Borough Bulletin August 27th 2015

Friday 28th August  
Book Week Parade
Baker's Delight

Tuesday 1st September  
District Athletics
Grade 5 Leadership Day at Montmorency SC
CASS Family Dance Night 6:30 – 8PM

Wednesday 2nd September  
Indigenous Literacy Day – Great Book Swap

Thursday 3rd September  
Oxfam Concert. CASS extension group.

Friday 4th September  
Father’s Day Stall

Monday 7th September  
Grades 3/4 excursion to Werribee Zoo
School Council meeting 7 PM

Wednesday 9th September  
Grades 5/6 excursion to Kinglake National Park

Thursday 10th September  
Footy Pie Day

Friday 11th September  
Curriculum Day – no students at school

Monday 14th September  
Last day of Premier's Reading Challenge

Tuesday 15th September  
Southern Cross Recycling

Wednesday 16th September  
Responsible Pet Ownership Preps Grade 4, 5, 6

Thursday 17th September  
Greensborough’s Got Talent

Friday 18th September  
Last Day of Term 1:30 finish

Monday 5th October  
First Day Term 4

Thursday 8th October  
Grade 2 Sleepover

Friday 9th October  
First Swimming session

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Whilst we are still working hard on this year’s events and curriculum programs we have begun to plan for next year. At the next Staff and School Council meetings we will look at the possible grade structure for 2016 based on the information we currently have. The proposed plan will then be placed in the newsletter for your feedback. If you have any specific requests for next year, please pass them on via email, phone, hand written note or in person, to the office, Margaret or myself.

NAPLAN results were distributed to parents of students in Grades Three and Five this week and whilst this is only one set of data we use to assess students, it is pleasing to note the excellent results for our school. Also this week Margaret finished compiling our self-evaluation for our School Review which will be held on September 8th. On this day two principals and an independent reviewer look at our school data showing our accomplishments over the last four years in the areas of Student Achievement, Engagement, Wellbeing and Productivity, and evaluate how successful we were in achieving the goals of our last Strategic Plan. The second half of the day is then spent on setting our goals for our 2016-2020 Strategic Plan.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their feedback for this Review. When we looked at our achievements over the last four years there was much to celebrate and be proud of. It also affirmed how supportive our community is, as many of our achievements in resources for our students and the improvements to our buildings and grounds were made possible by
the efforts of our families and community members. Our academic gains via classroom, extension and intervention programs as well as our student wellbeing initiatives are enabling our students to reach their potential. We are looking forward to sharing our results with the Review Panel and also receiving their feedback.

**Curriculum Day September 11th**
A reminder that our Curriculum Day is on Friday 11th September and students do not attend school on this day.
Our focus for the morning is on the curriculum area staff have identified as our next stage of school improvement, which is Inquiry based Integrated Studies units. This session will be run by Jen Farley and Anne Loney and we will follow up with further professional development for staff in 2016.
Our afternoon session will be run by Emma Bevan and is focussing on extending our current Positive Education strategies to enable our students to thrive and flourish. *(See last newsletter for more details)*
As there were not enough bookings for Out of Hours School Care to be viable, and the school cannot afford the program to run at a loss, Jacqui has let parents know OHSC will not run on this day.

**Family Music and Dance Night**
A note was sent home on Tuesday asking for an indication of how many family members will attend our Family Music and Dance night next Tuesday 1st September, 6.30 – 8pm or if families are unable to attend. If you haven’t already done so, can you please send this note back tomorrow as it will assist us to plan for this event.
The Family Music and Dance evening will celebrate the wonderful work the students have done with Jon Madin, Heather McLaughlin and Sarah Brookes and the students will perform with the instruments they made with Jon and Janet Troy. *(See Heather’s note later in the newsletter)*

**Book Week**
Once again Book Week is a highlight of our school year! A very big thank you to Jen Farley for organising all the terrific activities for our community. The Multi-Age Day was a wonderful opportunity for students to work with different groups of teachers and students across the school to re-read the short-listed books and complete related art/craft activities. The Book Fair was very popular and the students had a great variety of books or stationary items to buy.
Tomorrow’s Book Parade always engages our community and we’re looking forward to seeing the amazing costumes our talented families create. Thank you to families for supporting this week and instilling a love of literature in your children and also helping to raise funds for Library purchases.

