Forthcoming Events

July 1st
Grade 6 students continue to visit local kindergartens

July 22nd
Parent surveys to be returned

July 28th
Swimming commences (12-1pm)

July 30th
School Council Meeting (3:50pm)

August 4th
Sheepvention

August 8th
Swimming finishes

WANTED (for Art room)

Empty match boxes for this term please.

Could each student please supply an empty match box for use in Art.

PLEASE NOTE; THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL BUSES RUNNING ON SHEEPVENTION DAY MONDAY 4TH AUGUST. PLEASE MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THOSE STUDENTS EFFECTED.

Education Maintenance Allowance

Information about changes to Education Maintenance Allowance as a result of the School Reform Agreement made between the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government.

What is changing?

In the recent School Reform agreement signed with the Commonwealth, the Victorian Government has changed the way it helps low income families with education expenses.

From 2015, the Government will distribute the funds previously used for the EMA directly to schools. DEECD will develop the arrangements to be used to distribute these funds to schools – consultation will occur with stakeholders about this.

The Bank of Melbourne continue to conduct school banking every second Wednesday. For those students currently partaking, please note next banking day is Wednesday 30th July. Any students wishing to start school banking, kindly see the representative on that date to sign up and begin saving.

ATTENTION

Swimming money is now due. Cost of $60 – per child. Swimming commences Monday July 28th and finishes Friday August 8th. There is no swimming on Monday 4th August due to sheepvention.

ALSO

Camp deposits were due in May. Please send your deposit ASAP.

As part of the healthy eating campaign, home made pizzas were on the menu at GSPS this week for our senior students. Here Brenda, Trey, Tajhaun and Brooklyn, ably assisted by Tracey, calculate the correct amount of each ingredient to be shared amongst the hungry crew. They looked great, smelt fantastic and tasted divine. Who’s up for pizza???
**From the Principal’s Desk**

Welcome back to what should be an exciting term. I hope everyone managed to have at least a few restful days during the holiday period. It turned out to be a very expensive time for me as I purchased a new puppy, named Hudson, along with a new car. Yes, it is a Jeep and yes, I do hear constantly, "You bought a Jeep?"

This term we see our students take full ownership of their learning as the school initiates its Student Led Interviews, which will replace the Parent/Teacher interviews held previously. These interviews are an important aspect of your child’s learning, therefore it is critical that they have a family member or friend attend. They will present a folio of their learning and discuss their journey with you. What they learnt, how they learnt and importantly what they have done to overcome obstacles.

These folios take considerable time and effort, therefore it is critical they have a family member present. This is a unique component that has been running in Melbourne schools for a number of years.

Although we introduced Catherine Azzopardi in the last newsletter, I’d like to give her another warm welcome to the school. I’ve popped in a couple of times and the children are certainly having fun.

Also, some parents would have received our annual Parent Opinion Survey. If you have, please take the time to complete this and forward it back to me ASAP. These surveys are an important part of our learning journey and growth. We do take the feedback on board. Positive feedback is immediately taken back to staff for those successes and the less positive is analysed in order to make improvements.

Can I please remind parents of the following:

* Please ensure your child is on time to school in the morning as this time is dedicated to our Literacy Block.

* Label all school uniform. Uniform is continuously going missing and some has not been labelled.

* The front school grounds are NOT drop-off zones for students. This area is for SCHOOL BUSSES only. Cars dropping children off in this zone create congestion and danger for our students. Students need to be dropped-off either in rear car park or at George Street.

A quick reminder also that camp and swimming money is now due. Swimming is part of our PE program, therefore it is part of the curriculum and as such is a whole school event.

Tina Walkeden
Principal

**What’s happening at GSPS.**

**ARTIST OF THE WEEK—WEEK 1**

This term in Art, students will be learning about weaving. This week the junior students created a boat scene using a paper plate, large icy-pole stick and some cardboard. We weaved strips of cardboard through part of the paper plate for a sail.

Weaving is a tricky skill to learn. So well done all! Congratulations to our Artist of the Week, Saydz. Saydz is a quiet, hardworking student who always gives 110%. She is happy to help others and help to tidy up when the lesson is nearing finish time. Well done Saydz!!

Hello to Miss Azzopardi (above) who joins us this term from Melbourne and goodbye to Mr Membrey (below) who is returning to Melbourne. We wish them both all the best as their young careers take off.

Jai proudly shows his folio to Kaylene, Tracey, Merrilyn and Mr Membrey, as he prepares for the student led interviews which are to be held during September.

This is a fine example of how our "Buddy" system works as Hayley proudly shows Brenda her outstanding work. Our senior students all have a junior student as their "Buddy" and one hour per week is allocated to spend time together to build relationships.

Our newest enrolment "Hudson", is proving to be very popular. His favourite subject is eating closely followed by sleeping and is doing very well at both. 10/10.