



# George Street

PRIMARY SCHOOL, HAMILTON, VICTORIA

Newsletter # 3

23rd March 2017

## George Street

Primary School  
HAMILTON

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### March

29th—School Council @ 4pm

30th—Mitchell Park Kinder visit

**31st—End of term 1. 2:30pm finish.**

#### April

18th - Term 2 commences



Our Thursday morning Playgroup is proving to be very successful. Under the leadership of Tracy and Kaylene, they cover a vast range of activities from singing, dancing, colouring, playing in the sandpit and in the playground, cutting and pasting and my personal favourite playdough. So come and join the fun every Thursday of the school term at 10am.



CONFIDENCE



PERSISTENCE



ORGANISATION



GETTING ALONG



RESILIENCE

The Keys to Success

School Council President: Barb Hall Principal: Tina Walkeden  
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Email: [george.street.ps.hamilton@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:george.street.ps.hamilton@edumail.vic.gov.au) Website: [www.georgestham-ps.vic.edu.au](http://www.georgestham-ps.vic.edu.au)

## From the Principal's Desk

Firstly, I can't believe how quickly this term has gone. Term 1 is always incredibly busy and this year has been no different. Students settled in very well, quickly forming friendships with our new preps.

### Parent/Student/Teacher

Our parent teacher interviews held on Wednesday were another way we meet our communication commitment to you, our parents. Thank you to everyone who made the time to meet with our staff.

The day was informative and well attended. Term 3 will see our students take ownership of these meetings as they present their learning to family.

### Skool Bag App

I'd like to remind parents that GSPS now has the SkoolBag app, so please follow the prompts included in this newsletter to download the app. Our Facebook account is to predominantly share the teaching and learning that is occurring across the school. By using our webpage, Facebook, SkoolBag app and newsletter, we are able to offer multiple ways of communicating. Any important notices can be accessed by Skoolbag.

### Staff Focus

This term we have continued our focus on reading and writing, including spelling. Two staff members attended The Big Write professional development session in Warrnambool and will be sharing their learning with others, along with being trained in the CAFÉ reading strategies for consistency across classrooms. Children love their reading and as you know, effective reading raises children's levels across a number of learning areas.

### Camps & Excursion Fund

For those parents that hold a health care card, you would have received a note to register to receive assistance towards camps /excursions. These applications have been endorsed and those eligible will have the money offset towards their child's camp and swimming costs.

### Attendance

I am still concerned at the number of students who continue to have time off from school regularly. The Department monitors attendance data and is focusing on data this year. Can I please remind parents that school is compulsory and attendance is critical for children to learn effectively. Children must play catch-up over work missed and this is incredibly stressful. Education is the best thing we can provide for our children. We set them up for life with a good, solid education. We are aiming for 98% attendance this year. If your child is away, please provide a medical certificate on their return.

### Reading at Home

Reading for students should be a pleasurable way of spending time. We are currently instilling this to our students and reminding them that it is not homework. We have recently spent considerable money in order that the school is up to date with the latest resources, including new books and interactive TVs to listen to and read stories online. Wouldn't it be a wonderful way to spend 5 minutes one on one time with your child either reading to them, or listening to them read to you? Remember to discuss the text. Ask them what it was that they just read, who was it about, how did things happen, how did they feel about it etc. as this allows them to comprehend the text.

### School Holidays

A quick reminder that our final day of the term is next Friday 31st. The last day of term is always an early finish at 2:30. Have a wonderful holiday and stay safe when travelling.

Tina Walkeden



#### Term dates 2017

Term 1 : 31st January—31st March  
Term 2 : 18th April—30th June  
Term 3 : 17th July—22nd September  
Term 4 : 9th October—22nd December

## What's happening at GSPS

### SENIOR ROOM



Over the past couple of weeks, students in Senior Room have been exploring measurement. During this time they have undertaken numerous tasks, from creating robots and finding out their measurements, to measuring different objects and using technology to solve problems. Students have enjoyed these "hands on" tasks that engage them with challenging concepts.

### EASTER RAFFLE



Each family should have received a book of 10 raffle tickets last week.

Could you please ensure all tickets, together with proceeds, are returned to the front office by Wednesday, 29th March.

Raffle will be drawn at school assembly at 2:15 pm on Friday, 31st March.

Extra tickets are available at the office.



### DID YOU KNOW:

There are no words in the English language that rhyme with; month, orange, silver, purple.

It is physically impossible to lick your elbow.

The first McDonald's opened in Australia was in Yagoona NSW in 1971.

The worlds oldest person is Emma Morano who is 117 years old and lives in Italy.

Did you try to lick your elbow???????



24th March—Iesha Retallick  
28th March—Connor Overton  
29th March—Tyler Watt  
1st April—Meihana Marsh  
3rd April—Taylan White  
5th April—Tate Snell  
8th April—Latoya Agnew  
10th April—Alexis Sciascia  
14th April—Caprice Batt  
14th April—Levi Bourne  
16th April—Chloe Stott  
18th April—Ben Hall

### WANTED FOR JUNIOR CLASS



About 20 empty 2ltr clear plastic bottles for students to make terrariums.

## What's happening at GSPS.

### PREP CLASS



The Prep students have been enjoying using instruments in music. They have been talking about the tempo and dynamics of music and have been keeping the beat using instruments such as tambourines, clapping sticks, maracas and drums.



**The 2016 Annual Report will be tabled at School Council meeting on Wednesday 29th March. All parents are invited to attend the reading of the report.**

**Winter uniform to be worn next term.**

**NO summer dresses.**

### BBQ helpers wanted.

The Hamilton Rotary Club is looking for parent/carer helpers During the National Heritage Rally, April 21–23. Helpers will be required to assist with the BBQ from 11am to 2pm each day, and a donation to the school will be made for our contribution. Please contact the office if you can help.

### REMINDER



Bulb orders are due back Wednesday March 29th. Please return all orders to the office.

**CHILD SAFE** We are committed to the health, wellbeing and safety of children and have a zero tolerance to abuse.

# Skoolbag

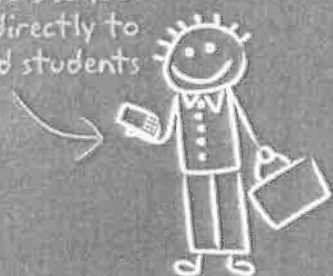
Smartphone school to parent communication



Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- School, free push notification alerts
- School events
- School newsletters
- School documents
- School RSS feeds
- School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



## How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

### iPhone & iPad Users

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

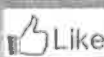


### Android Users

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook! 

Find out more at [www.skoolbag.com.au](http://www.skoolbag.com.au)

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