**Borough Bulletin March 5th 2015**

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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

It was lovely to see so many family members and past students who came to support our Twilight Sports on Tuesday night. The evening was made memorable with everyone dressing up in their House colours and adding accessories for extra effect. The grade 5/6 students did a magnificent job spraying hair, painting faces and nails, and adding to the evening’s fun. Congratulations to all the competitors who performed to the best of their ability, especially those in Eucalyptus for being the overall winning House for 2015. A special mention to Emily, Jayde, Joshua and Teague for winning the ‘Best Dressed’ in their respective Houses from very difficult fields.

I’d like to thank everyone who contributed to make this night successful: Parents and Friends who organised the barbecue; everyone who helped out on stalls, or as scorers and marshals; Leah C. for generously donating the prizes (as she does every year!); our House Captains and Vice Captains who were magnificent assistants on the Start/Finish lines; Gemma Pearce for being an excellent MC; and all the staff who supported our organising committee members, Chris Blake and Erin Donaldson. Twilight Sports really showcase what a terrific community we have at GPS!

Our Grade 6 students would like to thank everyone who visited their stalls and raised over $100 for their Graduation celebration in Term Four.

**Buildings and Grounds**

If you haven't had a chance to drop in and see the progress in the refurbishment of the ‘old computer hub’ and the new outdoor learning area outside the Library, please do so – they look absolutely fabulous. Mrs Hirth channelled her interior design skills and the new carpet and freshly painted feature wall in the hub make this an exciting new learning area. Many thanks to Wayne also for his work on both projects.
Swimming Carnival results
Last Monday our swimming team competed at the Watsonia District Swimming Carnival at Watermarc. All students participated with great endeavour, sportsmanship and enthusiasm and we congratulate Ashley, Ala, Molly, Tara, Annie, Maddie, Jayde and Michael, who went on to compete at the Division Swimming Carnival at the Northcote Aquatic Centre yesterday, March 4th.

Southern Cross Recycling – Tuesday 24th March:
This program was introduced to Greensborough PS in 2010 and has many benefits to our students. Families have a chance to have a clearance each term of unwanted goods. Our unwanted items are recycled in communities that will benefit from them and our Grade 6 students also benefit as monetary proceeds are placed in the Grade 6 Graduation Celebration budget.
So clear out your cupboards and send along manchester, kitchen goods, toys, clothing, shoes, books….in fact anything except electrical goods are acceptable.

Prep Speech Screenings
Early detection of potential areas of difficulty is very important in the Prep year so that appropriate strategies can be used by teachers in the classroom to assist students. With this in mind we will continue to fund the screening of the Prep children’s speech, language and literacy skills beginning Friday 13th March and concluding Friday 20th March. This screening will be done by Kirsty Kelly, a Speech Pathologist who will then provide families and teachers with a written report. An information letter and permission form is being sent home with this newsletter and we ask all Prep families to ensure permission forms are returned by Friday 6th March.

Thankyou
A very big thank you to Rod M, father of Stuart, who supplied and planted several crepe myrtle trees in the garden beds leading to the office. These beautiful trees will be a great addition to our garden and will also provide a terrific screen to help stop balls from the netball court landing in the junior school playground.
Thank you also to Karen M, parent of Will and Angus and Simone P, mother of Zach, for their generous donations of goods for our Trivia Night. Support from families is very much appreciated.

Student Leadership team
Congratulations to our new House Captains and Vice Captains. The students in each house listened very attentively to the speeches and voted for the students they felt would be the best leaders of their house. This was a very difficult decision as the grade 5 and 6 students who nominated gave terrific speeches and have all shown great leadership skills.
We have included photos of our Student Leadership Team below:
Egg Cartons Needed
Diamond Valley Food Share has once again asked if we could collect egg cartons for them. They receive a large supply of eggs from the supermarkets which they distribute to families in need in Diamond Valley. Cartons are needed to pack the eggs for distribution. So please send along any cartons that can be re-used and place them in the tub in the school foyer.

School Skirts
We have extended the time for orders for school skirts until Wednesday March 11th. We have several skirts in the office if any families would like to try them on for size. Costs for skirts range from $43.00 - $50, depending on size, and are based on a minimum order of 30 – as it is unlikely we will reach this target, an additional surcharge of $15 per skirt, is charged by the uniform company. Please contact the office if you would like to place an order.

