Borough Bulletin March 13th 2014

Friday 14th March  Inter School Sports Home V’s Bundoora Gateways @ Donvale

Monday 17th March  Gateways @ St Thomas Montmorency SC to Visit Grade 6 Parent Session: TOTAL FREEDOM TIME 7.30pm Library

Wednesday 19th March Student free day VCOP training

Friday 21st March  Gateways @ Donvale Inter School Sports Home V’s St Marys

Sunday 23rd March  Arty Farty Festival GPS has an entry in parade.

Monday 24th March  Gateways @ St Thomas Sustainability Excursion – Edendale Farm GR 3/4 School Council Meeting 7PM

Thursday 27th March  Nude Food - Lunch Day

Friday 28th March  ISS – FINALS and Make up round

Monday 31st March  CERES Excursion Gr 5/6 Extraordinary School Council Meeting 7PM

Tuesday 1st April  Design Seeds Gr 5/6 Extension Southern Cross Recycling

Wednesday 2nd April  Inter School Sports back up day for finals

Friday April 4th  Easter Bonnet Parade & Activities Last day of Term 1. School finishes 1:30 PM

Tuesday 22nd April  Term 2 begins. (Note no school Easter Monday)

Friday 25th April  ANZAC DAY Public Holiday

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

School Leadership
It is lovely to see the Grade 6 students proudly wearing their new Graduation tops! When listening to their speeches for school leadership positions it was obvious how connected they felt to Greensborough Primary and how seriously they took their role as school leaders. The new graduation tops further connect them as a group and also help them stand out in the school yard so that younger students quickly recognise them if they need assistance or to have a chat. We’re looking forward to a terrific final year for our graduating class!

2015 Prep Enrolments
A reminder to families that if you know anyone who is coming to Greensborough PS next year, please encourage them to register their details as soon as possible, (this includes siblings of current students). We have already had a number of enquiries and school tours for places in 2015 and the sooner we get a sense of our intake for next year, the sooner we can start planning for grade structures.
Buildings and Grounds
Next time you pass the hall, drop in and have a look at the timber veneer lining the walls where the Phys-Ed store room used to be. If you didn’t know better, you would assume it had always been there as it perfectly matches the existing timber work. We are very grateful to Wayne for donating his time to help Doug complete this task and also for replacing the wooden steps in the fernery. Thanks also to Andrew Sinclair for volunteering to replace the damaged boards at the base of the heritage school building over the coming weeks.
A reminder that we would like to completely refurbish the indoor student toilets, which would consist of pulling up the existing flooring, (possibly a working bee task) and retiling the whole area which would require a professional tiler. If anyone in the school is a tiler or knows someone who is and could quote on this work, please contact myself or Margaret. Similarly we require a concreter for the refurbishment of the cricket net area next term so please contact the office if you can provide a quote or know someone who can.

Twilight Sports
A big thank you to all the family members who came and supported our ‘Twilight Sports’ last Tuesday and made the evening memorable for our students. It was terrific to see everyone dressed in their House colours and imaginative outfits, which made the judging of ‘Best Dressed’ House members very difficult. Congratulations to all our competitors who performed to the best of their ability, especially those in Acacia for being the 2014 Winning Sports Team.
Our Sports Day was also a great event for our school House Captains and Vice Captains as they helped organise events and students. I’m sure you'll agree they did a terrific job and we congratulate them on their efforts.
An evening like this requires much work behind the scenes so I’d like to thank Parents and Friends for organising the barbeque and everyone who helped out on stalls, or as scorers and marshals. Special thanks to Chris T. our wonderful volunteer who freely gave his time and expertise to be our official starter and Leah Cairns for once again donating the prizes. Lastly, I’d like to congratulate our organising committee, Erin Donaldson, Janet Troy, Chris Blake and Pat McVeigh for ensuring the night was such a resounding success.
Our Grade 6 students would like to thank everyone who visited their stalls and raised over $100 for their Graduation celebration in Term Four.

Pupil Free Day – Wednesday 19th March
A reminder to families that next Wednesday 19th March is a Pupil Free Day, as all the aides and teachers will be joining with Bundoora Primary and Watsonia Heights Primary for a whole day Professional Development session on the “VCOP (Vocabulary, Connecters, Openers, Punctuation), Big Write” program which was implemented with outstanding success in Erin and Fiona's grades last year.

