

EAGLE EXPRESS

Email: gormandale.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Thursday, 2nd March 2023



LEARNER



RESPECTFUL



SAFE

Gormandale and District Primary School fosters a community learning environment in which each and every member is nurtured to become a confident lifelong learner.



We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which we meet. We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future.



WHAT'S COMING UP?

Monday 6th
School Council Meeting

Wednesday 8th
GDPS Athletics

Thursday 9th
School Photos

Friday 10th
Assembly 2.45pm

Monday 13th
Labour Day Public Holiday

Thursday 16th
Hot Cross Bun Orders Due

21st/22nd/23rd
Swimming

Friday 24th
Hot Cross Bun Collection

GDPS Bank Details

BSB 033-222

ACC 019138

Gormandale & District PS Council

Principal's Report

Dear GDPS Community,

We are officially half way through term 1. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the families who attended our welcome bbq. It was great to see so many members of our school community reconnecting and it was lovely to hear from students the next day how much they enjoyed the afternoon.

Our annual pancake breakfast was a hit! Tricia and Michelle were able to mix and cook over 100 pancakes in preparation for the morning. The funds raised covered the cost of ingredients and the remaining money will go towards our grade 6 special day at the end of the year.

GDPS Athletics Day

Next Wednesday, we have our whole school athletics day. We look forward to the Kurnai College Certificate III VET Sport and Recreation students facilitating the event as part of their course requirements. The day will commence from 10am and conclude at approximately 1:30pm. Students will complete their regular classroom program before and after athletics day activities. We invite families to come along and enjoy the day with their child/ren. The Kurnai College students will also be providing wraps for lunch for our students. We do ask that parents pack ample snacks and a water bottle for the day. We will be very active on the day so students are required to wear suitable sports shoes and appropriate uniform. Students will wear their school hat and have access to sunscreen if required.

An events schedule for the day is attached at the end of this newsletter.



Clean up Australia Day at GDPS

Our sustainability leaders Lachlan and Billie-Rose will lead a 'school clean up' session tomorrow afternoon in line with Clean up Australia Day. We are proud of our school and want the appearance of our school grounds to reflect that.

School Photos

We have school photos coming up next Thursday. Students will have taken home an envelope with payment information. Payment can be made via cash or online. We have additional student and family envelopes available at the office if required.

NAPLAN

In 2 weeks time, our year 3 & 5 students will complete NAPLAN. The assessment is now completely online with the exception of year 3 writing. Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with the online platform by partaking in some practice test sessions over the coming fortnight. Our goal is for our students to feel at ease with the platform and feel confident and relaxed heading into the official NAPLAN sessions. If you or your child have any questions regarding NAPLAN, please see their classroom teacher. We will again be hosting a special breakfast in the morning for our students completing NAPLAN.



Swimming

Keep an eye out for permission notes which will be sent home with students in the coming days. Our swimming program will consist of 6 sessions that are held over a two-week period at the Leisure Centre in Churchill. We had a positive experience with our sessions last year and it is great to see our students' confidence grow with each session they attend.

Food Bank

We are expecting our next food bank order in the coming days. In this order, we receive family packs which include a variety of grocery items. There is no eligibility required to receive one of these packs. If you would like a pack, please text the school mobile or let us know at the office. As the packs do come in quite large boxes, we are able to pop them in reusable woolies bags if students need to take them on the bus.

New Library Shelving

Our new library shelving has arrived! This was the focus of our fundraising efforts last year and OSHC funding. Tricia has been busy swapping over books to our new shelves and we look forward to having our library looking refreshed.



Cultural activities

Next Monday afternoon, students will engage in some cultural activities focused on Chinese New Year. This is part of the intercultural capability's curriculum where students develop their knowledge and understanding of the diverse cultures around the world.

Hot Cross Buns

We are very excited to be taking part in Missen Link's hot cross bun-raiser. These hot cross buns have been made under the guidance of Trev from Bushies Bakery. \$2 from every pack goes directly back into our school. This year, we are raising funds to update classroom furniture utilised by students such as chairs and desks. Orders are due back at school by Thursday the 16th of March. You will be able to collect your orders from school on Friday the 24th of March.

New Bottom Playground Update

Today, Michelle and I met with the VSBA and the contractors who will be completing the works. I am very pleased to share that we expect the works to commence over our Easter school holidays. It is anticipated that the works will be completed over term 2 meaning we should be able to enjoy our playground over the second half of the year.

Have a great weekend.

Charleigh Williams



JUNIOR ROOM

P/1 MS WILLIAMS & MRS ANTHOFER



In maths this past fortnight, we have been exploring patterns! We have practiced making repeating patterns using our fine motor activities in our classroom. Students made a variety of patterns using 2 or more colours.

In writing, we have been learning about nouns. We practised identifying whether a noun was a who (person or animal), what (thing or an object) or a where (place).



MIDDLE ROOM

2/3/4 MRS JUDKINS



This week in class we have been working further on our persuasive writing. The topic for the week - **The Best Biscuit**. Students taste tested 4 different biscuits and wrote notes about what they liked and disliked. Everyone then ranked their favourite biscuit and came up with 3 reasons why their biscuit is the best. We have started to write a rough draft of their persuasive using a planner.

