**BOROUGH BULLETIN DECEMBER 5TH 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday 6th December</th>
<th>Swimming P-6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9th December</td>
<td>School Council 6:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emma Bevan transaction activity with Grade 6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th December</td>
<td>Grade 6 Orientation Day @ Secondary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grades 1/2 Healthy Eating excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12th December</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13th December</td>
<td>Reports sent home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16th December</td>
<td>Tea Billy Bush Band Workshop during the day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christmas picnic and bush dancing 5:00 – 8:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17th December</td>
<td>Students meet grades and teachers for 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18th December</td>
<td>Grade 6 Big Day out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th December</td>
<td>End of year Grade Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th December</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 4 1:30pm Finish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 30th January 2014</td>
<td>Student’s First Day of School for 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

While there may be only two weeks of the 2013 school year left, classroom programs are still going full swing, and we are extremely proud of the efforts and achievements of students right across the school.

**Staffing**

We are in the final stages of planning for 2014. Please find below a staff list which indicates everything we know at the moment about enrolment numbers and staffing placements. There will be some slight changes to this model after February 7th next year as, on this date, I will be resigning from the Education Department and my position as Principal of Greensborough Primary School. This has been a very difficult decision, particularly when I enjoy my job and have never been prouder of the school’s achievements however, as a member of a state superannuation scheme which has an optimum age for resignation, I have made the decision and now the full focus is on making the transition from me to new principal as seamless as possible and ensuring that all the terrific programs at GPS are maintained. To this end I am pleased to announce that Angela Morriss will be the Acting Principal from February 8th until the end of First Term while the advertising and appointment of the new principal position takes place. Angela has asked if I will stay on during this period in a part time capacity to be her second in charge and I have happily agreed to this. The staffing schedule below is very consistent with the staffing we have had this year apart from the fact that Claire Storey will be returning from Family Leave and will be sharing a Grade 3/4 with Alison Gibson. Alison will be working on a Monday and Tuesday and Claire will be working on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Alison will be coming into school for planning with both Claire and Chris Blake on Wednesday to ensure continuity of content and program delivery in both grades. This is the case will all grades at school where the two grade 1/2, two grade 3/4 and two grade 5/6 teachers have a two hour planning block together each week (while their grades are in art and library) to plan consistent goals, strategies and outcomes for both grades. Alison and Claire are both excellent teachers and we know this grade share arrangement is going to work really well. The only unknown at
this stage is the position which is currently being advertised to cover Bonnie’s Family Leave position. Applications for this vacancy close on Saturday and we are aiming to complete the shortlisting, interviewing and appointment process before the end of the year so students and families can meet the new staff member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Staff member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Michelle Crawford + Anne Loney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2A</td>
<td>Erin Donaldson + Anne Loney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2B</td>
<td>Position advertised + Anne Loney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4A</td>
<td>Claire Storey /Alison Gibson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4B</td>
<td>Chris Blake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6A</td>
<td>Gemma Pearce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6B</td>
<td>Maria Plesa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Administration**
- Principal: Margaret Hirth
- Assistant principal: Angela Morritt
- Administration Manager: Les Ismail
- Finance Manager: Christina Matthews

**Specialist Programs**
- Library: Jen Farley
- Visual Arts: Janet Troy
- Japanese /Music: Heather McLaughlin
- Physical Education: Angela Morritt
- Student Welfare Worker: Emma Bevan
- Psychologist: Tracie-Lee Squires
- Speech Therapist: Brooke Streatfeild

**Out of School Hours Care**
- Jacqui Baker
- Talina Ellis
- Kayla Kennedy

**Instrumental Music**
- Christian Duboudin

**Canteen**
- Lisa Geraghty

**Class of 2013**
Next Thursday our Grade Six students will be involved in the celebration and excitement of their Grade Six graduation. This is a significant milestone in their lives as they leave primary school and move on to the next stage of their educational and life journey at secondary school. This year’s grade six students have been a joy to have in the school. The cooperation, kindness, humour and engagement in their learning will be missed by us all but we wish them well and look forward to them returning for visits to fill us in on all the excitement happening in their lives.