Nude Food Lunch Thursday 27th March
As families are aware our Integrated Studies unit this term is based on the AUSVELS topic of Sustainability and notes will be sent home this week with details of exciting excursions or incursions planned for each grade area. To raise further awareness of this important issue, teachers and students have planned a ‘Nude Food’ lunch day on Thursday 27th March, with the aim of reducing the amount of rubbish that is placed in landfill from packaging on our lunches and snacks.

Students and Traffic Safety
The safety of our students is always a priority at GPS so I would ask parents to remind their children who walk home near Woolworths to walk on pedestrian footpaths and not detour through the carpark where reversing drivers may not see them.
Also the Banyule Traffic Management officer has inspected the parking conditions in Lorimer St, near the intersection of The Circuit as it appears signage has been missing and cars are illegally parked, posing a risk to students in this area. Banyule Council is happy to replace or move the signs for greater visibility and will also paint the parking bays to assist families to park legally. School Council has placed traffic management on the agenda for our next meeting and will work with Banyule Council to ensure our students have safe access to school.
**School Photo Pack**
School Council has recently reviewed our School Photo Supplier and the range of products available for families to purchase. A decision has been made to stay with our current provider, MSP Photography and seek feedback from families on the range of photo packs to choose from. A display will be set up next week in the office foyer and families are invited to view products and provide feedback at the office.

**Special Religious Instruction**
On Monday 17th March, Religious Instruction will begin for students in Grades 1-4, who returned their forms giving parental consent. (Students in Grades Prep and 5/6 will not commence yet as the instructor is on family leave.) This year classes will run from 3.00 – 3.30pm. There has been considerable attention in the media recently about the provision of R.I. As has been previously noted, the provision of special religious instruction in Victorian government schools is legislated in Section 2.2.11 of the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. Under the terms of the Act, Principals must arrange for the provision of SRI where an accredited and approved instructor is available. I have recently received notification that an accredited and approved instructor for Hindu is offering classes at GPS, so if any families wish to participate in this program or would like more information, please contact the office.

**Division Swimming Sports**
Coolish conditions greeted our competitors at Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre last Thursday for our Division Swimming Carnival and I’d like to congratulate our relay team, Immogen, Jordan, Amy and Ania, and individual competitors Molly, Annie, Ashley and Ala, for making it through to this level. All the girls represented our school admirably and should be very proud of their efforts to reach this stage of the competition - special mention to Annie who came fourth in her event!

_Angela Morritt_
Acting Principal

**New Guidelines from Department of Education and Early Childhood Development**

**Every day counts – school attendance**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day. For more information visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx)
## Pupil of the Week

### Term One ~ Week 5 Ending February 28th 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Pupil</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep ~</td>
<td>Shanon ~</td>
<td>For his brilliant &quot;achievement&quot; in writing his name so perfectly. Awesome Shanon!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 A ~</td>
<td>Dan~</td>
<td>For displaying an outstanding attitude towards learning. Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 B ~</td>
<td>Alvin~</td>
<td>For trying really, really hard to do the right thing all week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 A</td>
<td>Jamal~</td>
<td>For consistently giving 100% of effort in all areas of his schooling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 B ~</td>
<td>Cooper~</td>
<td>For showing respect for our environment through being such a good volunteer during Clean Up Australia Day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6 A ~</td>
<td>Bailey W~</td>
<td>For working well in all areas throughout the week and for always displaying wonderful manners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6 B ~</td>
<td>Sarah ~</td>
<td>For displaying our school values of Cooperation, Achievement, Respect and Empathy at all times and in all lessons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O.S.H.C. ~</td>
<td>Samantha ~</td>
<td>For always cleaning up and being an excellent helper. Well done Samantha.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art~</td>
<td>Esther ~</td>
<td>For continuously putting in her best effort in Art. Fantastic work Esther.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library~</td>
<td>Tyler~</td>
<td>For working conscientiously and with great focus during library.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Term One ~ Week 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Pupil</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep ~</td>
<td>Abbey ~</td>
<td>For bravely trying to learn lots of new things at school, she is our ‘Little Miss Brave’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 A ~</td>
<td>Tyler ~</td>
<td>For achieving an outstanding piece of writing during Big Write. Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2 B ~</td>
<td>Merron~</td>
<td>For always trying your hardest at everything and always doing what you know is right!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 A</td>
<td>Scarlett ~</td>
<td>For her excellent effort during our class writing sessions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4 B ~</td>
<td>Zac ~</td>
<td>For being such a reliable and trustworthy computer hub monitor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6 A ~</td>
<td>Eloise ~</td>
<td>For her outstanding leadership during the Twilight Sports. You did an exceptional job as House Captain! Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6 B ~</td>
<td>Aidan ~</td>
<td>For his continuous progress during Big Write sessions. What an achievement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O.S.H.C. ~</td>
<td>Esther ~</td>
<td>For your excellent effort to complete all homework tasks. Well done Esther!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art ~</td>
<td>Rachael &amp; Eliza ~</td>
<td>For giving up playtime to do extra work on our dragon – great job girls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library ~</td>
<td>Max H ~</td>
<td>For excellent attention during class and for a fantastic job retelling our story. Well done Max!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music. ~</td>
<td>Corey ~</td>
<td>For doing a great job with the bass part on the marimba.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese. ~</td>
<td>Emily J ~</td>
<td>For remembering Japanese words and saying a good sentence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ending March 7th 2014
Free parenting seminar at GPS! – “Total Time Freedom”

