



Goonawarra Primary School Newsletter

2 - 6 Gullane Drive, Sunbury Vic 3429

email: goonawarra.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au / website: www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au

Telephone: 9744 7137 / Fax Number: 9744-7284

No: 0517

Thursday, 9th March 2017

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.'

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
13 th LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY!	14 th Grandparents Morning P-2 Assembly at 9am	15 th	16 th	17 th National Day Against Bullying and Violence	18 th	19 th
20 th School Council AGM 6:30pm	21 st	22 nd	23 rd House Athletics Boardman Stadium	24 th	25 th	26 th
27 th Sunbury Secondary College visit (Incursion)	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st Easter Hat Parade Prep - 2 Easter Raffle Drawn END OF TERM 2:30PM DISMISSAL	1 st April	2 nd
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS						
17 th April EASTER MONDAY	18 th TERM 2 COMMENCES	19 th	20 th P-2 Toy Incursion	21 st P-2 Toy Incursion	22 nd	23 rd

Dear Parents,

Our school is taking part in the 2017 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday 17th March. Your child will come home with a wrist band with a message against bullying on it. They will also participate in an activity at school related to bullying next week.

At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone.

Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying.

You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. Listen calmly to get the full story.
2. Reassure your child that they are not to blame.
3. Ask your child what they want to do about it and how you can help.
4. Visit www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies.
5. Contact the school.
6. Check-in regularly with your child.

BULLYING NO WAY!

www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they've told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need to: who, what, where, when. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child's experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.
2. **Reassure** your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, 'That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.' or 'I'm so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that's not fair at all'.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.
5. **Contact** the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher and, if you need to, ask to talk with the principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child's safety.
6. **Check in regularly** with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

SCHOOL COUNCIL RESULTS:

Over the last few weeks nominations for positions on School Council have been sought.

It is with great pleasure I can now inform everyone that the following members of the school community have been elected to School Council.

Parent Positions:

Shawn Hindmarsh

Lucy Loko

Peta Hoiles

Kate Gleeson

Melanie Pisani

Sharyn Snook

Staff Positions:

Jess Fry

Liz Hornby

Carla Cropley

Community member representing the Parents & Friends Group:

Leonie Smits

School Principal:

Alan Fairweather

Several other parents, **Hannah Liddle** and **Jo Smith** are both very keen to attend meetings and be part of the decision making processes.

It is very encouraging to have such a willing group of our community prepared to serve the school in this way.

The next meeting of the School Council is the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Monday 20th March commencing at 6.30pm in the staffroom.

All members of the school community are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting at which reports for 2016 will be tabled.

AN UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT:

Earlier this week one of our students was approached by a person in a car who offered to drive him home. This incident occurred at 3.45pm when all students had left the school. As mentioned in the yellow note that went home to all families, the student acted very responsibly and went into one of the local businesses where he was very safe.

All classes spent time on reminding students about stranger danger. The Emergency Management Branch of DET, the local police and all neighbouring schools were informed.

In discussions with the police, they wanted the school to get the message across to students that 'strangers' are not always responsible for these incidents. 85% of danger or abuse to children occurs with someone known to the child or trusted by the child. These could be family members who no longer live with the children for various reasons, protective grandparents / aunts / uncles / friends who want to remove children from their current living arrangements without permission and so on.

The family involved in the incident shared an excellent idea with me. The parents and children have a password which is only known to them. If for any reason someone the children are not expecting to pick them up arrives, someone they were not expecting, someone they may be cautious of, the children would ask the person for the password. If they were not able to tell the children the password, then the children would not go with them and they would inform a responsible adult. Maybe you could try this with your children.

Here is some other useful information -

What to tell your child about a stranger:

- Tell your child not to listen to or be near a stranger—rather to move away or back inside.
- Tell your child to never ever go with a stranger—no matter what the stranger says.
- Share a code word with your child that is easy for them to remember and assure them that only a trusted adult will know the code word that you both share.

- Tell your child that strangers may make up sad stories, like looking for a lost pet, needing help with a sick child, or needing directions.
- Tell your child that strangers may offer treats, gifts or lollies for 'helping'.
- Have your child make sure an adult they trust knows where they are at all times
- Encourage your child if they have to walk by themselves somewhere to walk near busier roads/streets
- If ever frightened tell your child to go into a 'safe place' like a shop, police station or school and NEVER get into a car with someone they don't know.

Another point to mention.

I was surprised how quickly members of our community turned to social media to share their opinions about this incident. I saw over 200 on one site. Many people were very quick to add negative comments about the school and its approach to this incident. An interesting and telling observation is that only about ten people actually contacted the school to discuss this matter.

It would seem it is easier to make comments on social media before knowing the full details. Everyone is entitled to express their opinion on any subject, but can I encourage people to at least have access to all the information first. Rumours and unsubstantiated comments have the potential to be harmful and damaging to individuals and organisations such as schools.

30TH ANNIVERSARY:

2017 marks the 30th Anniversary of the school. Throughout this year there will be various classroom, whole school and community activities and events in recognition of this significant time. Watch out for notices later in the year.

There is a small group of parents who are currently 'brain storming' ideas for a community event for the 30th Anniversary. They are after input from as many people as possible. Email any ideas you have to the school on goonawarra.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au . The committee meets each Tuesday in the staffroom at 9am. Everyone is welcome to attend and share ideas.

