Borough Bulletin  August 15th  2013

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PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

This week is the mid-point of Term Three and around the school there are a myriad of activities happening with a focus on this term’s integrated unit and associated excursions and incursions, next week’s Book Week celebrations, athletics training and camp organisation. Behind the scenes planning for 2014 is gaining momentum with preliminary work on grade structures and staffing allocation. We are also obtaining quotes for major project items such as replacing the carpet in the prep rooms and completing the hall extension by laying timber flooring in the new area and adding timber panelling to match the rest of the hall. If you have any thoughts on grade structures or projects for next year please either let me know via the office, in writing or pass your thoughts on to one of our School Council members (names listed later in the newsletter).

Email addresses

For a long time now we have been extremely keen to have the capacity at school to send the newsletter out via email. Along the way there have been hurdles about protecting privacy and securing the contact list and accurately accessing email details however, we now think we have all these areas covered, and are ready to launch into giving families the option of receiving the newsletter electronically. There are two ways you can indicate that you would like to receive the newsletter via email, one is to complete the tear off slip at the end of the newsletter (being very careful to put in the correct upper /lower case and using each box for a dot or a symbol) or send an email to the school’s email address greensborough.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au and indicate that you would like the newsletter to be sent to the address you have emailed from. We are hoping to have the initial mailing list set up in time for next fortnight’s newsletter.
Greensborough Primary has a fantastic Out of School Hours Care program which provides quality before and after school care and an engaging vacation care program. In order to ensure that all families have full access to these programs, charges are kept to the lowest possible amount to cover the costs incurred. Those families who have accessed these services at other schools or through privately run programs will have an appreciation of how low our charges are. Because we do not build a high profit margin into our charges it is extremely important that accounts are paid in a timely manner to ensure the cash flow of the OSHC program.

This issue was discussed by School Council last night and a new policy for the payment of OSHC charges has been established. Commencing next week (Monday 19th August) all accounts must be paid in full for the preceeding fortnight, for example, the OSHC fees for Monday 19th August to Friday 30th August must be paid in full by Monday 2nd September. For those families who have outstanding accounts the requirement will be as above, that is the previous fortnight’s account will need to be paid in full and, in addition, 10% of the outstanding balance will need to be paid to ensure that overdue accounts are systematically reduced. All families using the OSHC service will receive an individual letter reiterating these new requirements for payments of accounts.

In addition to changes to payments for Before and After School Care, School Council agreed that the Vacation Care program should be a pre-paid program where payment is made at the time of booking, once again to ensure that all costs are covered. Jacqui will be able to provide details of costs for those families wishing to use the Vacation Care program.

The school is extremely fortunate to have such a welcoming and engaging OSHC program and we need to work together to ensure that the program continues to be supported to provide this great service to our school community.

School Council Members
Last Monday we had a very productive School Council meeting where a range of issues were discussed and actions decided upon to continue to enhance and support the learning environment in the school. The 2013 School Council parent and community representatives are listed below and all of these people are extremely willing to hear your thoughts and take your ideas back to School Council. For those families whom would like to know more there is additional information about School Council on the school's website.

2013 School Council Members
Lara Cowan – President
Ros Murfet – Vice president
Randal Pound- Treasurer
Rose Jaeger
Glen Geraghty
Michael smith
Elizabeth Doble
Ralph Beard
Wayne Robinson- Community co-opted member
Margaret Hirth, Angela Morritt, Jen Farley – Staff

Annual report
The 2012 Annual Report is now available for community information and discussion. Whilst the Annual Report will be posted on the website and copies will be available in the office for collection, the school is also mandated to have a meeting where the community is invited to come along and be given any additional details or explanations as may be required. Rather than calling a specific community meeting for this purpose we will be making the first School Council meeting in Term Four an ‘open’ meeting where interested community members will not only be able to hear details of last year’s Annual Report, they will also be able to gain an insight into and be an observer of the processes in place within Greensborough’s School Council. We will advertise the date of this meeting closer to the time.

