

NEWSLETTER

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Thursday 15th September 2020

Dear Families,

Welcome to the final week of Term 3. This has been a term of unusual circumstances that have us in the incredible position of living through a historical moment. We are also in the fortunate position to be able to see some light at the end of this tunnel.

With the decision being made in the past week to remain in remote learning for the first week of Term 4, the school have made the decision to return to full on site learning Monday the 12th of October. *More details will be provided in the first week of Term 4, once we are able to finalise arrangements.*

Learning for Week 1 of Term 4 will be sent via the uEducateus platform on Monday the 5th of October, before 9:00am.

Back to school – let's get excited!

We are in the process of planning a “virtual camp” for the first week back at school. This will occur during the school day, and be at school. No special arrangements will need to be made by families and information will be send out in Week 1.

We are planning to have the Monday and Tuesday of Week 2 as a series of activities and virtual tours that will allow our students to re-connect with their teachers and classmates. This will help us to meet the priorities of the Department of Education and Training. The main priority upon our return to school is the wellbeing, and particularly the mental health, of every student and member of staff. This means encouraging and sustaining motivation for learning, re-engaging students where needed, and supporting the social and emotional learning of children alongside curriculum-based learning. We hope that our virtual camp will provide an engaging start to our term, and foster the excitement of reconnecting with peers. We are all very excited for this activity, and seeing everyone back at school!

The staff of Gormandale & District Primary School, would like to say thank you for all of the support from our community during Term 3. You have all shown a great deal of resilience and flexibility as we have moved into a new standard of normal.

We look forward to being back on site on the 12th of October. Have a safe and restful holiday break,

Tamara Halket, Principal

TERM 3 & 4 2020	DATES TO REMEMBER
18th September	Last day of Term 3-Finish 1.15pm
5th October	First day Term 4—Remote Learning
12th October	First day Term 4—On Site Learning
13th October	School Photos—John Ansell Photography
20th October	Dress Up Day—Book Week

WANTED IN THE MIDDLE ROOM

Shoe boxes and cardboard tubes
(not toilet rolls)

BOOK WEEK

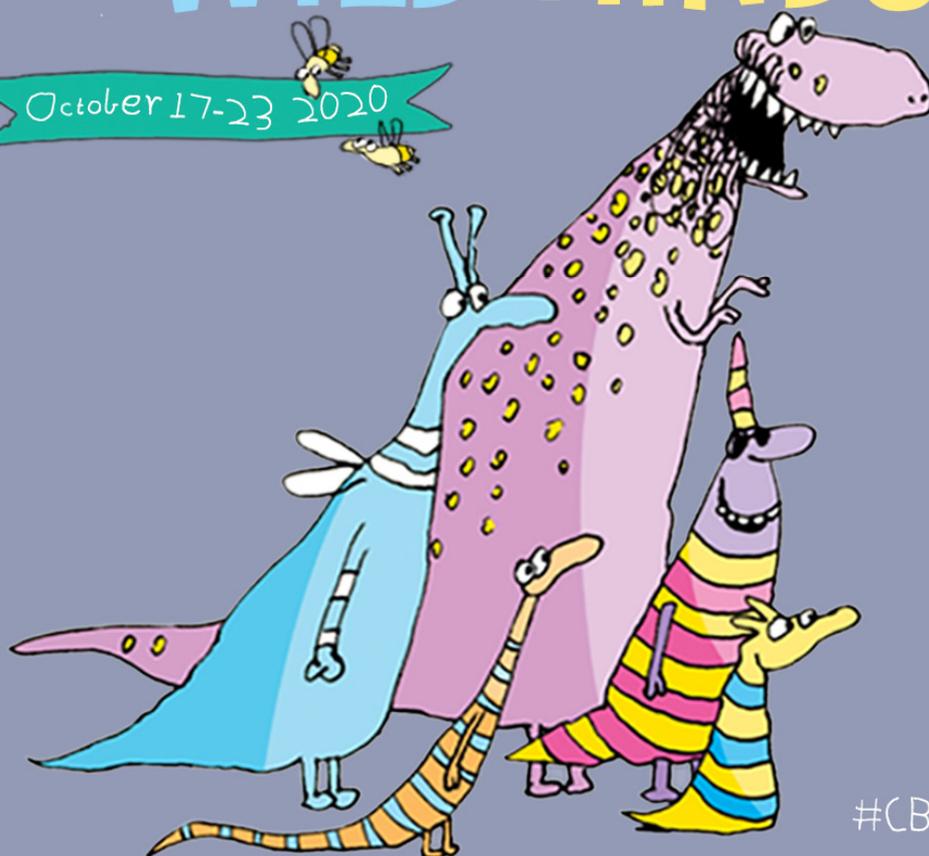
We are hoping to have a dress up day on Tuesday,
20th October for Book Week.

Children will be asked to dress up as a character
from a book and bring the book with them

CBCA Book Week

CURIOUS CREATURES,
WILD MINDS

October 17-23 2020



THE CHILDREN'S
BOOK COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA

#CBCA2020

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

15th September 2020

WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT CHILDREN ARE BOTH SEEN AND HEARD

“Children must feel that they can speak and just as importantly, they need someone who will listen to them...”

If a child is feeling anxious or stressed, they need to feel like they can tell a parent, guardian or loved one. Likewise, if they are going through a traumatic experience like bullying, they need to feel they can tell someone. And if they are behaving erratically they need someone who will notice and take action, enlisting the help of a professional if need be.

Children must feel that they can speak and just as importantly, they need someone who will listen to them.

Remember the old saying: *“Children should be seen and not heard”*

Nobody knows for sure who uttered this phrase first but one thing is for sure – it certainly caught on! It's a saying many of us would have heard growing up. Some of you may have even said it to your own kids. And whilst it might be used in a light-hearted way most of the time, it's a phrase that couldn't be further from the mark.

Children have so much to offer the world. In many ways, adults can actually learn a lot from children. Here are just five of them:

Unbridled enthusiasm. In the mind of a child, life is an adventure to be explored. Each day should be met with passion and a desire to embrace new experiences.

It's OK to ask for help. The support of a parent or guardian is essential for young kids. They need help and generally don't hesitate in asking for it. Adults can be a lot more hesitant to embrace their vulnerability and seek support when needed.

Accepting emotions and letting them show. If a child is sad, angry, confused, happy or tired – chances are they'll let you know about it. Bottling up emotions doesn't help anyone.

Be more curious. Children have a hunger to learn. They also have no hesitation in asking questions to find out things they don't know. Curiosity feeds knowledge but it also builds empathy and forces us to listen. It should be a lifelong trait.

Don't judge. As author Charles Swindoll famously said, “Prejudice is a learned trait. You're not born prejudiced; you're taught it.”
(Source: www.beyondblue.org.au)

Brian Heath
School Chaplain
0492 863 669.

PS: According to Beyond Blue, at least 3,000,000 Australians are suffering with depression or anxiety right now.

R U O K....The COVID-19 crisis is greatly impacting the area of mental health. Maybe you or someone near you is feeling totally overwhelmed. A very helpful first step to re-