Parents and Friends
If any parents are able to donate some time to support Parents and Friends’ initiatives it would be greatly appreciated. Many of our regular helpers ‘graduated’ with their students last year and we are looking for new parents and family members to assist with various fund raising events. All money raised is spent on resources for our students, e.g. i-pads or the outdoor learning area near the Library. Please leave your name at the office if you are able to help out when required.

Angela Morritt
Principal

Integrated Studies for Term 1 at G.P.S.
This term our whole school is developing our knowledge of the History of our country in our Integrated Studies units beginning with our Family History in Prep, extending to specific Local History in Grade One and Two, onto a closer study of Aboriginal culture and history in Grade 3 and Four. This leads to a deeper understanding of the early European settlers and early immigration that has built a foundation for our wonderful multicultural Australia in Grade 5 and 6.
Each grade level has planned very interesting ways to involve the students in developing concepts about past events and people, and how those folk have shaped the land we live in today.
The Preps are working through a unit called ‘My Family, My History’. They began by focussing on themselves as a new student to school. We have worked hard to develop an understanding of us as a grade as part of the whole school family. The Preps have created a grade garden of all our class members and teachers. Currently we are expanding our knowledge about our school family. We will end our unit reflecting on our own families and the older people who were born before us in our own Family Tree. Our unit will finish at the end of the first week of term 2 with a visit from our Grandparents and Special Friends on Friday.
The Grade one and two students have begun exploring the idea of differences and similarities between their daily life activities and those of their Grandparents in their unit called ‘Past and Present Families Life’. The children will discuss, research and share their family traditions, leisure time activities and ways of communicating in their efforts to notice change over time. The Grade One and Two children will share in the Grandparents and Special Friends day with the Preps next term. Visitors are encouraged to bring along an old time favourite toy and or photograph, to share with us on that occasion.
In Grades 3 and 4, the students will be focussing on developing their knowledge and understanding about the earliest Aboriginal settlers in Greensborough and Melbourne in their unit called ‘Australian Aboriginals’. They will investigate how the people lived, gathered food, communicated and interacted with neighbouring tribes. Aboriginal stories and legends, artwork, hunting methods and seasonal journeys will be part of the study.
“How has the Australian colony developed over the past years since the Earliest settlers?”
“What influence and impact has Immigration played in the development of our colony to a country?” Who were these people and where did they come from to begin the transformation of our nation from Colony to Nation?” These very interesting questions are
forming the basis of an investigation into our nation’s History by the Grade 5 and 6 students in a unit of study called ‘Australian History. My History’.
What a very interesting and thought provoking series of studies we have currently being taught at our school (called a ‘throughline’ study where the whole school works on an aspect of the same topic), to encourage us all to look to the past for knowledge and even inspiration for our futures and the choices we make.
Enjoy this step back in time with your children, share and discuss these topics with them and help them to find interesting artefacts and information to share. This way we can all learn together!

Michelle Crawford, Prep Teacher

Student Wellbeing

Bounce Back
This week I had my first session with Mrs Crawford and the Preps and we had such a great time! Our topic this session was ‘Listening’. We did a number of games and activities where we were all able to practice our listening skills and together Mrs Crawford and I did a couple of role plays looking at the difference between listening well and not listening at all, much to the students’ delight.
We learned that a good listener faces the person they are listening too, uses their eyes to look at the person and doesn’t interrupt. Sometimes they might even nod or smile! I left behind some big bunny ears in the classroom to remind everyone how important it is to listen.
Last week my session with the Grade 5/6s was focused on stepping out of your comfort zone. The students had some great examples of times when they had stepped out of their comfort zones and had tremendous success. We considered how even though we might feel uncomfortable or even nervous stepping out of our comfort zone, it is only by stepping out that we are likely to experience success, achievement and have new exciting experiences.
Have a great long weekend everyone.

Emma

Parents and Friends
A big thank-you to all the helpers who assisted with the BBQ at Twilight Sports. Without these wonderful volunteers assisting us with these bigger activities, we would not be able to do them. All the money raised from the BBQ goes towards P&F’s contribution to the library redevelopment, and in the next newsletter we will have the total amount that was raised.
Also, thank-you to Karve It Up Butchery on level 1 in Greensborough Plaza for supporting us by providing the meat.
Food Day: On Friday 13th we are having a sushi food day. A big thank-you to Juishi Sushi for assisting us with this food day. Order forms came out earlier this week, and are due back by Monday 16th. Order forms are also available at the front office if you have misplaced them.
Hot Cross Buns order forms also came out earlier this week. This year the hot cross buns are provided by Bakers Delight in Greensborough Plaza. $2 from each 6 pack of buns goes towards school. Order forms are due back Friday 20th of March with delivery on the Thursday 26th.

