

NEWSLETTER

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Tuesday, 16th November 2021

Dear Families,

As we move very quickly towards the 'pointy end' of the year there is much to share with you within this week's newsletter.

GDPS Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)

I am very excited to announce that GDPS has been successful in our submission for the Round Two OSHC Establishment Grant. The purpose of the Establishment Grant is to ensure that OSHC providers and schools have time to build a service that supports the demand and provides quality for the long term for our community. Together with the GDPS School Council, the School is working with the Department of Education to source a reputable OSHC provider. This means that in 2022 we plan to have the OSHC option for our families to access before and after school hours. As we move through the various steps involved in the process, I will ensure I keep you informed via the newsletter. At this stage, we have not entered into an official agreement with a OSHC third party provider.

Student Reports

Our teachers are busy completing end of semester assessments and compiling semester two student reports. At GDPS we know it is vital to involve students and their parents/carers in learning. This includes providing a written report to parents/carers on student progress and achievement at least twice a year. The Department of Education and Training has recently adjusted the expectations around student reporting for Semester 2 in recognition of the disruption caused by COVID-19. GDPS will therefore provide a modified written report for the parent/carer of each student enrolled at the school for Semester 2, 2021 focusing on what progress has been made and what has been achieved by each child. Specifically, reports will include student achievement represented on the continuum of learning for Maths and English as well as progress

Term 4	<u>Coming Up</u>	Term 4	<u>Coming Up</u>
17th Nov &18th Nov	Swimming	1st Dec	Wheel-a-thon fundraiser
23rd Nov- 25th Nov	Swimming	8th Dec	Grade 6 Graduation—Details to come
26th Nov	5/6 Excursion—Note to come	15th Dec	Xmas Concert

1. Parents will receive an SMS on the morning their child is absent.
2. Parents provide a reason for the absence either via the uEducateUs app; by sending a message to the school mobile (0490 502 691); or phoning the school 5197 7444.
3. If the school has not received a reason for the absence by 11:00am, an SMS will be sent again requesting a reason for the student's absence.
4. If the school has not received a reason for the absence by the following day, a note will be emailed or sent by hardcopy requesting a reason for the student's absence.
5. Finally, if the school has not received a reason for the absence after 5 days, the school will make a phone call regarding the student's absence.

As you can see it is quite important for our school to keep student attendance records and we hope that we can encourage families to use the uEducateUs app or SMS the school on the morning of the student absence. Should you require help with the uEducateUs app, please contact the school and we can provide you with some training (and a cuppa).

School Christmas Concert and Yr6 Graduation Update

I had hoped to share some details regarding the location of the GDPS Christmas Concert and Yr6 Graduation Ceremony within this newsletter; unfortunately, it is not the case. I have tried to gather as much input from the community as possible to try to make both celebrations as enjoyable and accessible for the students and their families as possible. Some of the factors that we have



considered include student participation, family accessibility, weather conditions, GDPS tradition, COVID-19 restrictions, just to name a few. With the changes to the COVID-19 restrictions regarding density limits proposed to come into place on the 26th November, I ask that you give us one more week to make the venue decision. Thank you in advance for your patience.

Hats and Joggers

It is great to see all students wearing a wide brimmed hat whilst outside – even though our weather has predominately been wet and dreary during the past few weeks, our students are demonstrating good sun safe behaviour – thank you to parents for providing and also encouraging your child to wear their hat. Can I also request that on Wednesdays all students wear joggers/ running shoes as they will be participating in their weekly Physical Education session. Joggers are more comfortable for students to run and move in, they also reduce the risk of foot and ankle injury. If your child does not have a pair of appropriate footwear for PE, please contact the school and we will try to help you source a pair.

Assembly

This Friday, we are excited to announce the return of our GDPS whole school assembly. Due to DET COVID Guidelines, parents will unfortunately not be able to join us in person this week, however we are planning to live stream the assembly – plus we will get to have a ‘practice go’ of the assembly prior to families joining us in person! Once COVID-19 restrictions have eased further we intend to invite families along to the assembly as well as offer the option for families to watch the assembly from a live stream if they that can’t make it on the day – I know I love this option with my own children’s school assemblies. The DET is very clear regarding the streaming options for schools to ensure we protect the privacy of our students and staff. In preparation, I ask that you download the app ‘Webex Meetings’ on your device.

The Meeting link is listed below should you wish to access the assembly on your computer; once clicked it will prompt you to download the Webex software.

<https://eduvic.webex.com/eduvic/j.php?MTID=m3ac810069a16e42e8a7771640c7d2fa7>

For those that choose to use the Webex Meeting app the details are listed below:

Meeting Number: 2652 884 5597

Password: TMv462ZY3JJ

I will open the meeting at 2:00pm in case families wish to have a practice logging in or want to troubleshoot prior to the assembly starting. We look forward to you joining us.

Have a great week, Leanne Sinnaduari, Acting Principal

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.



Eagle of the week

**Congratulations to last weeks
Eagle— Owen & Ava P**



COMMUNITY NEWS

**Check out the awesome
footpath, just completed
outside the school grounds.**

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

Thank you Thank you Thank you

**Dorrie & Leeanne for
running breakfast club
last week and this week.**

**Thank you Bel, Jeff, Elle
& Peta for organising
and preparing the spe-
cial lunch for last Thurs-
day**



AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

JUNIOR ROOM

Secret Ninja School! Last week, we started training to be secret ninjas. We work very hard during our literacy block in the mornings and break it up by building our core muscles, balance and coordination while going on

an
adventure
at the
same
time.



MIDDLE ROOM

This week we have been learning the “i_e” sound in class for our phonics lessons. Everyone is very excited to start swimming today!



SENIOR ROOM

Brain breaks are an important part of our day! We have been implementing regular brain breaks to support students wellbeing and stimulate student engagement.





BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS





PREP TRANSITION 2021