Last week we sent out flyers for Debbie Rossi’s free parenting seminar. The seminar will run on Monday 17th March at 7.30 pm. If you would like to come, please return the forms to your child’s teacher or the front office to confirm your place by tomorrow Friday 14th, as if there are insufficient numbers the session may be cancelled.

Counselling

We have a new psychologist starting here at GPS named Joanne Terkel to offer individual counselling to students. Joanne is an experienced psychologist and comes to us through OzChild. Every child at GPS is entitled to 10 bulk billed sessions of counselling each year. If you are considering obtaining some one on one, confidential counselling for your child, or would just like to know more, please contact me on 9435 1496, or ask the front office for a ‘Student Welfare Form’.

Bounce Back

Over the last two weeks the Grade 1/2s and 3/4s looked at how “Other People Can Help You Feel Better If You Talk To Them”. It is very easy for children to feel alone when faced with challenges. The students identified who they could go to in their families for support, which friends would help if it was needed, and any other grown-ups in their lives. They completed a ‘My Circles of Support’ activity, which they pasted into their Bounce Back books.

The Grade 5/6s explored the concept of Courage. They discussed how being courageous involves persisting in spite of being fearful. They identified that courage differs from person to person and that people face a variety of factors when they are brave, such as fear, truth, opponents, illness and misfortune.

The Friendship Tree

Wayne has kindly put up the beautiful sign made by Les to indicate which tree is The Friendship Tree. The Wellbeing Leaders will not be on duty at the tree until the beginning of Term 2, as they are participating in training sessions.

Have a great couple of weeks, Emma.

Library News

Parent Helpers

Thank you so much to those parents who have offered to assist with covering of books this year. It is wonderful to be able to send home a bag of uncovered books and have them returned covered, ready to show to the children. There is always much excitement when new books appear! I would also like to thank Josie [Jamal and Zayne’s mum] and Sha [Aidan and Teague’s mum] who have once again fronted up to assist with borrowing on Wednesday mornings. They are a wonderful help!

Library Bags

It would be appreciated if all children in Grades Prep – Grade 4 have a named library bag to protect their library books. It is also a handy way of keeping track of the books when they bring them home. The bag can be fabric or strong plastic. I have spare bags at school if someone forgets their bag or requires one.
Book Club
Once again the school has benefited tremendously from your Book Club purchases. We have received a selection of both fiction, picture story and information books. We also purchased the following picture story book titles – *We’re Going on a Bear Hunt*, *I Love You Too*, *Magnificent Tree* and *A New friend for Marmalade* with the generous donation from the Brain family.

Jen Farley
Librarian
Happy Reading

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Children's Book Festival: Family Day 2014

**Sunday 23rd March**
State Library of Victoria and the Wheeler Centre
10am – 4pm Sunday 23 March 2014

Find your way through the sticky maze and onto the lawn of the State Library for this year’s Children’s Book Festival! There will be characters springing to life from the pages of famous books, giant word games, comic workshops and loads more. A ton of your favourite writers and illustrators are going to be there too – John Marsden talks about how to make words do what you want them to do, Jackie French knows everything there is to know about digging out secrets, and Sally Rippin will spill the beans about her famous characters, Billie B Brown and best friend Jack! Or listen to stories all day long in our storytelling pavilion. If you fancy having a go at book-writing yourself, head to the publishing house, where you can design one from scratch, or dive in and help build the biggest book ever. There will be music too, and guest stars so exciting you’d explode if we told you who they were.