With the end of term fast approaching, we will be having an Easter Raffle. Hahndorf have generously donated 1st prize, a wonderful hamper of delicious Hahndorf chocolate at the value of $100. We are asking all school families who are able, to donate a small prize for the Easter Raffle (eg a Chocolate Egg). There will be a prize donation box in the foyer of the school office. Thank you.
Trivia Night – Saturday 23rd of May. We are still gathering donations for the silent auction. If you are able to assist, or if you can donate products or services from your own business (a great opportunity to promote your business) please let front office know.

Kim Hill on behalf of P&F

Book Club for 2015

In 2015, our school is participating in Lamont Book Club. The first issue for 2015 will soon be handed out to students. Lamont Book Club is Australian owned, contains a great selection of products at affordable prices and, best of all, every order supports our school!

To place an order you have two options:
- Order online using their fast and easy website
- Orders can be placed online at www.lamontbookclub.com.au.

You will need to register before you will be able to place an order, which can be done quickly and easily by selecting the “Sign In” link on the top right hand corner of the website. Select our school as part of your registration.

Once you are registered, you can browse all the items from the Junior, Middle and Upper brochures, view more information about the products and add them to your cart. Once you have selected your items you can view your shopping cart in the top right of the website.

Payment options available online are credit card and PayPal. You can also choose to submit your payment in cash to school at the time of checkout. You can specify the name of your student when you checkout and all items in that order will be delivered to the named student. If you would like multiple students to receive items, please place an order for each student individually. You won’t need to register again to do this.

Alternatively, you can complete the order form on the back of the brochure and hand this back to school with a cash payment. Please include the correct money.

Each issue will have a cut-off date printed on the back so please make sure that your order is submitted by that date.

We hope our students enjoy our Book Club in 2015 and that they find lots of fantastic titles to read!

Cheers

Marita - book club coordinator and mum to Annie (5/6A) & Heidi (3/4A)
Term One ~ Week 3

Pupil of the Week

Week Ending February 20th 2015

Prep ~ Katelyn ~ For always trying to learn all she can. Every day at school. Awesome Katelyn!
Grade 1/2 A ~ Emma ~ For always giving 100% in all areas of learning. Keep up the great work!
Grade 1/2 B ~ Lucia ~ For always being a kind and respectful classmate. Well done!
Grade 3/4 A ~ Monique ~ For taking such pride in her classwork and for being a kind and generous student.
Grade 3/4 B ~ Paris ~ For always working towards your goals. Keep it up!
Grade 5/6 A ~ Khushi ~ For being a kind, respectful student and always following our school values. Keep up the great work!
Grade 5/6 B ~ Abhi ~ For his wonderful work during reading this week. We are very proud!
O.S.H.C ~ Sienna F.~ For being great at making her own breakfast. Well done Sienna!
Art ~ Charlotte W. ~ For a great start to the year in the Art room.
Library ~ Sienna W. ~ For using such excellent manners during our Library lesson. Well done Sienna!
Student Wellbeing ~ Bailey D~ For sharing a great example with the class about a time when he was brave and stepped out of his comfort zone.

Term One ~ Week 4

Pupil of the Week

Week Ending February 27th 2015

Prep ~ Darcy ~ For being a fabulous listener. Well done Darcy!
Grade 1/2 A ~ Violet ~ For always giving 100% and being an outstanding role model to everyone in 1/2A. Keep it up!
Grade 1/2 B ~ Lucas ~ For always being kind, respectful and helpful. Well done!
Grade 3/4 A ~ Akeem ~ For his fantastic efforts in Classroom Maths this week. Well done Akeem!
Grade 3/4 B ~ Alex C ~ For a brilliant speech during our class debate. Well done!
Grade 5/6 A ~ Josh ~ Well done for being such a good role model to the younger students and teaching them how to play cricket.
Grade 5/6 B ~ Grace H ~ For her wonderful imaginative writing during our narrative unit.
OSHC ~ Sophie ~ For always having a positive attitude and thinking of others. Great job!
Art ~ Sienna W ~ For achieving wonderful results in Art every single week. Great work Sienna!
Library ~ Hudson M ~ For contributing some excellent ideas and thoughts to our discussion. Well done!
Student Wellbeing ~ Mikaela ~ For making great contributions during our Bounce Back session.

Apologies to Sarah 5/6B for leaving her off the last newsletter
Sarah was student of the week for her incredible effort to return her home reading each day with insightful comments.