**The Great Book Swap**
Don’t forget next Wednesday 2nd September, we are celebrating Indigenous Literacy Day by hosting 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.
Congratulations to all our students who attended our Athletics trials last Friday and performed to the best of their abilities. Staff reported that our students’ behaviour was exemplary and the trials proceeded very smoothly. Thankyou to all the parents who attended and assisted with the day’s organization – your contributions were greatly appreciated.

Next Tuesday 1st September students in the Athletics team will compete in the Watsonia District Carnival at Meadowglen Athletics Stadium in McDonalds Rd Epping. An information note was sent home on Tuesday for all students who are participating. Thank you to Alison Gibson for all her organization for this event and to staff who have assisted her. We wish our students good luck at the carnival and we know they will represent our school proudly!

Two weeks To Go - Woolworths Earn and Learn
Please continue to drop off or send along your Earn and Learn stickers from Woolworths. We have a box in the foyer and also one in the store, so please continue to encourage your neighbours and friends to save their stickers for us or place them in the GPS box. The more stickers we collect the more resources we can acquire for our students.

Scout Raffle
Thank you to everyone for supporting the My School Raffle. Thank you once again to Parents and Friends for coordinating this fundraiser which raised $500 for resources for our students!

SunSmart
In line with SunSmart recommendations, as from next Tuesday 1st September students will be required to wear their hats for outdoor activities, this includes recess, lunch and Physical Education lessons. (From September 1st – April 30th is when the average UV alert is 3 and above.) School hats are available at the office for $10. Students without hats are required to play in designated areas with full shade.

School Gates
If any parents are able to assist us with locking and unlocking our gates at 9.30 and 3pm we would love to hear from you. Our Grade 5/6 students do a terrific job , however this task does require them to miss valuable learning time . If any parents are able to help out, even if it’s for one day a week, please leave your name at the office and we will draw up a roster.

Publicity and Marketing
We are keen to hear from any members of our community with Publicity and Marketing and/or website experience. Our current volunteers are stretched to the limit and we would appreciate any support we receive in these areas. Help is required with updating the website, loading photos and new events, etc, and also expertise with promoting our school would be valuable. Please see Margaret or myself if you are able to assist.

Angela Morritt
Principal

SKOOLBAG APP
Don’t forget, if you have a smart phone, please download this app. It’s free and is a great way to keep in the loop on what’s going on at Greensborough Primary School. You can also enter in your children’s absences….no notes need to be written! Contact the office if you need assistance or have any queries.
Thanks to everyone who has supported the Book Fair so far. We will be open again on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning and afternoon. Please be aware that if you purchase by credit card the money will not be deducted from your card for at least a week.

Don’t forget the Book Parade is on tomorrow Friday 28th starting at 9.05 in the hall. We are looking forward to seeing everyone dressed up as their favourite character. A reminder that the children can stay in their costume for the entire day but please remember that they will be playing outside so will require appropriate shoes and a jacket if it is cold.

Winners of the CBCA awards were announced on Saturday and at assembly on Monday. In case you missed it they were:

**Early Readers**

**Winner** Go To Sleep, Jessie

**Honour Books** Scary Night and Noni

**The Pony Goes To The Beach**

**Picture Book**

**Winner** My Two Blankets

**Honour Books** The Stone Lion and One Minute’s Silence

**Fiction**

**Winner** The Cleo Stories: The Necklace and The Present

**Honour Books** Withering-by-Sea: and Stella Montgomery Intrigue and Two Wolves

**Multi Age Book Discovery day**

On Wednesday 26th we held a very successful Multi-age day. The children were placed in groups made up of children from Prep - Grade 6. They took part in different activities based around the books - **My Two Blankets**, **Scary Night**, **Pig The Pug** and **A House Of Her Own**. There will be some photographs on the website. Thanks to all the staff who helped make this day such a success.

