



Goonawarra Newsletter

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No: 2114

Thursday, 17th July, 2014

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.](#)

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
21st July Ride2School Award. School Council 6:30pm 100 Days left for Grade 6.	22nd July ICAP - Grade 5/6	23rd July Footsteps Dance Prog - Grade 5/6	24th July Human Devt classes Gr 6. Rugby Clinics P - Gr 4	25th July	26th July	27th July
28th July 100 Days of Prep!	29th July ICAP Grade 5/6	30th July Footsteps Dance Prog - Grs 5/6	31st July Human Dev classes Gr 6. Rugby Clinics P - Gr 4.	1st Aug	2nd Aug	3rd Aug
4th Aug	5th Aug ICAP - Grs 5/6	6th Aug Footsteps Dance Prog - Grs 5/6	7th Aug	8th Aug 2015 Prep P.E. Session.	9th Aug	10th Aug
***** Pupil Free Day - Wednesday, 13 th August*****						

'Creating Learning Opportunities through Quality Education.'

Dear Parents, Teachers & Students,

Welcome Back!

I trust that everyone had a great time over the school holidays and found time to do some special family activities.

Term 3 is a crucial time in the school year with much learning and consolidation of knowledge being undertaken. There will also be a variety of relevant activities and events offered.

Please keep up with the timetable of activities by checking the weekly newsletter, looking online at our homepage and being aware of notices that are sent home.

Because of the importance of this Term, can I encourage everyone to minimize the amount of days your children have away from school. For your information the average number of days absent across the State per Term for each child is 3.



Primary School

THE GNOMES HAVE RETURNED!:

What a great success!

Many school families and others within the wider community took the opportunity to have a fun day out gnome hunting over the holidays. Twenty gnomes were hidden in twenty shops and businesses across Sunbury.

The Parents & Friends raised \$1,200 to assist with the cost of the new shade sails, businesses were delighted to have so many more customers in their shops and families had a great time locating the gnomes (a very cheap holiday activity!)

The gnomes have now taken up residence in the round garden near the office.

Return all Passports by tomorrow to be in the draw for some great raffle prizes, which will be drawn at Assembly on Monday.



Thank you to everyone involved. It was a great initiative!

Stay tuned for **Gnome 2 (Return of the Gnome)** next year!

OFFICE CHANGES:

With the retirement of Mrs Judy Toogood at the end of last Term, we warmly welcome two part time relief Business Managers, Margaret and Heather to assist with this role. The position has been advertised this week. Following the selection process we look forward to announcing the new ongoing Business Manager in about a months' time.

TUI - RUGBY:

Thank you to everyone who joined in the Out of Uniform Sport's Day fun on the last day of Term 2. On the day we raised \$418 to assist Tui participate in the National Primary School's Rugby Competition in Wollongong NSW in August.

As another fund raiser, Tui has raffle tickets available at the front office for \$2.00 each with some great prizes to be won including a \$22,685 Swift GL car, \$10,000 worth of travel vouchers, TVs and white goods.

THE CHAPLAIN & THE PRINCIPAL:

Who can go the distance?

On Sunday, 27th July our School Chaplain (Ben) and myself will be going for a run – a very long 21 kms run! We are both participating in **The Age Run Melbourne ½ Marathon** event. The run is through the streets and gardens of the city.

We are both participating in order to raise funds for the support of children who have a parent in prison. So many children are destined to follow in their parent's footsteps.

The following data is from USA -

Nationally, 7.3 million children have at least one parent in jail or prison. Sadly, 70 percent of these kids are doomed to follow in the same footsteps as their parents becoming imprisoned at some point in their lives. In fact, children of incarcerated parents are five times more likely than their peers to commit crimes. However, these at-risk children are largely ignored before they get in trouble.

In Australia a child who has had a parent in prison is six times more likely to end up in prison themselves than the child they sit next to in the classroom.

So Ben and I are seeking sponsorship to support the work of Prison Fellowship who work directly with these at risk children within Victoria. Prison Fellowship also provides a sports program (SLAM) and other programs for those in prison.

We would welcome your contributions through the online sites of –

Ben –

<https://runmelbourne2014.everydayhero.com/au/ben-15>

Alan –

<https://runmelbourne2014.everydayhero.com/au/alan-3>

Alternatively you can give either of us cash and we will deposit it for you. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY:

During next week a random sample of 49 families (computer generated list) will be given the opportunity to complete the annual Parent Opinion Survey. Families will have until Friday, 1st August to return the completed form.