Sand moving
Wayne has been diligently working on the large sandpit to improve the drainage so it doesn’t hold large amounts of water when it rains. With the drainage all in place, it is now time to move seven cubic metres of sand which was delivered yesterday near the Outdoor Learning Area to the sandpit. This is quite a big job and we are hoping there will be some willing volunteers to move a few wheelbarrows of sand each to get this task completed. If you are able to help during the day, please let the office know and we will get the equipment out for you. If you are able to help but it will be after school hours please let us know and we can provide you with a gate key for access.
Prep reading
A few weeks ago at assembly I praised the preps for their fantastic writing (a display of which is in the foyer). At last Monday’s assembly I congratulated the preps on their reading results as a significant number of prep students have already reached the end of year benchmarks and the rest are well and truly on the way. These results are particularly impressive when you understand that the reading data has been obtained from preps reading unseen texts (books they have never seen before) and no support or prompts are provided (that is they are reading completely independently) Students are also only ready to move up a level of reading when, in addition to reading accurately they are able to comprehend and accurately answer questions about what they have read. The prep results are very exciting for all involved and we couldn’t be happier with their enthusiasm and interest in reading.
Thank you very much for notifying the office when your child is away as it assists to keep our records up to date as we soldier on through this very cold last part of winter.

Margaret Hirth
Principal

Assistant Principal’s Report

Athletics
On Tuesday we had a fantastic, sunny morning at Willinda Park Athletics Track, training and selecting our Athletics Team for the District Carnival. A very big thank you to all the parents and our work experience student Harrison, who came and helped with setting up and marshalling tasks - we could not have completed all the Track and Field events without your assistance! Congratulations also to all the students who competed and tried out for all the events. The teachers were very impressed with your skills, behaviour and sportsmanship. We could see the benefits of our training program and also fitness sessions with ‘Step Into Life’, as students were much better prepared for the longer 800m event. A special mention also for our grade 5/6 students who showed great leadership and willingly helped us set up hurdles and complete any tasks they were asked.
Thanks to Marita who will be uploading some photos of the day to the school’s website shortly.
Once the teams are finalised, a note will be sent home to parents with details of the District Carnival which will be held on Friday August 30th at Meadowglen Athletics stadium.

Swimming
A note explaining our Term 4 swimming program is being sent home with this newsletter. Please return this note by the date indicated as we have to finalise our numbers with the pool and ensure we have the correct number of swimming instructors for each group.
If parents are able to assist with walking the students to Watermarc pool, please indicate on the reply slip.
If you have any queries please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Angela Morritt
Assistant Principal
Prep ~ Red Group ~ Naomi ~ For being a kind and very thoughtful classmate.
Blue Group ~ Harley ~ For being an excellent “Measuring” mathematician.

1/2 A ~ Abigail ~ For making a great improvement in her reading. Keep it up!
1/2 B ~ Heidi ~ For a beautiful piece of writing. A special letter for a special person.

3/4 A ~ Lillian ~ For her perseverance when faced with challenges and her wonderful story writing

3/4 B ~ Barbara ~ For such beautiful work produced in all of her learning tasks. Well done.

5/6 A ~ Patrick ~ For being a mature and helpful buddy to Jamie. Keep it up!
5/6 B ~ Jacob ~ For the huge improvement he has made to his reading comprehension.

Library ~ Max ~ For a fantastic session during library. Max took part in discussion and worked very well on his tasks. Great work Max!

Music ~ Esther (1/2) ~ For a great job being a leader playing instruments.

OHSC ~ Liam ~ For your excellent manners and being a fantastic helper. Well done!
P.E. ~ Daniel ~ For working hard to further improve his excellent bouncing skills. Well done Dan!

Prep ~ Red Group ~ Alvin ~ For great concentration and working hard to answer lots of questions. A great effort Alvin!

Blue Group ~ Lucas ~ For his enthusiasm in learning to read and remember his magic words. Excellent work Lucas!

1/2 A ~ Alex ~ For her outstanding improvement in her writing. I am so proud of you! Keep it up!