**Poetry Competition**

If you have not had a chance to read the poems have a look at those on display in the office foyer. They are fantastic! Such talented children! Winners will be announced on Monday at assembly.

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Happy Reading

**Jen Farley**

Teacher Librarian
FROM THE ART ROOM

ART EXTENSION PROGRAM

Congratulations to Brianna, Scarlett, Josh, Khushi, Jaxon, Rory, Sarah, Callista, Jayde and Bailey from Grade 5/6 who created these wonderful signs to improve the aesthetics of the school vegetable garden and orchard area. We have two additional signs almost completed (which will be installed on the back of the existing signs) so that they can be seen by passing pedestrians and traffic in the laneway and Lorimer Street. Emmet, Sophie, Max P., Celeste, Harley, Abigail, Fin, Hudson, Chloe and Holly from the Grade 3/4 Art Extension Group are currently making two new scarecrows for the vegetable garden and orchard area. A group of Grade 1 and 2 students will have the opportunity to participate in the Art Extension program next term.

Janet Troy,
Art Teacher.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

GUESS THE BABY COMPETITION

Our ‘Guess the Baby’ Competition will be running until the 11th of September and the cost is only 50 cents to enter. The entry sheets can be found in the office foyer on the competition board. The winner will be the person who matches the most babies to the correct staff member and will be announced on September 14th at Monday Morning Assembly. First prize is a $20 Target Voucher so don't forget to put your entry in, and remember you can enter more than once. All monies raised will go towards the purchase of a new school sign. Thank you in advance for your support.

GREENSBOROUGH’S GOT TALENT

It’s that time of year again! Greensborough’s Got Talent will be running on Thursday 17th of September and we want acts. All students from Prep to Six are encouraged to put together an act, whether it is on their own or in a group, to get ready for the talent show. There will be more information to come.

Footy Colours Dress-Up Day

As part of our Footy Pie Day, it is a tradition that students come to school dressed in their favourite sporting team’s colours. If students choose to come out of school uniform, we ask for a gold coin donation that the Junior School Council will put towards a brand new school sign for our oval’s fence. We hope to see everyone dressed in their favourite team’s colours on Thursday 10th September, 2015.

Maria Plesa
FAMILY MUSIC AND DANCE NIGHT

6.30 - 8 p.m. Tuesday 1st September
FOR EVERYONE at GPS!

All students at the school will be taking part in this session, along with parents and any family members who are able to come. This is a major part of our "Music for Learning" CASS project, and all three workshop leaders will be presenting the evening. Come along and see what Sarah Brooke, Jon Madin and Heather McLaughlin have been doing with children and teachers at Greensborough Primary.

The program will include:
- all children demonstrating the instruments they made with Jon Madin and Janet Troy back in May (washboards, rubber glove bassoons etc)
- the Extension Music Groups will play some marimba pieces
- Sarah will get everyone doing some rhythm activities and body percussion (maybe "Chocolatte": Can the parents do it? Can the teachers do it?)
- Jon will get everyone dancing to his accordion
- Heather will be playing the violin.
- everyone will be singing, dancing, and playing instruments.
COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN. NO CHARGE.

Heather McLaughlin
CASS Co-Ordinator

PARENTS & FRIENDS

It is with great pleasure that I am able to say that Parents & Friends, with the fantastic support of school families, have so far raised over $11,000 this year!!
Not only do we support Fruit Friday ($1000) for all the classes, we will be providing the entertainment for the Christmas Party, courtesy of the Bush Billy Band. Part of the money raised is going towards the library extension, including furnishing the area. Over $4000 will be going towards the Science Program which will be starting next year and towards Magic Maths equipment. Parents and Friends are also contributing to the new School brochures. On top of all that, we have purchased 3 new compost bins for the school!

The School Council greatly appreciates how much we have fundraised so far this year and staff are excited that Parents & Friends are able to finance many things on their "wish list". So, thank you to everyone who continues to support our food days, and other fundraising events.

Food Day's Term 3
This Friday we are having a Baker's Delight Day. Thank you to Greensborough Bakers Delight for their continued support of our school.
We will be having a footy pie day on Thursday 10th of September. Order forms will be coming out next week.

