



Goonawarra Primary School Newsletter

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No: 4017

Thursday, 14th December 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 school newsletter by clicking on subscribe on our school website: www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au



'Creating, Nurturing & Expanding Learning Opportunities through Quality Education.'

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
18 th	19 th Grade 3-4 Maddingley Park end of year excursion	20 th Grade 6 Graduation Evening	21 st Grades P-2 Christmas Concert 9.30 am-10.45am	22 nd LAST DAY OF TERM EARLY DISMISSAL 1.30pm CANTEEN CLOSED	23 rd	24 th
 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 						
29 th January Book Pack Sales 9.15am-3.45pm	30 th GRADES 1-6 COMMENCE TERM 1 - 2018	31 st	1 st February PREPS COMMENCE TERM 1 - 2018	2 nd	3 ^{rs}	4 th

Merry Christmas



THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER FOR THE YEAR.

2017 has been a very productive year in many ways for Goonawarra PS. Some of these include:

- The celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the school – including a very successful fete
- An increase in student numbers
- Mrs Carla Cropley was appointed as Assistant Principal to assist staff with their professional development, increase their knowledge of the curriculum and support the day to day operations within the classrooms
- 3 new staff members were appointed – Miss Parmley, Miss Lori and Mr Hildebrand (they are all part of our staff for 2018)
- Data from the Student Attitudes to School Survey (Grs 4 – 6), Parent Opinion Survey and the Staff Opinion Survey was all very positive and will influence our direction in the future
- NAPLAN results indicated steady progress in teaching and learning
- A grant of \$330,000 has enabled the improvement of many building and ground facilities around the school
- A second new double portable building was installed enabling an additional class next year
- Another 300 plants were planted around the gardens
- The school community garden was established – shed, water tank, garden beds and large fence
- The 3rd Whole School Outdoor Concert (until the rain arrived!)
- A strong interest in the school for enrolments throughout the year and for next year (385 students in Feb 2017 – anticipated 415 in Feb 2018)

The whole school staff thank all families for their support and encouragement throughout the year. We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

STAFF LEAVING:

Mrs Alison Atherton:

After a 13 year career at Goonawarra as an Integration Aide, Mrs Alison Atherton is retiring at the end of the year. Alison has touched the lives of countless students during her time at school. She has worked closely with many individual students as their aide as she has supported them in their learning and development.

Over the last two years Alison has also been responsible for managing the library resources and keeping it neat, organised and an attractive and stimulating environment for students and staff.

On behalf of the school community, I thank Alison for her dedication and commitment to meeting the needs of the students in her care, as well as supporting the school, across all areas.

You will be greatly missed Alison.

From one of her students – Ben. 'I have really enjoyed having Alison as a helper because she is always nice'.

Mrs Jess Fry:

Mrs Fry will be leaving school for a while at the end of this year. Her first child is due in February.

Mrs Fry is very excited about the prospects of her new role as a mum!

At this stage, Mrs Fry may return to school in a year or so.

I am sure the whole school community joins with me in wishing Jess and her husband, Stephen, all the best for the adventures that await them as parents.

From one of her Grade 6 students – Erika. 'I have really enjoyed having Mrs Fry as my Grade 6 teacher because she is always understanding'.

STAFF RETURNING:

Ms Sonja Procek will be returning to Goonawarra for the commencement of next year. Sonja has been on leave for this year. She will return to the Art room where she will instruct and guide students in Visual and Performing Arts. Part of the program for next year will include a visit from the African Children's Choir (teenagers) plus participation in the Education Departments' State School Spectacular (choir only).

NEW STAFF:

As our school population grows and with changes in staff, it has been necessary to employ two new teaching staff members. It is my pleasure to welcome **Miss Madeline Minns** and **Mrs Samantha Bonello – Condon** to our teaching staff for 2018!

Miss Minns is a recent graduate who spent part of her training in Grade One at Goonawarra PS earlier this year. She has also visited on numerous occasions since then to assist in the Grade One classrooms. Miss Minns, who will be teaching Grade Two next year has a real passion for teaching and nurturing children. She is very enthusiastic and I am sure she will pass this on to her students.

Mrs Bonello-Condon is also a recent graduate who has been selected to teach a Grade 3 / 4 class next year. Mrs Bonello-Condon (Mrs BC) commenced working at Goonawarra PS several years ago as an Integration Aide (Sam). It was during this time working with students in classrooms that she became convinced that teaching was what she wanted to do.

Building on her Youth Work and Psychology degrees, Mrs BC has successfully completed her teaching qualifications. She is very excited about this career change.

We are excited to have these two new teachers join us next year. Please welcome them when you see them around the school.

MANY THANKS:

PARENTS & FRIENDS

Throughout this year a small, but dedicated group of parents have organised the many P & F activities for our school community. The Christmas Stall today was their last for the year.

Many thanks to this group and to all the other families who helped out on specific projects.

The total raised by the P & F for the year is over \$15,000. This is an amazing result!

These funds will be used to provide non budgeted items for the students. This year the money will purchase additional aluminium seating around the school, especially in the new synthetic grass area outside the library and Art room.

Can I encourage all parents to take an active role next year and support the P & F wherever possible.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The elected members of School Council (staff and parents), are the major policy and decision making body in the school. They meet twice a Term, are presented with various reports and make decisions which affect the operations and direction of the school.

Many thanks to the eleven members of the School Council for their open mindedness, productive debates, clear decision making processes and their vision for the direction and improvement of the school. It has been a privilege to be part of this forward thinking group. Thank you for your commitment to the school through this level of decision making.