The day will be jam-packed with authors and activities, with a huge range of things to do all day long so pop in at any time. **They are taking bookings for sessions with Jackie French, John Marsden, Terry Denton and Andy Griffiths, from 14 March. Get in quick – these sessions will book out.** If you miss out, don’t worry; you can still bring your book along to be signed by your favourite author.

So circle Sunday 23 March with a red pen and check the program to plan your day. The Festival is free, and everyone is welcome. Come down and join everyone for the book party. The final programme will be posted on Friday 14th March at [wheelercentre.com](http://wheelercentre.com) and [slv.vic.gov.au](http://slv.vic.gov.au)

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**SUBWAY SOUNDS NEWS**

**Guitar for Sale**
I have been given a guitar to put up for sale to any of my students. This is a full size, nylon stringed, semi-acoustic, cut-away guitar in excellent condition. It also comes with a guitar bag. I am putting it up for $195 o.n.o. If any one is interested in having a closer look at this, please let me know and I can bring it into a school to inspect it personally. I will be uploading a link on my website (swsmusic.com.au) of me playing this instrument in the near future. Christian
Join our GPS Giant Dragon!

As part of our Art Extension Program, a group of Grade 4 to 6 students are busy on Thursday mornings creating our Giant Dragon for the Arty Farty Festival Grand Parade. In regular Art sessions, all other students are creating masks, puppets and kites and are encouraged to attend with their families on the day of the parade. Could all GPS students and adults who are taking part in the parade please wear a plain red top with black pants.

Arty Farty Festival

Grand Parade Details:

Date: Sunday 23rd March, 2013
Assembly Time: 9:15am
Assembly Point: Mount St, Heidelberg, between Burgundy St & Yarra St. Spaces will be marked out for each group. There will be a number of marshals to help you find your space and assemble properly. They will be wearing safety vests.
Parade Number: Greensborough Primary is Parade Entry Number 21.
Parade Start: 10:00am
Parade Finish: 11:00am
Award Presentations: 11:15 am (At Heidelberg Park / Warringal Oval Stage)
Route: Burgundy Street Heidelberg (Mount St to Warringal Park)
Suggested Parking: Austin Campus multi-deck car park in Martin St, or Warringal Shopping Centre Car Park, Rosanna Rd.
Parade end point: The parade will be ending at Heidelberg Park. The Parade will enter the car park area and be directed to the assembly areas. Please take direction from the marshals at this point to enable this process to be as efficient and safe as possible. The MC will announce the entries as they enter the oval. So keep smiling!
Presentations: Presentations will take place at approximately 11.15am and will be concluded by 11.30am – depending on the duration of the actual parade.

Arty Farty Festival: After the parade has finished and the prizes have been awarded, make sure you head down to Sills Bend to the Arty Farty Festival site where there will be heaps of FREE fun to be had! You can:

- Build a cardboard city
- Learn about the environment
- Dance to the music
- Get your hands dirty
- Climb up really high
- Jump on a bouncy castle
- Learn about other cultures from around the globe
- Paint a picture
- Sing a song

For information, please visit

PARENTS and FRIENDS NEWS

Hot Cross Bun orders are due:
Friday 28th March
Our school receives $3.00 for each pack of buns sold.

Easter Raffle
If any families are able to donate Easter eggs for inclusion in our Easter raffle prizes, please leave them at the office. Thank you.

Twilight Sports
A big THANK YOU to all volunteers at the Twilight Sports evening
With your help we made about $1000.00 towards new laptops.

Trivia Night -
We are organising a Trivia Night for Term 3. Donations are greatly appreciated from any school families able to donate goods or services for Silent Auction items. A date will be confirmed ASAP. Queries to Tina Bell or Simone Wilson.

Grade 6 Graduation Fundraiser
Quelch icypoles will be on sale from the canteen on Monday lunchtimes.
Icy-Poles are 50cents each.
Thank you to Emma Brown and Tracy Harts for co-ordinating this.

CATHOLIC LADIES COLLEGE TOUR
Tours to be held TUESDAY, 18 MARCH 2014
Tours leave From the Sr Una McAllister Centre at 9:00 am, followed by Morning Tea at 10:15 am.
Applications Welcome for students who are currently in Year 3, 4 and 5 for placement in Year 7 in 2018, 2017 and 2016 respectively.
Further information on our website www.clc.vic.edu.au
or by telephoning the College Registrar, Mrs Helen Cattapan, at the College on 9430 2076.