**Borough Bulletin November 19th 2015**

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<td><strong>Monday 23rd November</strong></td>
<td>Cybersmart Evening 6:00 to 7:30</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 26th November</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 1st December</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Monday 14th December</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 16th December</strong></td>
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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

We are very fortunate to have so many parents and family members who volunteer their time in many different areas of the school. From helping in the classrooms, working in the grounds, walking to swimming, helping with ISS, cutting up fruit for Fruit Friday, school banking, website and Facebook updates, canteen sales or fundraising with Parents and Friends, (the list goes on and on!) Our students and staff appreciate the ways our volunteers add to our school programs. To thank all our volunteers we would like to invite you to a morning tea on Thursday 26th November at 11am in the school foyer. We hope we see you there!

**Science**

Jane Byrne has been working very hard to set up our new Science classroom. Next Thursday Jane is attending a Science Professional Development Day to extend her Science skills, and thanks to P & F she is able to purchase many new and exciting resources for next year. We also found out this week that RMIT Science Department is keen to continue sending their pre service teachers to work in our classrooms in Term Two next year. They were very pleased to hear we were having Science as a specialist area and have offered to liaise with Jane and share RMIT resources.

**Staffing**

Alison Gibson will be taking leave for the last three weeks of this term (30th November – 18th December). Whilst Alison is on Leave, Jane Byrne will work full time, so there will be no disruption to class programs. Alison will return for planning days, end of year activities and for meetings where we handover student information to 2016 class teachers. Our Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Emma Bevan has advised us that due to her private practice expanding, she is not able to continue at GPS in 2016, on a weekly basis. Emma will however
remain involved at GPS and run Bounceback sessions for Grades 1-6 for the first four weeks of Term One as part of our Start Up program. This will be a great start to the year and ensure the terrific gains we have made in this area are maintained. Emma’s contribution to our student wellbeing programs is enormous and whilst it normally would be difficult to find a replacement with her skills and expertise, we are very pleased that Emma has recommended a colleague to run our Student Wellbeing programs and Emma has agreed to be her mentor. We wish Emma all the best in her future endeavours and are very pleased she will maintain a presence at our school.

I am also very pleased to announce I was advised yesterday that of the twenty schools who applied, GPS is one of only six schools that have been selected to be involved in the CASEA (CAMHS and School Early Action) program next year. This means we will have subsidised Professional Development for staff and ongoing support to implement PATHS – a whole school approach to social, emotional learning. In a nutshell it means we can continue the great work started by Emma with Bounceback and Positive Education, which is excellent news!

**Keeping your children safe on the Internet – what parents need to know!**

We are hoping as many parents and caregivers as possible are able to attend the Cyber Safety session next Monday night from 6 – 7.30pm. This session will answer your questions on how to protect your children from cyber bullying harmful online content and protecting them from online predators.

I urge all families to attend this presentation to receive up to date information that will help you to keep your children safe online. Please fill in the reply slip at the end of the newsletter to indicate your interest in attending this session and help us with our planning.

**End Of Year Picnic**

We’re all looking forward to our end of year picnic and dancing along with the Tea Billy Bush Band on Monday 14th December. This family bush dance is one of the highlights of our school year and we’re grateful to Parents and Friends and our community for fund raising for the band to perform. Workshops will be held with the whole school and individual grades during the day and we’re looking forward to a great evening, when family members can join the fun. Each grade will sing a Christmas carol at the picnic and families are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner or enjoy the barbecue organised by Parents’ Club.

**Student Support Groups**

Next Monday, notes will be sent home to parents of children who have Student Support Group (SSG) meetings to arrange an appointment for this term. We ask all families who would like a meeting to return their notes by Thursday 26th November so we can finalise our SSG schedule.

**Subject Contributions**

The charge paid by families for all resources, materials and activities used by students, which, by the government’s Parent Payment Policy, are the families’ responsibility for payment, has been $180 per student for the past few years. At our recent School Council meeting, the decision was made to increase this charge to $200 per student for 2016 as our current budget indicates that, by the end of this year, we will have spent in excess of family payments for items and experiences purchased for student use. In addition we are maintaining the four voluntary payment options of $20 for each of the Library, Buildings and Grounds, ICT and Student Wellbeing.