**Skirts**
We will be accepting orders for school skirts up until February 10th next year and the final order will then be placed to have skirts supplied and delivered for the start of Term Two. There are sample sizes of the skirts in the office and a $10 deposit is required when placing your order. The $45 balance is to be paid when skirts are collected.
2014
In the Diary Dates we have started to list dates for 2014 so families have some advance notice of what will be happening. As you may be aware, state government schools are able to have four pupil free days each year. Next year, as we have for the past few years, we are having two of these days at the start of the year so all planning, outcomes, training and resourcing can be set in place for the year. Generally we have the other two days, one in May and one in November however, next year the school has the opportunity to join with Bundoora Primary School to train the whole school staff on the VCOP writing program that has been trialled in the grade 1/2 area this term and is achieving amazing results. This training day will be on March 19th and this will be third Pupil Free Day for the year. The final Pupil Free Day will be on the Monday before Melbourne Cup Day which is used as a day for assessment of student achievement, moderation of outcomes and preliminary work on report writing.

Over the holidays there will also be new carpet laid in the prep room, timber flooring continued through the hall, updates to some plumbing work across the school and some planned maintenance on grounds areas.

Fiona
We have had our official presentations to Fiona today to acknowledge and thank her for her thirty four years of service to education in Victoria. Teaching is a vocation more than an occupation and the dedication and commitment required to do this job well is hard to comprehend however, Fiona has done this, and can enjoy her retirement knowing that it has been a job well done.

Tea Billy Bush Band /Christmas Picnic
On Monday 16th December during the school day, students will be having Bush Dancing lessons with the Tea Billy Bush Band. At 2.30 the whole school will join together for an hour of group dancing. At the Christmas Picnic, in the evening, there will be bush dancing for student, families and friends commencing at 6.00pm. We hope the weather will be kind and this will be a lovely community event to end the school year.

Margaret Hirth
Principal

Assistant Principal’s Report
Acting Principal Appointment
I am absolutely delighted that I will be Acting Principal for the remainder of Term One 2014 after Margaret resigns on February 7th. I am very aware I have big shoes to fill however I intend to fill them and ensure our school’s goals and improvement agenda can be seamlessly continued. I have asked Margaret to stay on in a part time capacity and fill the role of Assistant Principal and I can happily say she has accepted. We have already organised our different roles and areas of responsibility and communicated these to staff.
One of my first actions will be to set the date of Thursday February 6th for our community to have a lunchtime picnic and thank Margaret for her outstanding contribution to Greensborough Primary. It won’t be a Farewell, however it will be an opportunity for families, students and staff to celebrate the wonderful impact Margaret has had on our school.

We have a terrific community at GPS with students, staff and parents working together to ensure our students have safe and engaging learning environments and play areas. I look forward to ensuring our goals for continued improvement in 2014 will go ahead as planned.

Swimming
Tomorrow is our last day of swimming and I’d like to thank all the parent helpers who walked with us to the pool each week. The students’ behaviour has been exemplary as they walked to and from the venue and they were all terrific ambassadors for our school. It’s been pleasing to note the improvements made to lessons several weeks ago have been maintained and feedback from staff and parents who attend lessons has been positive. Students will receive a certificate from Watermarc which will be sent home with their reports.
Assessment and Reporting
A very big thank you to staff who have worked diligently over the last month to write student reports that accurately reflect students’ achievements and their areas for future learning. Many, many hours are put into reports as teachers follow an assessment schedule and ‘triangulate’ their assessment, i.e. a combination of formal assessment, teacher observation and student class work, is analysed to give a true ‘picture’ of each student’s achievement.
This year you will notice a difference in the ‘dots’ showing students’ previous progression points in the various Learning Areas. As you are aware, in June we reported against the new Australian Curriculum standards for English, Numeracy, History and Science. As this is the first time we reported against these subjects, the Progression Point showing students’ previous achievement level is 6 months ago. All the remaining subjects are still reported against VELS Standards so the previous achievement is shown as 12 months ago. To make it a bit easier to understand, the dots are visually different, however if any parent has any queries or would like to see a sample, please contact me.
Patrick McVeigh has been employed to conduct the Mathematics Online Interview with students performing below expected levels in Numeracy. This assessment was also conducted at the end of 2012 and pinpoints the essential mathematical concepts (growth points) students have not yet learnt and which are the foundations for more complex mathematical skills. Teachers will use these results next year and plan Numeracy activities to support these students.

