

NEWSLETTER

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Tuesday, 23rd November 2021

Dear Families,

As you know this week is our last week of swimming; I must say that I have enjoyed hearing from the students how they have enjoyed their lessons. I am fortunate I get to join them this Wednesday to see the progress of our swimmers firsthand; I won't be hoping in the pool though - I'll leave that to the very capable swimming instructors at Ford Swim Centre. The students have been requested to bring a spare pair of shorts and a t-shirt to wear in the pool tomorrow as part of their program.

GDPS Out of School Hours Care

I have some exciting news to share regarding our GDPS OSHC initiative. The School Council have agreed to accept the Expression of Interest from Gumnuts Early Learning Centre to provide the OSHC program at GDPS. School Council completed a rigorous evaluation and sought feedback from several schools that have worked closely with Gumnuts Early Learning Centre and the response were very positive. At this stage, the plan is for the GDPS OSHC be available for before and after school care at the beginning of the school year. Should you wish to get more information about Gumnuts Early Learning Centre please visit their website <https://gumnutselc.vic.edu.au/>; just follow the links to explore the 'before/after school care' options.

Assembly

Last Friday we held our first whole school assembly for some time, and I was very impressed with the whole experience. Thank you to those families who joined us remotely via WebEx; the students were excited to see our community connecting with us this way. I was proud of our Yr5/6 students who lead components of the assembly; we plan to involve our students in the Assembly more and more. Given it was our first remote accessed assembly we have made some adjustments so that the students can be heard; we welcome all feedback so that we can provide an enjoyable experience for all involved. Also, apologies that I missed adding the start time of the assembly within the newsletter; for future reference, the GDPS Whole School Assembly will be at 2:30pm every Friday (except on the last day of term due to the early finish time). The WebEx link will be sent out via uEducateUs each week for families to access.

Yr6 Graduation and Christmas Concert

The decision regarding the venue for the Yr 6 Graduation and GDPS Christmas Concert has been a difficult one to say the least. I have tried to meet with a cross section of our school community

Term 4	Coming Up	Term 4	Coming Up
24th Nov	Swimming—Please bring T-Shirt and Short to wear over bathers— Water Safety Session	1st Dec	Wheel-a-thon Fundraiser
25th Nov	Swimming—Last Day—No Pie Warmer or Hot Lunches	7th Dec	State Wide Transition Day
26th Nov	5/6 Excursion—Permission Due	8th Dec	Grade 6 Graduation—Details to come
30th Nov	School Council Meeting—on site 6.30pm	9th Dec	Whole School Excursion to In- flatable World—Permission Note sent home

(students, staff, parents) to try to gather the perspectives of all; coupled with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, in particular the removal of density limits, and with the weather unpredictability, we have decided to hold both occasions at the Gormandale Community Hall. The community hall does provide the opportunity for students and staff to prepare the space well in advance and to rehearse without distraction from poor weather. It also allows for both occasions to be accompanied with some special digital effects that will add to the experience of the students. These are both really special times for our students, and we want all loved ones to be able to share in them; so we have planned to live stream the occasions for any family members who are unable to attend. Thank you to the Parent Club who plan to provide light refreshments (tea/coffee) for families who attend and a light supper for the students (popcorn & drink). Santa Clause will also be making an appearance during the Christmas Concert to share some 'goodies' with the students.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SW-PBS)

This week we have shared the GDPS SW-PBS focus for the week, which is 'Be an eagle in the Playground'. Our Eagle Team students will be looking for students who are demonstrating the behaviours at school. If you get a chance, please take a moment to take through the information in the poster with your child.

COVID Update

- All parents who enter school buildings must check in and wear a mask.
- Parents and carers who enter school buildings must also have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and must have had two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 29 November 2021 or have a valid medical exception.
- All staff are required to be fully vaccinated by 29 November 2021 unless a medical exemption applies. They will be required to show evidence of their vaccination status.

Some of our Yr6 students continue to participate in their transition program to ensure they are familiar and reassured about their move to secondary school. We are excited for them but also feel a little sad that they will be leaving GDPS.



Have a great week, Leanne Sinnaduari, Acting Principal

Support for your kids to get active

Does your child love sport and being active? Does your family have a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card? You may be eligible for up to \$200 to put towards the cost of your child's participation in physical activities.

As children return to sport over the coming months, the Get Active Kids Voucher Program helps [eligible families get their kids involved in organised sport and active recreation activities](#).

Under the program, children may be eligible to receive up to \$200 to help with the cost of membership and registration fees, uniforms, and equipment.

The program also provides a special consideration stream to support children residing in care services as well as temporary or provisional visa holders, undocumented migrants or international students.

Applications for vouchers in round three of the program close at 5pm Tuesday 30 November.

For eligibility requirements and to apply, visit the [Get Active Victoria website](#).



SWIMMING

Please note that children take their lunch with them to the pool so there will be NO pie warmer lunches OR lunch orders. Kids can often get hungry after all that swimming so an extra snack might be needed.

