**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 Studies unit and associated excursions and incursions, Book Week celebrations and athletics training. Behind the scenes planning for 2015 is gaining momentum with preliminary work on grade structures and staffing allocation. 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.

**Building and Grounds**

Wayne and Doug have done a magnificent job of widening the gate near the outdoor learning centre at the bottom of Horonda St. This was a big project that required changing the position of posts to widen the entry angle and enlarging the gate frame. We were so pleased the task was completed with such efficiency that the new gate was hung within a day and our school grounds were kept safe and secure. We will now have access for emergency vehicles or any large trucks that need entry to the bottom area of our school. The refurbishment of the cricket net is also continuing and when this is completed students will be able to play in this area. Once again Wayne and Doug have managed to keep costs to an absolute minimum and we especially thank Wayne for generously donating his time.

**The Big Write**

This Friday we are hosting a Professional Learning session for teachers from other schools on Day Two of ‘The Big Write’. Earlier this year on our Pupil Free Day, all our staff attended Day One of this training and in exchange for providing the venue and morning tea/lunch for 12 participants we are able to send two staff from GPS for free. This is a substantial saving and Erin Donaldson and Anne Loney are keen to attend and share their new learning with our remaining staff.
Family Accounts
Thank you to families who have contacted the office to finalise payments for excursions and other costs incurred by students or to initiate a payment plan. At this week’s school council meeting, all planned events and costs for the remainder of the year were ratified and will be conveyed to families to assist with budget planning.

Education Sub-committee Policy Review

Anaphylaxis Reminder!
In order to provide a safe environment for our students with anaphylaxis, I’d like to remind all members of our community of some important aspects of our anaphylaxis management policy:

- Sharing of food between students is not allowed.
- Bringing food with nuts is strongly discouraged.
- If you would like to provide a treat for your child’s classmates for their birthday, please talk to the classroom teacher about the types of food permitted.

Thank you for supporting our policies to keep our students safe.

Sunsmart
Recently we received correspondence from Health & Education Ministers David Davis and Martin Dixon on the ‘Sun and UV Protection Policy and Skin Cancer Prevention Framework’. The recommendations in this report included extending the implementation of hat wearing by students and staff from our current policy of Term One and Four, to September 1st – April 30th. This time period is when the average UV alert is 3 and above. As student safety is always our top priority we have adopted these recommendations which will come into effect this year. Sunscreen will also be supplied in classrooms and we ask parents to advise the school if your child has allergies and requires a specific brand which will be supplied by either home or school.

Medications
All parent requests for the administration of prescribed medications to their child must be in writing on the form provided in the office and medication must be in the original medications bottle or container which has specific written instruction from the medical practitioner or pharmacist including the name of the student, dosage and time to be administered. A chemist’s ‘blister pack’ is also acceptable. Please contact the office if you have any queries.

All policies can be obtained from the school on request and we thank families for your support in their implementation.

Athletics
Children in Grades 3-6 have been training well for this event with their class teachers and in PE lessons. Draft team selection took place at Willinda Park last Friday 8th August. (Students who were absent will have opportunity to try out for a place during further practice sessions at school). This was a great opportunity for all students in Grades 3-6 to experience competing on an Athletics track. Thank you to Alison Gibson for organizing this event, Chris Blake for setting up the track and staff who ran events on the day. A special thank you from staff and students to the parents who attended and helped the events to run smoothly and on time – your assistance is much appreciated.

Year 6-7 Transition
Letters will be sent home on Wednesday 20th August advising parents of Year 6 students, of their successful placement in secondary schools in 2015. Any students who did not gain entry to their first selected school, were then placed in their second choice. If parents wish to appeal this decision they have until September 5th to do so. Parents may contact us if they have any queries or require assistance.