Junior School Congress
Recently our School Captains, Ryan and Felicity, attended the 2013 State Junior School Council Congress at Parliament House, Melbourne. The JSC Congress is a mock parliament designed for senior primary students who are interested in student leadership. The Congress is a way in which Grade 5 and 6 students can actively experience and practise democracy. Students come from many different schools throughout Victoria and debate and vote on key issues about which they are passionate. This was an exciting opportunity for Ryan and Felicity to extend their leadership skills and use the formality of parliament to develop skills such as persuasive and public speaking, confidence and a greater understanding of Australian citizenship. We are proud to have such terrific ambassadors represent our school.

Angela Morritt
Assistant Principal

Marimba Music at Bunnings: Sunday 15th December
Are there any families who would like to play in a family marimba group to perform at Bunnings in Eltham on Sunday 15th December at 11 a.m.?
Children/parents/grandparents from the school are welcome to be involved. Let the school office/Ms McLaughlin know if you can be involved.

SCHOOL BANKING
Next Tuesday will be the last day of school banking for 2013. Many, many thanks to Elsa Ristovski for starting the banking program up and for running it so efficiently for us. A reminder that with Elsa’s son Jordan moving on to secondary school, we are putting out the call for a volunteer or volunteers to take over this much valued role at the school.
## Pupil of the Week

### Term Four ~ Week Ending November 22\textsuperscript{nd} 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep ~</td>
<td>RED ~</td>
<td>Jack Y For exceptional thinking, measuring and recording of their Maths Share in their Home Learning journal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BLUE ~</td>
<td>Petar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 A</td>
<td>Emmet ~</td>
<td>For showing a huge improvement in his writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 B</td>
<td>Colin ~</td>
<td>For his contribution to Food Share. A wonderful community minded citizen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 A</td>
<td>Scarlett ~</td>
<td>For being a fantastic member of our grade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 B</td>
<td>Charlotte B</td>
<td>For being such an independent worker who finishes all class room tasks to a high standard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Harry B</td>
<td>For speaking in Japanese really well without needing to look at the chart.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art ~</td>
<td>Tyler B</td>
<td>For concentrating on his work and doing a great job in Art today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.E. ~</td>
<td>Mercy ~</td>
<td>For always being a co-operative team member and a good sport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music ~</td>
<td>Abigail ~</td>
<td>For participating and singing really well in class.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Term Four ~ Week Ending November 29\textsuperscript{th} 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep ~</td>
<td>RED ~</td>
<td>Anna For making brilliant efforts in reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BLUE ~</td>
<td>Harvey F For being a good friend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 A</td>
<td>Sarah and Erin ~</td>
<td>For always displaying a mature approach to learning and being exceptional role models in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 B</td>
<td>Finlay ~</td>
<td>For his enthusiastic approach and writing during The Big Write last week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 A</td>
<td>Nicole P ~</td>
<td>For being brave when she broke her arm and for her positive attitude to learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 B</td>
<td>Thomas ~</td>
<td>For making a huge improvement in his class participation this year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grade 5/6 A ~ Jordan R ~ For his heart warming letter to the people of The Philippines. Just beautiful.

Grade 5/6 B ~ Campbell ~ For his persistence when learning about the Cartesian Plane.

Japanese ~ Jordan ~ For his consistent efforts in learning Japanese.

Art ~ Chloe D ~ For consistently doing her best work and taking the time to get things right. You are a star Chloe.

Music ~ Ala ~ For always doing the right thing and trying in Music.

P.E. ~ Alexandra ~ For always being a great sport and a co-operative team mate.

