



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: 0218

Thursday, 8th February, 2018

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
Prep Family BBQ TONIGHT 3.30pm-5pm				9 th Assembly in gym 3.00pm	10 th	11 th
12 th Grade 6 Swimming Lessons @12.00	13 th Grade 6 Swimming Lessons @12.00	14 th Prep Students Testing Appointments	15 th Grade 6 Swimming Lessons @12.00 Parent/Teacher Interviews 2pm-7.30pm 1.30pm dismissal.	16 th Grade 6 Swimming Lessons @12.00 Assembly in gym 3.00pm	17 th	18 th
19 th Grade 6 Swimming Lessons @12.00 School Council 6.30pm	20 th Grades 3-6 House Swimming Sports At Sunbury Aquatic Centre 10am-3.30pm	21 st Prep Students Testing Appointments	22 nd Sunbury District Swimming Sports	23 rd Assembly in gym 3.00pm	24 th	25 th
26 th 	27 th 	28 th Prep Students Testing Appointments 	1 st March House Athletics 	2 nd Assembly in gym 3.00pm	3 rd	4 th
5 th House Athletics Backup Day	6 th Prep Grades Western Water Incursion 9am-12.30	7 th	8 th	9 th Assembly in gym 3.00pm	10 th	11 th

Payments & Reminders

Grade 6 Swimming Program: \$15.00 due date extended until TOMORROW.

Grades 3-6 House Swimming Sports: \$7 and permission note due by Friday 16th February.

Grades 3-4 Kids Tennis Foundation: \$2.50 and permission note due by Friday 16th February.

Please keep informed by reading the Newsletter, noting dates of upcoming events and when forms and money are due.

PREP FAMILY BBQ - AFTER SCHOOL TODAY!

All Prep families are welcome to attend the after school barbeque and games session today. The fun begins straight after school and concludes at 5pm.

LATE PROCESS EXPLAINED:

Get out of bed, you will be late for school!

Hurry, we need to go and buy bread to make lunches before school!

Oh no, another traffic jam as you try to get to school on time!

I'm feeling sick, it's too hot, it's too cold, it's my birthdaycan I stay home?

There are many reasons why students are late to school or stay home for the day.

Ideally, we would like every student to be at school every day of the year, but understand that students need to stay home for various reasons, especially if they are unwell.

Obviously, it is always the choice of parents as to whether students attend school.

The average number of days per year that students in primary schools across Victoria are absent is 12. This is 3 per Term. You may want to keep your own tally for the year and see how your child/ren compare.

The Department of Education has changed the rules of accountability and reporting absences. Schools must comply with these changes.

From now on, the school must be notified by parents of every absence on the day the student is away, not when they return to school.

On the same day that your child is absent from school, you need to either:

- **Phone the school on 9744 7137**
- **Use the absent function on the 'Updat-ed' school app. Download from the App Store.**
- **Email the school on www.goonawarra.vic.edu.au**

It is more convenient for 30 – 40 parents to contact the school each day, than for the office staff to make individual phone calls to all those families to find out why students are absent.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance in helping us comply with these new regulations.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND YOUR CHILD:

Is your child using social media?

Are you aware that most social media apps have a minimum age of 12 to join? This is based on the fact that children under 12 lack the maturity to deal with what is often shared by others.

The Australian Federal Police this week stated that children as young as five are being groomed on social media and through interactive games by people they do not know. This should be a concern to all parents.

Schools spend a lot of time dealing with the consequences of harmful comments or inappropriate pictures that are put on social media by students out of school time. Last year we spent considerable time dealing with such issues that were posted by students very late at night, usually sitting up in bed on their mobile or device. In most cases the parents were unaware of what was occurring.

Question to parents: If you permit your child to be on social media, regardless of their age, do you monitor closely what they comment on and with whom they are communicating with or will you wait for there to be an incident which may be very disturbing to your child or yourself and then have to deal with the consequences?

SWIMMING LESSONS:

Next week the Grade Six students will commence a five session swimming program at the Sunbury Aquatic Centre. This program is in line with a new Department of Education initiative. We have been able to obtain two grants to offset most of the cost of this program. Families have been asked to contribute a total of only \$15 for the five swimming lessons with qualified instructors, bus transportation and pool entry.

All forms and money need to be returned by tomorrow.

PARENT & TEACHER DISCUSSIONS:

NEXT THURSDAY 15TH FEB. STUDENTS WILL BE DISMISSED AT 1.30PM.

Each year discussions between staff and parents are organised early in the year. The purpose of these meetings is to allow parents to pass on information to the teacher about their child.

Staff value this opportunity to meet parents and build a strong relationship between home and school early in the year.

The date for the discussions is Thursday 15th February. Students will be dismissed at 1.30pm.

Times will be available between 2pm and 7.30pm.