In maths we have been learning about the different language used in worded problems. Students have been playing relay races, sorting worded eggs into buckets.



SENIOR ROOM

5/6 MS ELRICK & MR HARRISON

In Literacy this fortnight, we have been writing some incredible narrative and persuasive pieces. Our persuasive pieces are getting stronger, and our narrative pieces are interesting and intriguing!

Our maths focuses have been place value, 3D shapes and data representation.

We have begun researching goldmines from the 1800s in History, and have experimented with watercolour pencils in some autumn-themed drawings in Art.

Our 2023 leaders were announced and they have already rolled up their sleeves and started getting to work!



ASSEMBLY AWARD RECIPIENTS



Parents Club

Parents Club held their AGM this week on Tuesday 28th February, and I would like to thank the 2022 Parents Club Committee for their amazing efforts and their time to the school.

Our 2023 Committee has a few new faces including myself, Linda Aitken as the new President. I would like to personally thank and acknowledge Ellen Sykes for all of the hard work she has done for the Parents Club and our school. Although I feel I have very big shoes to fill, I know Ellen is there to help me along the way. Also, a big thank you to Belinda Diamond for the amazing work she has done as secretary.

Our new committee consists of Chrissy de Hommell as Secretary, Ellen Sykes, Jeffery Watson, Vicki Thexton, Rachel Cousins, Tristan Bloor, and Charleigh Williams. We are always happy to have more Parents Club Members and volunteers. If you would like to join Parents Club, we would love to have you on board. We are always open to suggestions as to how you would like to see Parents Club money being spent so come along and have your say.

One of our ongoing responsibilities is to keep our lunch orders up and running. Without the help of committee members and volunteers who assist with processing, preparing and serving lunch orders each week, we may lose this wonderful service for our children. If you have some spare time to help out on a Tuesday, please contact myself or Michelle in the school office. As little as an hour can be such a big help.

We are excited to have our annual Easter raffle going ahead this year. It will be drawn on Thursday 6th of April at the end of term assembly. Raffle tickets will be out in the next couple of weeks. If school families or members of the community would like to donate some eggs for our raffle, please contact or drop off at the school.

Other special dates to remember:

Mothers Day stall will be on **Friday 13th May**. Special Lunch Orders returning in term 2, chicken tender wraps will be on offer on **Thursday 25th May**. Firewood raffle, drawn on **June 2nd** at assembly. Thank you to Vicki Thexton & Neil Heywood for your generosity of the donation. Fathers Day stall and Wheel-a-thon will be held later in the year.

Our next Parents Club meeting will be held on **Tuesday 2nd May, at 9am**. Come and join us for a cuppa and talk about raising funds for our amazing children and our amazing school.

Thank you

Linda Aitken



Thank You

- **Jeff for collating and serving hot lunches**
- **To the Tucker Night Ladies who supplied us with some extra ear muffs in the 2/3/4 classroom**
- **To Robyn and Martin for donating icypoles for our students**



GDPS ATHLETICS DAY

WEDNESDAY 8TH MARCH, 2023

Next Wednesday, GDPS will have their very own athletics day thanks to the Kurnai College students. Parents can arrive **from 10:00** and meet students and staff down at the school oval. We ask that you please park in front of the school, and not in the staff car park.

There is a free lunch provided to students only, please send their usual snack, water bottle and an alternative lunch if they do not eat wraps or rolls. Students have had the opportunity to pre-order the roll/wrap they would like. During lunch time, students are able to interact with parents/families. Students will be expected to remain with their year level group throughout the day and parents can follow the group. We ask that parents do not remove students from the group during the event sessions.

The focus for the day is on sportsmanship and on positively encouraging students to have a go. Given that this is a learning and assessment opportunity for the Kurnai College students. Please allow the students and the staff to direct and provide instructions to the students.

Parents may take students home for an early departure at the conclusion of the presentation but must advise the class room teacher to sign their child/ren out. Please only to take photos of your child participating in the day.

Age Group	10:10 am - 10:30 am	10:30 am - 10:50 am	10:50 am - 11:10 am	11:10 am - 11:30 am	11:30 am - 12:00 pm	12:00 pm - 12:20 pm	12:20 pm - 12:40 pm	12:40pm - 1:00 pm	1:00pm- 1:20pm	1:20pm
Prep	Shot Put	Distance 400m	Long Jump	Footy Kick	Lunch	Water balloon toss	Discus	Sprints 80m	Relays	Prizes and Wrap up
Year 1	Sprints 80m	Shot Put	Distance 400m	Long Jump		Footy Kick	Water balloon toss	Discus		
Year 2	Discus	Sprints 80m	Shot Put	Distance 400m		Long Jump	Footy Kick	Water balloon toss		
Year 3	Water balloon toss	Discus	Sprints 100m	Shot Put		Distance 700m	Long Jump	Footy Kick		
Year 4	Footy Kick	Water balloon toss	Discus	Sprints 100m		Shot Put	Distance 700m	Long Jump		
Year 5	Long Jump	Footy Kick	Water balloon toss	Discus		Sprints 100m	Shot Put	Distance 700m		
Year 6	Distance 700m	Long Jump	Footy Kick	Water balloon toss		Discus	Sprints 100m	Shot Put		