Remember to pack a towel and a dry pair of undies if they are wearing their others under shorts in the pool. You will also need a plastic bag for wet things. If children can wear their swimmers underneath to school, that will save a lot of time changing. It is a good idea to label any personal belongings.

The school will provide a swim cap for students. If your child would like to bring goggles, please ensure they are packed as well. Some students may be feeling many different emotions towards swimming which is normal. If you have any questions or concerns please let their class teacher know.

TOMORROW 24th Nov also bring a t-shirt and shorts to wear over bathers for water safety session.



Just a reminder to keep you children at home if they are unwell. If anyone shows signs of illness at school they will be sent home.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Next Tucker Night is December 10th, keep any eye out for more details to come

Emu Spotting on the way to GDP\$ last Thursday morning. How lucky are we to live or work in this beautiful area!



.....ICY POLES.....ICY POLES.....ICY POLES....

Starting this Friday the Grade 6 fundraising team will be selling Icy Poles.

They are \$1 each.

Meet Xsara or Cooper at the black couch before school to order yours for lunchtime collection.

Thank you Thank you Thank you

Dorrie & Leanne for running breakfast club each morning.

Last Weeks Awards



**Congratulations to last weeks
award winners:**

Eagle Award: Cooper, Hollie & Milla

Principals Award: Brooke

Reading 250 Nights: Elsie

Reading 200 Nights: Hunter H, Ava H,

Reading 150 Nights: Coupa

Reading 100 Nights: Billy, Heidi, Emily S

Playground Award: Emily E

PARENTS CLUB

We have nearly made it to the end of 2021.

Just a reminder that our Wheel-A-Thon will be next Wednesday. We will be running the day a little differently this year with the Wheel-A-Thon commencing at the end of lunch time. The children will ride until 3pm. Don't forget to find your sponsors kids.

We will be having our last meeting for the year on Wednesday 1 December at 1.00pm before the Wheel-A-Thon anyone is welcome to attend provided they comply with the School's COVID rules.

Keep an eye out for our Christmas Raffle tickets coming home in the coming days. The Raffle will be drawn at this year's end of year Concert. We are now seeking donations for prizes, these can be left at the school office, just a reminder no homemade cooked goods or close to used by date perishables please.

We raised \$163 from special lunch orders and Junior school council made \$38. Thank you to all those families and students who supported this fundraiser.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole school community for getting behind the Parents Club this year. It has been a long slug but the end of 2021 is in site.

Stay safe everyone.

Thanks,

Ellen Sykes Parents Club President





ASK US WHAT WE'VE BEEN LEARNING IN OUR GERMAN CLASS



KINDER TRANSITION

Here are some photos of the 2022 prep students during their transition session yesterday. We read a story about a spider and then made our own spiders and webs by hold punching, threading and colouring. It was a great activity to practise our fine motor skills.



LOST PROPERTY

Parents/Guardians don't forget to check out our lost property pile at school. There are a lot of items in need of a home at the moment.

Thanks Michelle

BE AN EAGLE!

In the playground...

LEARNER

- I will follow the rules of a game
- I will come to the line on time



RESPECT

- I will put my rubbish in the bin
- I will return borrowed equipment
- I will include others



SAFE

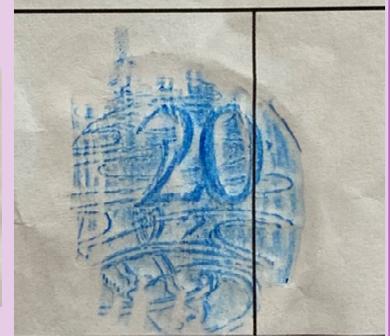
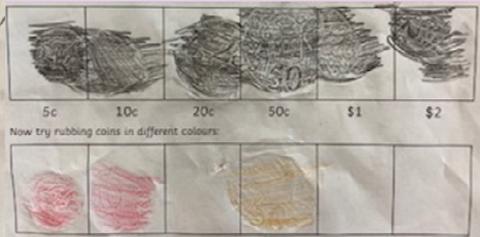
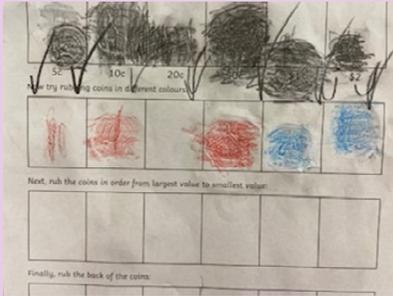
- I will use equipment safely and appropriately
- I will wear a hat or coat when appropriate



AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

JUNIOR ROOM

Money, money, money! Yesterday we explored the features different coins and discussed the animals and shapes. For soft landing (mindfulness) after lunch, we practised some coin rubbing.



MIDDLE ROOM

Children enjoyed their first week of swimming last week. This weeks marks the last week of swimming (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). Children have been working on procedure writing for National Fairy Bread Day tomorrow.



SENIOR ROOM

The grade 5/6 students enjoyed working with and supporting their P/1 buddies to plan and write a story. The 5/6 students read a picture book to their buddies as a stimulus. We discussed the characters, setting, problem and solution.