Student Wellbeing
It’s terrific to see our students all working together to create the ‘World’s Longest Bracelet’. Our Student Wellbeing Leaders are at the Friendship Tree each day assisting younger children to work together and try to create the world’s longest rubber band bracelet and break a Guinness World Record. The “Woman’s Day’ competition closes this Monday 18th August and our bracelet will be sent to Sydney. The winning school will receive $5000, however the benefits of the enterprise in terms of cooperation, fun and kindness shown by our students make them winners already! Thank you to families who have donated rubber bands or made lengths at home to add to the bracelet. Your support is greatly appreciated.
The Great Book Swap
Do you have any books your children loved but are no longer reading? To celebrate Indigenous Literacy Day on Wednesday 3 September, our school is participating in the Great Book Swap. We are asking families to bring in any pre-loved books along with a gold coin donation. Ideally books should be not just an unwanted item but a book that you think someone else would enjoy as much as your child did.
An initiative of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, funds raised will support improvement of literacy development of Indigenous children in remote and isolated regions of Australia.
Find out more information about the Great Book Swap:

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Service
A reminder that our school has been invited to attend the annual Vietnam Veterans’ Commemorative Service held at Greensborough Memorial Park this Saturday August 16th from 11.00am.
Representatives of our Student School Leadership will represent Greensborough Primary School by attending the service at War Memorial park and laying a wreath, similar to the Anzac Day ceremony. If any families would like to join us, we will assemble behind our Greensborough Primary School banner at 10.50am at War Memorial Park. Students are asked to wear their school uniform.

The Kidsafe Victoria ‘No Helmet No Ride’ competition
Does your child like to draw, make videos or ads? Kidsafe is running a competition to help promote the importance of wearing helmets.
‘No Helmet No Ride’ is an initiative of KidSafe Victoria and is a state wide competition promoting the importance of wearing helmets when riding a wheeled device. The competition is free and entries close on 12 September.
Your child can enter the competition in one of the following categories:
o Make a video: Prep – Grade 3
o Make a video: Grade 4-6
o Make a radio ad: Prep – Grade 3
o Make a radio ad: Grade 4-6
o Create an illustrated story: Prep – Grade 3
o Create and illustrated story: Grade 4-6
Find out more information about the ‘No Helmet No Ride’ Competition:

Angela Morritt
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Dog and Cat Food Donations
Many thanks to all of those families who donated dog and cat food as part of the school’s Winter Food Appeal. The Lort Smith Animal Hospital was most appreciative; especially as they said their supplies of canned food for lost and abandoned animals was running quite low. With all of the pampered pooches in the Greensborough community it is nice to know that we have provided for less fortunate animals particularly during the cold winter months.

Magic Maths
We are most grateful to all of those families who donated silver coins for use in Magic Maths and classroom maths programs. I have been astonished at the strong learning outcomes that have resulted from using real coins for counting, place value and problem solving activities. If there is anyone who still has some spare silver coins we still have two grades waiting to have a coin collection for Maths use. Any donations can be sent to class teachers or to the office and will be most appreciated.

Student Accounts
At last Monday’s School Council meeting approval was given for all costs and charges to the end of the 2014 school year. Accounts will be sent home at the end of next week which will include all of these charges and we are hoping, that with so much advance notice, families will have the
opportunity to budget for these expenses and pay by instalments if they wish. As always the school is very happy to discuss accounts with families and provide support and assistance where required.

**Buildings and Grounds**

We are fortunate to have the services of the Corrections Crew which comes to the school, four times a year and completes a host of maintenance tasks around the school grounds. This happened last Sunday when sandpits were refilled, mulch spread and all paths and steps cleared of leaf litter.

Assistance such as this reduces our need for working bees however we still require some assistance with moving soil to fill the two new planter boxes which have been constructed in front of the heritage building in Grimshaw St. If you are able to help with this task please let the office know and we will arrange for the soil delivery.

*Margaret Hirth*  
Assistant Principal

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**Parents and Friends**

**Loom Bands**

Our effort to set the world record for the longest Loom Band is going well. Students are encouraged to continue making their Loom Bands at home. On Monday 18th August we ask that all bands be returned to school so that they can be joined to the one long band. Any parents who have some time to help join the bands together can join in the fun at Cuppa Club after assembly. Students are asked to wear Loom Band jewellery for a photo opportunity on the day.

**Book Club**

Book Club this term will be replaced by The Book Fair operating as part of Book Week.

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**STUDENT WELFARE WITH EMMA BEVAN**

**Bounce Back**

The Grade 1/2’s have started to look at ‘Kindness’. This week we watched a wonderful clip called Colour your World with Kindness. The students thought about times when they had been kind and did some fantastic drawings. We talked about how we feel if someone is unkind versus how we feel if someone is kind. We read ‘The Smartest Giant in Town’ by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler, a wonderful book about kindness.