Please remember that the School Council and Parents & Friends work, as volunteers, to make decisions and provide resources for ALL students across the school. Your involvement, no matter at what level, will greatly assist everyone, including your child / children.

BOOK PACKS:

The 2018 School Packs for students are now available from the office. The financial contribution requested from each family for each student is **\$170.00**.

This contribution will cover all the daily consumables that your child will need in the classroom for the year. It also assists with the purchase of physical education equipment, Arts supplies and library stock. The cost of Athletics per child (\$13.95) is also included along with a contribution to the Chaplaincy program.

Book Packs can be purchased on:

Monday, 29th January, 2018 9.15am-3.45pm ALL GRADE LEVELS

Please complete the form and bring it with you when you collect the Individual Requisites component of the Essential Items Package

2018 STARTING DATES:

Dates for 2018:

- School staff will commence at school on Monday 29th January. The office will be open and Book Packs can be purchased on this day.
- Students in Grades 1 - 6 will commence at 9.00am on Tuesday 30th January.
- Preps will commence on Thursday 1st February. (9.15am - 1.30pm for the Thursday and Friday).
- Our first Assembly will be at 3.00pm on Friday 2nd February.
- From Monday 5th February, the Preps will attend school every Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri. Individual Assessment Tests will be conducted on Wednesdays.
- Preps will start full weeks on Monday 5th March.
- 2018 Prep parents need to book in an Assessment time for their child via www.studentinterviews.com.au and use the password **cd8r6**.

WHERE TO BUY SCHOOL UNIFORMS:

The school uniform is available from Primary School Wear. Their shop in Sunbury is located across the carpark from Aldi and in the lower building. The address is Shop 6, 106-126 Gap Road, SUNBURY .

Opening hours are:

Wednesday to Friday 10am-4pm
Saturday 10am-1pm

LEAVING FAMILIES:

Each year there are a number of families who leave the school.

This is due to two factors:

- Their children are moving to another school to complete their primary school education (locally, somewhere in Victoria, interstate or overseas).
- Their youngest child has completed their primary school education.

There is a total of 25 families leaving Goonawarra this year.

We wish those students leaving all the best for their future education.

There will be 33 new families commencing at Goonawarra next year.

The leaving families are:

Anderson, Banfield, Buglar, Bulbul, Camilleri, De Goederen, Hoeve, Hosking, Hussein, Inserra, Kosinski, McDougall, McLennan, Noblett, Tobin, Varapodio, Watson-Smeardon, Weiley, Wescombe, Williams, Willis, Wright, Firdaus, Fraser and Ramritu

NEW AREA OPEN:

Another one of the items being addressed under the Planned Maintenance Program (our \$330,000 grant) has now been completed. The new synthetic grass play area outside the library and art room (old amphitheatre area) is now available for students to use.

Other completed projects include the refurbishing of the student toilets, the removal of the old heating furnaces, the installation of new gas heaters, repairs to the library roof and ceiling, painting the library, repairs to, and painting of external timber supports and boards.

Work to be completed includes finalising the line marking on the new synthetic grass surface of the Grade 5/6 Basketball court, laying new carpet in the library and grinding down concrete paths to eliminate trip hazards.

All of the above projects have greatly improved the school facilities and have made it a safer environment as well as more attractive.

LOST PROPERTY:

There are many school uniform items in lost property. There are on a table near the front office. The items have been checked and they do not have names on them. The school cannot store this many items.

As from tomorrow, these items are available to all members of the school community for free.

HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR MEMORY YET?

To celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the school and to create memories for years to come, a new paved pathway will be constructed.

Families and individuals have the opportunity to purchase a brick paver with their name etched into it. The pavers will be laid on both sides of the main gate entrance at the front of the school (between the large rocks).

The initial batch of pavers will cost \$25.00 each and will be ordered in February.

See the paver sheet at the office or on the homepage for all the details.

THANK YOU!!!

A BIG THANK YOU to

All of the fantastic Goonawarra PS staff...

Sue.C, Steph. I, Tahlia, Rhiannon, Sandi, Lauren, Bree, Simone, Steph.C, Kellie, Jo, Gerald, Jess.D, Amber, Ewen, Marita, Kathleen, Jess.F, Amy, Michael, Lori, Liz, Pirjo, Dani, Alison, Ange, Michelle.C, Sam, Andi, Jane, Janine, Sue.L, Scott, Michele.P, Carla & Alan

2017 has been a sensational year at Goonawarra PS! It is no coincidence that this is due to the dedication, passion and professionalism of the amazing staff we have at our wonderful school.

Thank you to all the staff for the enormous amount of time and effort that you put into making this school an excellent place for students to learn and grow (both academically, as well as people) and for the amazing sense of community that we all enjoy here at school. You all have done an awesome job! THANK YOU!!!

Alan Fairweather

Principal

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

Term Dates for 2017

Term 4: 9th October to 22nd December

Term Dates 2018

Term 1: Grades 1-6 commence on Tuesday 30th January

Preps commence on Thursday 1st February

Term 2: 16th April to 29th June

Term 3: 16th July to 21st September

Term 4: 8th October to 21st December

The canteen has no chicken nuggets in stock. Please do not order for lunch orders tomorrow.

CANTEEN ROSTER	
Monday 18 th , Decembeer	Nicole Huybers, Vanessa Radclyffe Please make a second choice for lunch orders on this day as stocks will be low.
Friday, 22 nd December	Canteen closed - LAST DAY OF TERM

Goonawarra Classifieds

FOR SALE
Sunbury College girl's second-hand uniform items!
2 girls short sleeved shirts in as new condition- size 14- \$15.00 EACH.
Please see the office staff at Goonawarra P.S

