staff member as I (Amber) will be absent for both before and after school due to a medical concern.

Lastly, just a reminder that 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. 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 your child.

**The Pupil Free Day on the 7th March:**
Unfortunately we have had insufficient numbers therefore the day will not operate/be offered.

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**African Children’s Choir – Ubuntu**
Performing at Salesian College
April 12th 2016
Tickets are available on:
www.TryBooking.com

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**Sunbury Chaplaincy**
Sunbury ACCESS ministries Chaplaincy & Wellbeing Support Group
Supporting Chaplains in Sunbury Schools

**Annual Dinner**
An opportunity to meet and chat with our Chaplains

Join us for dinner...
at 7pm
Tuesday 15th March 2016
Goonawarra Golf Club Restaurant (2 Franks Boulevard)

... and share in

⇒ a delicious 2 course meal (drinks at bar prices)
⇒ a reflection on 2015 and our aims for 2016

Meet our Chaplains
Robert Nansen - Sunbury College
Ben Smith - Goonawarra & Wissmet Park Primary Schools
Michael Wambyama - Sunbury Heights Primary School

**Suggested donation $30**
Pensioners $25  Students $80
(Donations over $2 are tax deductible)

Bookings are essential by 9th March
Contact Helen on 9744 3031 or 0407 506 507
or email sunburychaplaincy@hotmail.com

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**Goonawarra Classifieds**

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**Carey Plumbing & Gasfitting**
0421 394 147

Our School Plumber
For all your plumbing and gas fitting needs, including:
- Sewer Blockages and Stormwater
- Hot Water Service
- Gas Installations and servicing
- Maintenance and Repair
- Water renewal
- Renovations
- Water Tanks

Mention this ad and 10% of the cost of your job will be donated to Goonawarra Primary School.
Zack Carey – 0421 394 147