STUDENT WELFARE NEWS
Hello everyone! Last week the Grade 3/4’s finished up the Bounce Back program. We finished the course with a trivia quiz and the students amazed me with how much they had remembered from the program. Some of the students had great insights into how they were going to apply the Bounce Back principles into their everyday lives. Some students said that they were going to use a lot more helpful thinking, others realized that they had been catastrophizing things, whereas some students felt comforted to know that they weren't the only ones who had experienced challenging times. If you would like a copy of the Bounce Back poster to use as a reference in the home, there are copies at the front office. The Bounce Back program will be run again next year from Years 1 to 6, to ensure the students are exposed to the principles of resilience consistently across their time here at Greensborough.

This week and the next I’ll be running a transition program with the Grade 6’s in preparation for their exciting move into Year 7. The students will consider how their lives in Secondary School will be different to their lives here at Greensborough and what strategies they can apply to help them plan and prepare for this big change. Parents of Grade 6’s, I have set the students some homework asking them to interview you about your experiences moving into Secondary School. If you are able to help find some time with them to complete this it would be great.

Take care,

Emma.

CANTEEN NEWS FOR DECEMBER:
The final day for the canteen this year is Monday 16th December. The canteen will re-open next year on Friday 31st January 2014. We wish everyone a safe, peaceful and joyful Christmas holiday break and New Year.

~Lisa & Glenn Geraghty

LIBRARY NEWS
Please return all books and other items to the library by Friday 13th December.

Find marketing have donated a copy of their discount voucher booklets for each family in the school. While these vouchers expire at the end of June 2014 they represent some good savings. If it is felt worthwhile, we will consider using them as a fundraiser next year.
Supporting the Philippines

In the 5/6 area we watched a video about a young boy named Pablo from the Philippines. He told us about the devastation caused by Typhoon Haiyan and the recovery efforts. The video inspired us to write some messages of support to send to Pablo and his fellow countrymen:

Dear Philippines,
I’m sorry to hear your story. My school has raised $670 for your country. I hope that you get your lives back on track.
Eloise

Dear People of the Philippines,
With the love and courage of all other countries, we will all help you fix your country.
Jackson

To the People of the Philippines,
I am terribly sorry for what has happened to you. Our school raised $670 for you; we hope it makes a bit of a difference. I am thinking of all of you, I hope you are okay.
Chloe

To the People of the Philippines,
Hello, my name is Campbell and I hope everyone in the country is okay and safe. I hope for the best of luck and that your very nice country recovers.
Campbell

Dear Philippines,
I write in peace. I hope you can repair the damage soon.
Jack

Dear People of the Philippines,
I know the devastation is horrible. My Grandparents and some of my aunts and uncles live in the Philippines. My Uncle’s roof was blown off but I know some people have been through much worse. My school has raised $670 for the Philippines.
Nina

Dear People of the Philippines,
I hope you all get better. I will help as much as I can. My school has been raising money and donating it to you; I’ve also been donating food and supplies.
Jess P.

Dear People of the Philippines,
I am sorry for the disaster and I hope you are getting your life back on track. I hope you get all you need so you can live. I was sad when I saw your video. I am happy for those that survived but I am sad for those people that died.
Britney

Dear People of the Philippines,
I offer my dearest sorrow for all the people in your country affected by Typhoon Haiyan whose home have been destroyed or even worse, killed. Your hunger and mourning make me very sad. I hope the United Nations and Australia can do all they can to give you fresh food and water and rebuild your homes. Love to you all.
Jordan R
Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} December

We need Volunteers for the Christmas Party BBQ!

Name:…………………………………. Phone No:…………………………

Childs’ Name and Grade:…………………………..

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I Can: Please Circle One</th>
<th>BBQ Cook</th>
<th>BBQ</th>
<th>Money</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Setup</td>
<td>3.45pm-4.30pm</td>
<td>4.30pm-5pm</td>
<td>5pm-5.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6pm-6.30pm</td>
<td>6.30pm-7pm</td>
<td>7pm-8pm Cleanup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you.

Marita will contact you to confirm your time slot.