**Remembrance Day**

On Remembrance Day, our School Vice-Captains Callista and Nicolas, and our Junior School Council Captains, Annie and Lucy, conducted a Service at school for Grades Prep -Six and laid a wreath at the base of our flagpole. Staff were very impressed with the way our student leaders conducted the service and the respectful manner of all our Prep – Grade Six students, as they listened to the Ode of Remembrance and followed the traditional ceremony. After the ceremony our Junior School Council members walked with Gemma Pearce and Erin Donaldson to War Memorial Park to lay the wreath at the cenotaph.
Our School Captains Molly and James, attended the Remembrance Day service at Watsonia RSL and proudly represented our school by laying a wreath. Molly and James then attended the RSL awards ceremony where they were presented with scholarships to assist with their Year 7 tuition. These scholarships are awarded to Grade Six students from local schools who display exemplary leadership qualities and have been great ambassadors for their school communities. Molly and James were worthy winners of this scholarship as they have been outstanding School Leaders and excellent role models for their peers and younger students. We are very proud of them and wish them all the best as they continue their leadership journey in Secondary School. Congratulations Molly and James!

Banyule Community Health Dental Service
On Tuesday Banyule Council conducted education sessions and oral health screenings for all classes. They were very impressed with the oral hygiene of our students and were especially impressed with the work the Grade 5s and 6s had done following the viewing of ‘That Sugar Film.’ The staff plan to return to view a presentation by students on what they have learnt from their research.

Walkathon
We are very keen to purchase our new classroom sports equipment for students to use at recess and lunch breaks, so they will be labelled and ready for use at the start of 2016. If there is any sponsorship money still to be collected, we ask families to please finalise this and send to school by Monday 23rd November. Thank you to everyone for supporting this fundraiser and thanks also to Samantha Molyneaux for coordinating this event.

Facebook Coordinator/s Needed!
At this stage we have not had any volunteers to help coordinate our Facebook page and we’d love to hear from anyone who could take on this role. The main tasks are scheduling term planner dates on Facebook and monitoring / responding to comments and messages. Please have a think about helping with this task as it is able to be done from home and it’s very important for GPS to have a presence on social media, and families tell us they value the reminders for school events. Please contact the office if you can assist and or are prepared to share the role. I’d like to thank Marita and Tina for all their valuable work as the current Facebook coordinators.

After this week we have four weeks of school remaining and while class and specialist programs are continuing their focus on achieving their learning outcomes, much work is being done behind the scenes in preparation for next year. 2016 grade lists are being finalised this week and I thank families who have contacted us with requests for next year. A great deal of work goes into placing students in grades and there are many factors taken into consideration, including students’ friendship groups, teachers considering school data on academic abilities and needs, staff input on balanced work and social groups, and parent input on specific requests for their children. Once the grades are finalised, staff will meet to have a thorough handover of student information to 2016 teachers.

Angela Morritt
Principal
PARENTS & FRIENDS

Food Days
We are having our last food day for the year on Friday 27th of November and it will be a Baker’s Delight day. If you haven’t received an order form, extra forms are available at the front desk. Order forms are due back by Monday 23rd.

Baker’s Delight Christmas fundraiser
This year we will be selling Christmas cake and tarts from Baker’s Delight. We will be selling them for the same price as in store. Further information and order forms will be coming out soon.

Christmas Raffle
We are busy organising prizes for our end of year Christmas raffle. If you would like to donate items that can be used as prizes, please let the front desk know. Raffle tickets will be coming out next week, with the raffle drawn at our end of year School Christmas party.
Our next meeting will be next Monday 23rd of November at 9:30am (after assembly) in the staff room. We will be finalising details for the End of Year party as well as planning next year’s events. Everyone is more than welcome!

Kim Hill
On behalf of Parents and Friends

Library News

Book Club 2015
As I mentioned in the last newsletter we are returning to Scholastic Book Club for 2016. We will have three issues – Term 1, Term 2 and Term 4. We do not send one home in Term 3 as we hold our Book Fair. As our 2015 parent helper will be unable to take on this job next year we are looking for a new Book Club Organiser to manage Book Club. If you think you would be interested in taking on this role can you please contact me via the office? The position would entail a few hours once a term. I can show you what to do and will also be able to assist if required. When we run Book Club, everyone benefits—every Book Club order earns 20% in Scholastic Rewards to help purchase additional learning and literacy resources for our school.
We have previously used these rewards to stock up our Literature sets in the Grade 3-6 areas.