The Grade 3/4’s are up to the ‘K’ of the Bounce Back acronym, which stands for ‘Keep things in perspective. Don’t believe the worst possible picture.’ In this session the children gave some great (and funny) examples of times when they hadn’t kept things in perspective. Many of the examples, interestingly were about Minecraft! The students then completed a quiz on the Bounce Back acronym. They remembered so much, I was very impressed.

Our 5/6’s are continuing to learn about how to deal with conflict. We revised good ways and bad ways to deal with conflict. We talked about how it feels when we are in conflict with someone. In particular, we looked at the effects of anger and fear on the brain and how this can lead to very poor decision making. We then looked at a footballer who had recently allowed his anger to take over on the field and the consequences of this act, not just for him, but the person he hurt and his team mates. The students were able to come up with some excellent suggestions of what he should have done instead.

**Woman’s Day Loom Bracelet Competition**

The children have been working hard at creating The World’s Longest Loom Bracelet and it has been delightful to see not only the students, but the whole school community, embrace this great idea. Thank you Colin! Out at The Friendship Tree I have seen sharing, turn taking, negotiating, responsibility, care, inclusion and a wonderful connectedness amongst the students.

Next Monday 18th August will be the last day to donate any bracelets to go toward the Bracelet. Simone Baldwin will be coordinating the connecting and measuring of the bracelet on the morning of the 18th (thank you Simone), and then we will be taking a photo of the bracelet with the students out on the oval at lunchtime. Should make a fabulous photo!

Take care.

*Emma Bevan.*
LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week at Greensborough Primary School
Today you will receive a flyer outlining the events that will take place during Book Week. Please have a read through the flyer. There is also a Trivia sheet for children to complete, with the help of adults if you wish. There is a prize of a $10 gift voucher for the winners to spend at the Book Fair. The winners will be announced the morning of the Book Parade. All Trivia sheets can be placed in a box outside of the library which will be in place from Friday 15th August till Thursday 21st August. One of the activities listed in the flyer is our annual Book Fair. We have booked a Book Fair that will run from the afternoon of Tuesday 19th August until the morning of Tuesday 26th August. This is a great way to purchase a book but also support the school as we raise money from the total of items sold. **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.**

When purchasing from the Book Fair you can use cash or credit card. We have a credit card form that you can fill out but the payment is not activated until I return the slips to Scholastic which is after the Book Fair is over. Scholastic also allow you to make online payments using a smartphone – customers can visit [www.scholastic.com.au/payment](http://www.scholastic.com.au/payment) to make a secure credit card payment online OR call Scholastic on free call 1800557908 and pay over the phone.

And of course we will be holding a Multi-Age day on Wednesday 20th August and we will finish the week with our annual Book Parade on Friday 22nd August.

**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 19th pm till Tuesday 26th August. Could you please send back the slip at the end of this newsletter if you can assist.

Thanks  
*Jen Farley*
Teacher Librarian

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Woodwork Incursion – Grades 3-6
On **Thursday, 11th September**, there will be a Grade 3-6 Woodwork incursion conducted by the education centre **Learning By Doing**, which has been teaching woodworking to children for over 20 years. In a fully supervised and safe workshop environment, our students will not only develop basic building skills, but also improve their self-esteem and ability to experiment.

Each of the Grade 3/4 and 5/6 classes will spend an hour and half working intensively in a workshop that will cover tracing, sanding, sawing, smoothing, rearranging, using hammer and nails and more. Students will finish the workshop with a simple model to take home.

The total cost of the incursion is $15 per student, however $5 will be subsidised by students’ subject contributions, so the remaining cost to families is **$10 per student**. A payment form will be sent home with your child this week. Please fill in the form and return it with the correct money in a labelled envelope to Class Teachers by Wednesday 3rd September or contact the office to arrange a payment plan. Student participation will be based on the receipt of payment or creation of payment plan.

For further information, visit [www.learningbydoing.com.au](http://www.learningbydoing.com.au)

*Janet Troy*
Visual Arts Teacher
Integrated studies at Greensborough Primary.

Over the past two years we have been trialling the best practice concept of ‘Throughlines’ as our planning approach for Integrated studies. The term Throughlines refers to the whole school community studying the same topic area concurrently, at the appropriate level and content for our various age groups. The Preps plan with the Grade 1 and 2 classes and alter the learning aims and outcomes to meet the developing needs of the youngest learners at school. The 3/4 teachers and the 5/6 teachers plan in their teams and are supported by the Visual Arts teacher and teacher Librarian for resourcing and program extension and development.