Please log on to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the code **4z8bj**

BOOK PACKS:

Thank you to everyone who has purchased the 2018 School Packs for students.

For those who still need to purchase them, they are 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, Art supplies and library stock. The cost of Athletics per child (\$13.95) is also included along with a contribution to the Chaplaincy program.

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: Wed to Fri: 10am - 4.00pm

Sat: 10am - 1pm

Extended hours are being offered until Saturday March 10th. Please phone 9768 0384 for more details.

3 WEEKS LEFT TO ORDER YOUR PAVER:

Families and individuals have the opportunity to purchase a brick paver with their name etched into it. There are samples at the office. 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 cost \$25.00 each and will be ordered at the end of February.

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

BEY BLADES:

Many playground trends transcend time, while others come and go; at the moment beyblades are all the craze, recently the fidget spinners and in the not too distant past bottle flipping.

These types of toys are regularly enjoyed outside in our school yard, providing students with hours of fun, many great conversations and lots of learning such as sharing.

However like any fun object at times there is a downside, at times they can cause some distress for students, teachers and families alike. To clarify, as a school we ask students not to bring along full metal beyblades or fidget spinners as they can be quite dangerous. Also, students are not to swap or give away their objects as they are often quite costly and often students regret their trades and swaps. Therefore all items that are brought to school with a child are to return home with that child. A reminder that personal items brought to school are at a student's own risk. We encourage students not to bring items of great financial or sentimental value to school.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM:

The Visiting Primary School Nurses from the Primary School Nursing Program will be visiting our school over the next few months. They plan to see all of the Prep students.

Questionnaires are being sent home to be completed by parents/ guardians and need to be returned by the 27th February.

Information on these confidential forms provides parents with the opportunity to raise any concerns you may have about your child's health and development with the school nurse.

If you have any questions related to the Questionnaire or the Visiting School Nurse program please talk to your child's teacher or Mrs Michele Pinti (Wellbeing Coordinator).

HELP REQUIRED:

There are several tasks around the school that need attention. If you are skilled in the required areas and are able to offer your assistance, please contact the office for more details.

- ❖ 3 of the white 100 x 100mm verandah posts at the front door of the school need replacing.
- ❖ Several sections of paving need to be cut out and new concrete laid.
- ❖ A bobcat to spread mulch.

SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS 2018:

Goonawarra Primary School is participating in the 'Coles Sports for Schools Program. The program commenced this week and will finish on April 3rd. For every \$10 spent at Coles, customers will receive one Sports for Schools voucher. Families can then bring vouchers to the school and place them in either of the two boxes located at the front office or in the BER building. At the completion of the program, the school can order new sports equipment for our students use.



The School Dental van will be conducting a visit to the school from Monday 26th to Thursday 1st March. A leaflet with all the information and a consent form is being sent home with this newsletter to all families.

GULLANE DRIVE, SUNBURY - PARKING RESTRICTIONS REMOVAL:

Council recently wrote to local residents with a proposal to remove 'No Stopping School Time 8-9am 3-4pm' parking restrictions on the west side of Gullane Drive, Sunbury.

As a result, Council will remove 'No Stopping School Time 8-9am 3-4pm' parking restrictions on the west side of Gullane Drive, Sunbury. The proposed works have been scheduled to be completed in the next 6-8 weeks.

These changes will provide additional on street parking. Following the removal of the parking restrictions, Council will monitor parking in the area to determine the effectiveness of the arrangement.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS:

Camps, sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. Please obtain a CSEF application form from the school office or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

SCHOOL BANKING:

Get involved in the School Banking program.

Goonawarra Primary School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

School Banking day is TUESDAY.



Redgum Book Club catalogues are available from the school office for parents wishing to purchase books from this company.

To view the current catalogue, please open the link [Redgum Book Club Term 1 2018](#). The catalogue is now open and closes on **26th February**. Ordered books will be delivered *free* to the school week commencing **12th March**. Every book order will earn resources and books for our school.

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

Fill out the order form on the back of the catalogue and fax (02) 9997 5850

If you have any questions about Redgum Book Club orders, please contact Lesley at schools@redgumbookclub.com.au or alternatively Sue Lavars at the school office.

Alan Fairweather

Principal

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

Term Dates 2018

Term 1: 30th January to 29th March

Term 2: 16th April to 29th June

Term 3: 16th July to 21st September

Term 4: 8th October to 21st December

CANTEEN ROSTER	
Friday 9 th February	Nicole Huybers, Angela McDonald, Regina Reid
Monday 11 th February	Nicole Huybers, Meaghan Hindmarsh
Friday 16 th February	Nicole Huybers, Nicole Brown, Alison Rae

Goonawarra Classifieds

Sunbury United FC
Information day
Sunday 11th February
11am-2pm
Langama Park
Mitchells Lane, Sunbury.