SALE, SALE, SALE
Next Wednesday 25th November at 3.30pm – 4pm and Thursday 26th at 8.30am- 9.00am I am holding a clearance sale in the library. All funds raised will be used to purchase the latest books that are available for many of the series that we have in our library such as The Weird Do series. Items on sale include brand new copies of Roald Dahl titles, posters large and small [from the school poster collection], original hand painted water colour images based on picture story books, Rainbow Magic fairy books [second hand but in excellent condition], adult fiction - great Christmas reading [also second hand but in excellent condition] and some other bits and pieces! There is nothing that costs over $ 2.00. Rainbow Magic books are 3 for $2.00! I look forward to seeing you there.

End of Year procedures
Just a reminder that as the end of year draws near we would like all library books returned to the library by December 4th. Borrowing will cease the week ending Friday 27th November.
If a child is reading a fiction book and requires more time to finish the book they can have a chat to me and we can work something out.
I will send home notes to remind you of any overdue books that your child has and I would appreciate it if you could help them to have a search for them.
If books have been lost a note will be sent home as per school policy that requests 50% of the cost of the book. I am very sorry but lost books are very expensive to replace – a hard cover
picture story book costs between $25 and $30, whilst fiction books can range from $10 - $20. Some of the non-fiction books are even more costly.

Thank you to those people who have contacted me regarding lost books. I understand that books can be misplaced or left at other relative’s homes. Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns regarding your child’s lost books.

If your child or family is leaving Greensborough at the end of the year can you please make sure all their books are returned.

Myer Christmas Windows
If you happen to be in the city, go and take a look at the Myer windows. This year they have based their Christmas windows on an Australian picture book about a lost dog. Corinne Fenton’s picture book “Little Dog and the Christmas Wish” is illustrated by Robin Cowcher and published by Black Dog Books. Shortlisted for this year’s Crichton Award it is a charming and nostalgic Christmas story set in the 1950s about a much loved Little Dog who finds his way home for Christmas. As you turn the pages, you will love recognising the distinguished Melbourne landmarks featured; Flinders Street Station, Collins Street and the Bourke Street Mall.

If you can’t make it in have a look at the link below

Happy Reading

Jen Farley
Librarian

Canteen News

With the last few weeks of the year approaching we are winding down our food stocks. Our last days of operation will be Wednesday 9th December and Friday 11th December.

Thank you all for your support. It has been a pleasure to serve you.

Joy and Linda
Canteen Ladies
Nude Food Day

Well done to all those students who came to school Tuesday the 27\textsuperscript{th} October with no packaging on their morning tea and lunch. Across the whole school we managed to only have 167 items of rubbish associated with food packaging. This is in contrast to last Friday, where the accumulative wrapper count was 218 pieces of packaging for morning tea and lunch. Well done to all 3/4B students who had the least amount of rubbish coming in at a minimal 16 items of packaging total. Let’s make our next Nude Food Day even better for our environment in 2016.

\textit{Chris Blake}
\textit{Coordinator}

SUBWAY SOUNDS CONCERTS

Hi all. Our concert activity for this year will once again be split into two parts. Our junior players (Prep to Gr. 4) will have their concert on Friday December the 11\textsuperscript{th} in the school hall starting at 2:30PM. All mums and dads are welcome and I would love to see you there as the younger musicians have been working very hard on their songs and are looking forward to the chance to show off their skills.

Our senior concert, as was done last year, will be taking place at the Panton Hill Hotel. This year our event is to take place on the Wednesday December 9\textsuperscript{th}. We are aiming to start playing at 7pm, however all families are welcome to arrive from as early as 5.30pm. I encourage everyone to bring as many family and friends to this event as you wish and I have been asked to ensure parents \textit{book ahead of time with the hotel} in order to get a good idea of the number of people attending the night. Please let them know you are part of the Greensborough Primary School event and they should be able to seat you near the stage.

This is to be the highlight of the musical work for the year and will involve all the senior children as well as many of my after-school students. All other members of the Greensborough Primary School community are welcome to attend including the school staff.