The survey is specifically designed by the Education Department (DEECD) to ascertain the opinion of the parent community on a whole range of areas including –

- School Improvement
- Approachability
- Teacher Morale
- Parent Input
- Stimulating Learning
- Behaviour Management
- Reporting
- Learning Focus
- Transitions
- Extra Curricula
- Homework
- General Satisfaction
- Student Safety
- Classroom Behaviour
- Student Connectedness to Peers
- Student Motivation
- Social Skills
- Student Connectedness to School

DEECD indicate that a random sample size of 15% will provide a true indication of the opinions of the whole parent community. Hence they have provided 49 surveys.

It is essential that all of the surveys need to be completed and returned so that a true and accurate understanding of the current feelings of the community are obtained.

This information will be analysed and used to guide the future directions of the school.

If you do receive a survey, please spend time and complete it. You are investing in the future of your children.

Follow up phone calls will be undertaken to remind families to return the survey by the due date.

In the past the return rate has been approximately 65%. This small group does not give an accurate assessment of the wider school community's opinion. A 100% return is what we hope to achieve this year.

100 DAYS OF PREPS:

On Monday, 28th July, the Preps will be celebrating their first 100 days of school in a special way. **Keep it free!**

100 DAYS LEFT:

Next Monday, 21st July the Grade Six students will commence counting down their last 100 days of primary school. Each day there will be a special challenge to be undertaken! 1,300 days down – 100 to go!

I would like to mention a special tribute to this year's Grade Six students.

Their combined positive attitude to their work, their friendly and helpful nature, their dedication to all they undertake, their support of their Prep Buddies and to each other along with their general wellbeing and fun approach to school life are all a credit to the whole grade six level. Congratulations Grade Sixers! You are a credit to yourselves, your parents and the school. Keep up the fantastic work – 100 days to go!

2015 PREPS:

Tours for 2015 Preps can still be arranged. Contact the office to make an appointment. Let your friends know. The number of staff required for next year will need to be finalised shortly.

NEW DRESS / SKIRT:

A new winter dress has been added to the Uniform List. It is a royal and navy blue check and can be worn with either a blue polo shirt or blue skivvy with blue tights. The supplier is Primary School Wear (PSW). The top of the dress is detachable from the skirt. There are four sizes to choose from – 4, 6, 8 & 10. The dress is now available from the school's Uniform Shop for \$45.00.

HELP NEEDED:

- Several sections of roof guttering need cleaning from a buildup of leaves. Safe ladders are available.
- Paths around the school need constant sweeping. Can you help? Brooms supplied!

If you can assist with any of these tasks, please contact the office.

PLAY GROUPS:

Play Groups for 0 – 5 year olds and their parents operate in Room 12 (next to the gym) every **Tuesday** between 10am – 12pm and **Thursday** between 10am – 12pm and 1 – 4pm.

Contact the school for more information – **9744 7137**

Alan Fairweather

Principal

fairweather.alan.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

Term Dates for 2014:

Term 3: 14th July to 19th September

Term 4: 6th October to 19th December

Term Dates for 2015:

Term 1: All students commence on Thursday 29th Jan to 27th March

Term 2: 13th April to 26th June

Term 3: 13th July to 18th September

Term 4: 5th October to 18th December

Alan Fairweather

Principal

fairweather.alan.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

WANTED – ART ROOM:

List of things needed in the Art room:

Corks, ice cream containers with lids please, newspapers, bread ties and wool.

Thank you, Sonja.

Goonawarra Classifieds

Goonawarra Neighbourhood House

Invites you to

LITTLE YOGIS YOGA CLASS



COMMENCING IN TERM THREE

Thursday, 24th July 5pm to 6pm

(Please ring to make a booking)

Children's yoga is all about having fun, feeling joy & allowing imagination & creativity to flow & grow!

What do the children explore & discover in a Yoga class?

- ❖ A variety of poses that link to the theme of the class
- ❖ Breath awareness
- ❖ Creative play
- ❖ Relaxation & guided meditation

The cost is \$5.00 a class

First class free!

Ring 9740 6627 to book your place
8 Gullane Drive Sunbury.