This term we are studying the curriculum areas called Civics and Citizenship.

For the Preps this means we are beginning to look at our neighbourhood both historically and geographically. We are drawing and following maps, going on a series of adventures to find out what is inside and outside the school fence. Along the way we are hearing stories of how old our school is and the fact that it was originally a farm! Did you know that this plot of land was given to the education department by the local farmer! It was indeed!

Meanwhile the Grade 1 and 2 students are also investigating their local community, investigating local historical and geographical landmarks as well as reading, drawing and interpreting a range of maps. They will participate in walking adventures to explore where the Cobb and Co coaches exchanged drivers in Greensborough and see the bridge that was built by convict labour in the early days of settlement in Greensborough.

Our Grade 3 and 4 children are taking a closer look at “Multicultural Australia”. During this unit students will develop links between Australian Culture, traditions, history and geography and how these ideas link to the world we live in. They will investigate many of the diverse range of cultures within the Grade 3 and 4 area. Students will learn more about the cultures of our friends’ families and their country of origin. An exciting ‘passport’ project will allow students to travel the world gathering information from other countries without leaving the safety of their classroom! WOW! They will hold ‘Multicultural Day’ at the end of term allowing children to dress up in national costumes, share cultural delicacies, songs and dance with their peers and families!

Finally our Grade 5 and 6 students are studying ‘Government and Democracy’. They are studying Federation and Democracy. Students are involved in developing Parties and are busily writing Party policies, running election campaigns, seeking pre selection prior to voting for Party Leaders and ultimately a formal election along the lines of the Australian government. May the best candidate win!

Learning is so exciting! What will we all learn from these very interesting topics this term? Maybe we will uncover a future Prime Minister!!

Michelle Crawford  
Prep teacher

Premier's Reading Challenge  
As the Premier’s Reading Challenge is finishing up at the end of August, I'd like to encourage all students to give it their best go and try to finish. If you are in grades Prep-2 you have to read at least 20 books, and if you are in grades 3-6 you have to read at least 10 books (which I'm sure you've already done!).

Junior School Council  
This year we will be running Greensborough’s Got Talent. Dates and further information will be announced soon.

Happy Reading!

Maria Plesa
Term Three~ Week 3 Ending August 1st 2014

Foundation ~ Brad ~ For a week of very good work and being helpful to Mr Hitch and class members.
Grade 1/2 A ~ Jackson~ For an outstanding improvement in your writing. Keep it up!
Grade 1/2 B ~ Finlay~ For such a fantastic effort during your Reading Rotations. Well done!
Grade 3/4 A~ Lachlan~ For his efforts this week in Maths sessions.
Grade 3/4 B ~ Erin~ For being a Pupil of The Week every week.
5/6 A~ Corey~ For constant improvement with your reading. You’re a star!
Art ~ Ania ~ For always being responsible, thoughtful and focusing on her work in Art.
PE~ Chloe~ For always participating with a smile and giving her best.
Student Wellbeing~ Ella~ For his fantastic idea to make the world’s longest Loom Band.

Term Three~ Week 4 Ending August 8th 2014

Foundation ~ Levi ~ For excellent reading, counting and writing of poems. Well done Levi!
Grade 1/2 A ~ Hamish~ For consistently putting in his best effort in all areas of his learning.
Grade 1/2 B ~ Olivia H~ For always being a positive and friendly class member and giving your best to all the work you do.
Grade 3/4 A~ Jamal~ For an outstanding improvement with his Maths.
Grade 3/4 B ~ Cadie~ For contributing so much during our whole class discussion. Keep it up!
5/6 A~ Matt R~ For putting on a brave face after really hurting himself at High Jump – ouch!
5/6 B~ Sebastian~ For a great effort in all his learning and making the most of all opportunities.
Music ~ Adam S~ For some lovely singing.
Art ~ Ryan ~ For fantastic concentration and effort with his weaving in Art this week.
Japanese ~ Hannah ~ For remembering lots of Japanese words.
Student Wellbeing ~ Lucy ~ For always contributing wholeheartedly to Meditation time.

I am able to assist at the Book Fair on the following morning or afternoon. Please circle the date you are available. I will send back a confirmation slip.

Name ……………………………………………………
Contact Number……………………………………

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