The Panton Hill Hotel is a family friendly establishment with a full restaurant and bar and has been entirely set aside for the Greensborough Primary School community for this evening. I feel this event will be a great experience for all the children involved as I know it was last year.

The drive to Panton Hill from Greensborough is only about 20 minutes. Please let me know if you are having trouble getting to the venue: my mobile is always with me (0407 160 191)

The hotel’s website is here \url{http://www.pantonhillhotel.com.au} with information about the hotel and their number is 9719 7270. So once again, do please book ahead of time as it is important for the hotel to get their numbers accurately for staffing the night.

I think this will be a fantastic event and I hope everyone has a great night.

\textit{Christian Duboudin}
\textit{(Subway Sounds)}
Skaters Christmas Party

Back by popular demand, GPS has another skate night coming up in December. Skaters Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday December 1st from 3:45 to 6:30 PM. Don’t forget to put the date in your diary.

- It’s a dress up party (Best costume wins a prize)
- Special prize if you can get your teacher to come.
- There will be other prizes on the night (Best skater, most improved skater, best attitude)
- Cost is $5 per skater (Includes skates and protective gear)
- Bring your water bottle.
- No self catering please.

This night is for all GPS students, family and friends, so invite everyone you know. Can’t wait to see you there!

Term Four ~ Week 5  Week Ending November 6th 2015

Prep ~ Jake ~ For always listening carefully to instructions.
Grade 1/2 A ~ Abdi ~ For working so hard to improve his reading. Keep it up!
Grade 1/2 B ~ Oliver ~ For his outstanding efforts at swimming every week and for ALWAYS coming to school with a smile.
Grade 3/4 A ~ Emmet ~ For writing a great recount about his long weekend. Keep it up!
Grade 3/4 B ~ Bailey D ~ For a great week of work in the class room. Well done!
Grade 5/6 A ~ Thommas ~ For his outstanding behaviour on our excursion to the Great Hall at Ivanhoe.
Grade 5/6 B ~ Cooper ~ For the great effort he put into his Sugar Film review in our Writing session.
Art ~ Heath ~ For working very well in Art and trying to do his best work. Well done Heath!
Student Wellbeing ~ Esther ~ For all the care and effort she put into her Gratitude card.
Library ~ Darcy M ~ For working so well during our Library session. Fantastic work Darcy!
Term Four ~ Week 6  Week Ending November 13th 2015

Prep ~ Lola ~ For sharing her knowledge with us about healthy food. Well done!
Grade 1/2 A ~ Evie ~ For working so hard towards all areas of learning. Keep it up!
Grade 1/2 B ~ Cash ~ For his hard work in writing this week and continually trying to improve his work.
Grade 3/4 A ~ Tristan ~ For an excellent piece of writing during our Big Write session this week. Well done Tristan!
Grade 3/4 B ~ Liam ~ For sharing your opinion during class discussions. Well done!
Grade 5/6 A ~ All of 5/6A ~ For being on their best behaviour while I was on leave. Thank you!
Grade 5/6 B ~ Molly ~ For being such a wonderful ambassador for our school at the Remembrance Day Ceremony.
Art ~ Monique ~ For her care and attention to detail in all her Art projects.
Library ~ Jackson ~ For his excellent responses about the non-fiction section and teaching Mrs Farley about humming birds.

Cybersmart Information Evening
Monday 23rd November 6-7.30pm

This session will be run by an ACMA’s Cybersmart Outreach Trainer and will complement sessions held with Gr3 – 6 students and also staff.

Please fill out the form below as an expression of interest if you would like to attend this session. This will assist us to plan for this event.

Cybersmart Parent Information Evening
I/We are interested in attending the Cybersmart Information Evening on Monday 23rd November.
Name: ______________________ No. of adults attending______

Kids Hope

This year is the 89th Festival of Families which is being held at St Mary’s Church, Grimshaw Street Greensborough at 7:30 PM on Sunday 6th December. The festival involves local musicians and singers, Diamond Valley Brass Band, St Mary’s choir Christmas carol singing and more. Non perishable food donations for Greensborough Food Share will be received and funds raised for Kalparin Intervention Services.

Scholastic Books

Are holding a warehouse sale at 9 – 11 Northern Road Heidelberg from Wednesday 2nd December to Friday 4th December between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM. 50% to 90% off regular prices. Fill a box with books and activity items for $40.