1/2 B ~ Harley ~ For a wonderful attitude and work effort. A sensational student and citizen.

3/4 A ~ Annie ~ For her effort and dedication in writing. Annie published a wonderful first draft of her picture storybook. Great work!

3/4 B ~ Tyson ~ For his concentration and efforts in spelling mastery. Great job Tyson!

5/6 A ~ Bridie ~ For always being polite and asking me how I am every day.

5/6 B ~ Joshua W ~ For always putting his hand up and explaining new concepts in 5/6B.

Library ~ Clare ~ For making excellent contributions to our class discussions about “The Coat”. Well done Clare! and Joshua R ~ For completing the trilogy of The Lord of The Rings. Fantastic effort Josh!

Art ~ Evie ~ For always doing beautiful and colourful drawings in Art.

OHSC ~ Charlotte ~ For always using her manners and helping others. Well done!
LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week at Greensborough Primary School
During next week August 19th - August 23rd we will be celebrating Book Week at G.P.S. **Book Week** is the week when the **Children’s Book Council of Australia** announces the winners for the best of Australian children’s literature that was published in 2012. Today a flyer is coming home outlining all of the events that are taking place. There is also a **Trivia** competition for Preps-Grade 2s and Grade 3s-6s. Please encourage your children to have a go and place their entries in the box outside of the library. A flyer regarding the **Book Fair** is also coming home.

The Book Fair will be open from Tuesday afternoon till Friday afternoon. It would be great if I could have a couple more parent volunteers to assist before or after school. If you are able to assist with the Book Fair could you please complete the slip at the bottom and return to school as soon as possible. Don’t forget the **Book Parade** on Friday 23rd. This year we will be introducing **SQUIRT** during Book Week. SQUIRT is an acronym for **Sustained Quiet Uninterrupted Reading Time** where the whole school will be reading at once, including the staff.

Check out the special **Book Week lunch orders** the canteen is offering!!

**We should never underestimate the Impact of School Libraries!**

The School Library Association of Queensland in partnership with the Queensland University of Technology has recently published research on the important contribution that school libraries and teacher librarians make to literacy development. This excellent report reinforces the findings of decades of research on the positive influence a well-resourced library with a qualified teacher librarian has on student achievement. If you would like to read more about this report I have included the web link. http://slaq.org.au/research

One of their research findings was that there was consistent and significant evidence that school libraries and teacher-librarians have positive impacts on student reading, literacy, information literacy and learning outcome.

As teachers and information specialists, teacher-librarians make an impact by developing library collections to suit the curriculum, and enabling effective use of resources in the collection to support learning (Lance & Loertscher, 2005)

**Book Fair**

**PS. Volunteers needed!!!** If you have 30 minutes spare to help at the Book Fair that would be fantastic. I require some helpers before and after school for about 30 minutes. It would be for about 30 minutes either before or after school from Tuesday 20th pm till Friday 24th pm. Could you please send back the slip if you can assist.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

I am able to assist at the Book Fair on the following morning or afternoon.

Name ……………………………………………………………

Contact Number…………………………………………

Tuesday 20th PM
Wednesday 21st AM
Wednesday 21st PM
Thursday 22nd AM
Thursday 22nd PM
Friday 23rd AM
Friday 23rd PM

Happy Reading
Jen Farley
Teacher Librarian
CANTEEN NEWS FOR AUGUST:

Book Week is next week – we’re celebrating with a themed Across the Universe menu. The normal canteen menu will NOT be available on the 19th and 23rd August, only the foods on the menu below.