Scouts Raffle
Thank you to everyone who has returned their raffle tickets. We raised over $500 for the school.
The raffle is drawn on September 11th, so good luck to all those who purchased a ticket!

Father's Day Stall
We will be holding a Father's Day stall next Thursday, 3rd of September. Prices vary from 50c through to $6, with a variety of items available to be purchased.
We will be needing volunteers to help out with the stall, so if you are available for a few hours Thursday morning, please fill out the slip at the end of the newsletter.
Father’s Day Stall
Father’s Day stall will be held on the morning of Thursday 3rd of September in the hall. We require volunteers to help us run this stall. It will be from 9-11am.
If you are able to help, please fill out the form at the end of the newsletter and return it to the front office.
Thank you
Kim Hill
On behalf of Parents and Friends

STUDENT WELLBEING

Mindfulness at GPS continued
Over the last two weeks the students and I have continued learning about mindfulness and its beneficial impact on our mood, brain, health, learning and our overall wellbeing. Some of the students have already done quite a bit of mindfulness practice, whereas others are learning about it for the first time.
One of the things that has particularly struck me about mindfulness, is how enthusiastic, engaged and receptive the students are to the whole concept, it’s fantastic! I have already had my sessions with Grade 1 to 6, and will be in the Preps next week.
Mindfulness practice helps kids regulate themselves (emotionally and behaviourally). Learning to regulate oneself is a key developmental task of childhood. I have noticed that mindfulness practice is one of the fastest ways to calm kids down, and it is a great way of helping them calm down before bedtime. If you would like to help your child practice mindfulness more often in the home here are a couple of ways that you can help them:

Colouring: There are a number of mindfulness colouring in books available at the moment. Most bookshops have them.

Apps: Smiling Mind (free) is a great app for teaching kids mindfulness skills (grown ups can do it too) Another app that I have heard good reports about from parents is Sleep Meditations for Kids by Christiane Kerr: Calming Bedtime Relaxation Stories. (free, but with in-app purchases).

Websites: Relaxkids.com has some great guided relaxations too.

Take care
Emma
Student Wellbeing Coordinator
Term Three – Week 4  Week Ending August 14th 2015

Prep ~ Starr ~ For settling in so well during her first week at Greensborough.
Grade 1/2 A ~ Petar ~ For always displaying our school values of cooperation, achievement, respect and empathy.
Grade 1/2 B ~ Manraj & Cash ~ For a wonderful first week at Greensborough Primary School.
Grade 3/4 A ~ Aaron ~ For his ability to think outside the box in Maths, great inquisitive thinking. Keep it up!
Grade 3/4 B ~ Dan M ~ For impressive research skills and finding information on Australia and Africa.
Grade 5/6 A ~ Maslah ~ For his extra hard work during English, in particular his Colour poem.
Grade 5/6 B ~ Lachie D ~ For jumping two more reading levels. You are working so hard!
Art ~ Sienna F ~ For a great improvement in behaviour and doing her work so very well.
Student Wellbeing ~ Stuart Mc~ For his enthusiasm, focus and great contributions during Bounce Back

Term Three – Week 5  Week Ending August 21st 2015

Prep ~ Ezra ~ For making excellent choices for his learning.
Grade 1/2 A ~ Bailey ~ For trying so hard to improve his writing. Keep up the good work!
Grade 1/2 B ~ Leo ~ For being a good friend to the new students at our school. Well done!
Grade 3/4 A ~ Jack ~ For his amazing effort at Athletics. What a super star!
Grade 3/4 B ~ Fin ~ For great enthusiasm and research during our Integrated Studies session.
Grade 5/6 A ~ Chloe ~ For her wonderful work during Poetry. You have written some beautiful pieces.
Grade 5/6 B ~ Ala~ For persisting through injury to be a wonderful athlete at the athletics.
PE ~ Emily ~ For her persistence in learning the skills of Soccer and cooperation in group activities.
Student Wellbeing ~ Annie B ~ For her enthusiasm during our Bounce Back session on Mindfulness.

□ Yes I am able to help with the Father’s Day Stall

Name:__________________________________________________________
Contact Number:________________________________________________