SAVE THE DATE:

A 30th Anniversary Fete is being planned for Friday 20th October. It will be a twilight event commencing at 4pm and going through to around 8.30pm. There will be rides, food, drink, activities and entertainment for all! Put the date in the diary now!

THE BOMBERS ARE BACK IN TOWN!

Today members of the Essendon Football Club visited the school to talk to the Grade 5/6 students. Following the talk the players and students participated in a football clinic on the oval.

PREPS 2018 INFORMATION:

Some early notice!

If you are aware of any families who may be looking for a school for their child next year, the following dates maybe helpful. Information Sessions & School Tours will be held on Tuesday 2nd May and Thursday 4th May. There will be two sessions on each day – 9.30am to 11am and 7pm to 8.30pm.

Individual tours can be arranged through the office at any stage. Phone 9744 7137 to find a suitable time.

PUPIL OF THE WEEK:

PREP C	Darcy	For being a caring and responsible student.
PREP D	Alyssi	For showing courage and trying new things.
PREP I	Amelia	For always completing her work neatly and with great effort.
1L	Will	For using his strategies effectively in reading.
1MC	Isabella	For being a very helpful, friendly and kind member of our class.
1T	Mikayla	For listening to sounds when spelling tricky words.
2CA	Mitchell E	For working really hard to improve his handwriting.
2CO	Ivy	For being a wonderful help around the classroom and being a very responsible student.
2T	Kaedyn	For doing a great job on his family house writing.
3/4B	Peter	For having a positive attitude and working well.
3/4D	Masson	For wonderful improvement in his handwriting.
3/4H	Kiara	For engaging persuasive writing.
3/4P	Neha	For her extensive reasons in her pervasive writing.
3/4S	Jack	For having a positive attitude to his work.
5K	Baily	For his fantastic participation in class.
5R	Bradley	For his great ideas in class.
6F	Jordan	For showing great confidence and courage when he presented in front of the class.
6H	Kavi	For fantastic participation in class discussions and activities.
ART	Ethan S	For excellent Keith Haring art work.
LOTE	James S Lily H	Great concentration and completing all activities.
P.E	Lara R	For really trying in P.E

GRANDPARENTS MORNING:

Next Tuesday 14th March the Junior School will be hosting a morning for grandparents and special friends. The students have sent a letter to a grandparent or a special friend inviting them to visit the school and to join in the mornings activities. The morning will commence with Assembly at 9am, followed by classroom activities.

GOONAWARRA PRIMARY SCHOOL - SPECIALIST FOCUS		
DATE	WEEK BEGINNING - 13/2/2017	
SUBJECT	P.E	ART
PREP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Following the rules and proceduresThrowing and catching	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Birds in nestsColour cut and paste
GRADE 1&2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Team games and StrategyThrowing and Catching	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Warm and cool coloursColouring using warm and cool colours
GRADE 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Athletics practice - Shot-put & Discus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kandinsky CirclesCutting and layering circles
GRADE 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Athletics practice - Shot put & discus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade 5 - Kandinsky CirclesGrade 6 - Easter craft

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

Term Dates for 2017

Term 1: 30th Jan (teachers start) 31st Jan (students start) to 31 March

Term 2: 18th April (Tuesday) to 30th June

Term 3: 17th July to 22nd September

Term 4: 9th October to 22nd 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

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 contacted by phone. 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.



CAR PARK:

For the safety and well-being of your children we stress that:

- The car park is **NOT** to be used by parents who are dropping children off at school.
- The car park is **NOT** to be used by parents who are collecting child.
- Children and parents are **NOT** to walk through the car park at any time.

Please assist us in ensuring that your children remain safe by following these simple requests.

Payments & Reminders:

Grade 5/6 Camp Wilkin Deposit: \$50.00 - due by Thursday 30th March.

Scholastic Book Club orders/payment: - due by Tuesday 14th March.

CANTEEN ROSTER	
Friday 10 th March	Nicole Huybers, Nicole Brown
Monday 13 th March	CANTEEN CLOSED - LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY



Goonawarra Classifieds



GOONAWARRA KITCHEN

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

TERM 2, 2017



TIME: Tuesdays 4:00 - 5:30pm

COURSE CONTENT: In this class, we focus the basics of cooking with a professional food technician

Talent is not a prerequisite in our classes, however, commitment to fun is highly encouraged.

Spaces are strictly limited in this course and we recommend booking early.

Kids will also learn the joys of healthy eating choices

COST: 8-week course \$80

8 GULLANE DRIVE, SUNBURY – Ph. 9740 6627



First Aid Course for Teachers, Parents & Carers

HLTAID004 Provide an emergency first aid response in an education & care setting

This course for teachers, parents and carers provides the skills and knowledge required to deliver a first aid response and life support as well as the management of casualties, the incident and other first aiders in a range of situations in education and care settings.

This course is also suitable for parents wanting child focused, comprehensive, accredited first aid training.

****Please note it is a requirement of this course that practical demonstration of CPR must be performed on the floor.****

The unit applies to educators and support staff working within an education and care setting who are required to respond to a first aid emergency, including asthmatic and anaphylactic emergencies.

Taking Expressions of Interest for Term Two 2017

Call 9740 6627 to book you place.

This unit of competency may contribute towards approved first aid, asthma and anaphylaxis training under the Education and Care Services National Law, and the Education and Care Services National Regulations (2011)