Book Week menu (19th and 23rd August):

- Comets (meat balls in tomato sauce) $4.50
- Asteroid field fried rice (gluten, egg & dairy free) $4.50
- Hubble telescope sausage roll $2.80
- Moon rock chicken nuggets (3 and 6 packs) $2.40 for 3 pack/$4.50 for 6 pack
- UFO party pies $1.00 each
- Rocket hot dog $2.80
- Solar tomato sauce $0.20 each
- Rings of Saturn donuts – chocolate or strawberry $1.60 each
- Moon & stars caramel biscuit (gluten, dairy & egg free) $0.50 each
- Jupiter, Mars & Venus melon balls $1.00
- Milky Way chocolate milk $2.00
- Light years strawberry milk $2.00
- Astronaut apple juice $2.00
- Zero gravity orange juice $2.00
- Cosmic water $1.00
- Space invaders Zooper Dooper $0.50
- Martian Quelch $0.50
- Space shuttle Smooze $1.00

The canteen will be CLOSED on Monday 26th August; there will be no lunch orders or counter sales on this day. The canteen will re-open on Friday 30th August.

~Lisa Geraghty

Student Welfare News

Hi everyone

This week we commenced the ‘Bounce Back’ program for the entire Grade 5/6’s. The children participated enthusiastically and were able to give some excellent examples of bouncing back such as the way nature regenerates after a bushfire, the way our bodies heal after illness or injury and several famous people who have bounced back after difficult circumstances, such as Nelson Mandela and footballer, Andrew Krakouer. We then explored optimism (positive thinking) and pessimism (negative thinking) and how thinking optimistically can help you feel better, stay hopeful and solve problems.

Also, at the suggestion of some of the parents, I will be running an information session for parents on ‘Raising Resilient Kids’ on Monday 9th September just after assembly in the Library. The session will run from 9.30 until 11.00am. I will cover the latest in research on resilience, explain the basis of the Bounce Back program, dispel some of the myths about resilience, and give some practical tips as well as answer any questions.

Look forward to seeing some of you there.

In the meantime take care,

Emma.
Volunteer Needed

To assist our dynamic Friday Enviro Club

Time Required
Usually Friday’s: 1pm – 3pm, or let us know your availability.

Interested in
Environmental Sustainable Practices
Working with enthusiastic primary school students and adult volunteer/s
Gardening
Mentoring
Assisting with simple plans / systems
Not necessary, but invited to join GPS Environmental Sustainability Committee, who meet twice a term.

About this opportunity

To assist drive and lead Greensborough Primary School’s Environmental Sustainability Programs, our recently formed student volunteer club meets & works weekly at lunch time, to plan, organise and improve our school environment by actively getting involved and encouraging best practices. Rethink, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle are key processes in our Waste philosophy, with further initiatives in water recycling and gardening are being developed.

If you are interested in this role please speak with Margaret Hirth, Rose Jaeger, or leave a note at the office.
Slice Drive – Due Friday 23rd August
Please get your slice drive orders in by Friday 23rd August, we are raising money to pay for the bush dancing band at our Christmas Party in December this year.

Entertainment Books
Available at the school office ($65), get them soon before we sell out.

LEGO – winner announced at assembly on 26th August
How much Lego is in the Jar? $1 per guess.
All guesses must be made by 3.30pm on Friday 23rd August.
Guess at the office for your chance to win $20 worth of Lego.

Father’s Day Stall – Thursday 29th August 11.30am-1.30pm
Notice went home last week, gifts from $1.50 to $5. We need volunteers to help on the day, if you are available please let Marita (0421 048 316) or Lara (0409 807 460) know. Thank you.

Disco – Thursday 19th September
We are looking forward to our annual student disco, notes will go home this week so please watch out for them.

Election Day Sausage Sizzle and Second Hand Book Stall - Saturday 7th September
There will be a box in the foyer for donations for second hand book donations for our election day stall, please bring in any books you don’t need. We are raising funds to purchase more library books.
We need volunteers to help at the Sausage Sizzle and Second Hand Book Stall on Election Day. If you are available please fill in the form below and return it to the school office.

I can help on: Sausage Sizzle ○ Second hand book stall ○

Please tick what times you are available:

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<th>8am to 9am</th>
<th>9am to 10.30am</th>
<th>10.30am to 12pm</th>
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<th>1.30pm to 3pm</th>
<th>3 to 4.30pm (pack up)</th>
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Student Name: .......................................................................................... Email address for school newsletter

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