



# Gloucester Public School Newsletter

Opportunity - Innovation - Excellence

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**Term 4 Week 7**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017**

### Dates to Remember

- 20/11 - 1/12 Int. Swimming
- 22/11 - 25/11 Schools Spec
- 27/11 Smooth Start K 2018
- 4/12 Year 6 Auction
- 4/12 Smooth Start K 2018
- 5/12 Presentation Night 6pm
- 7/12 Citizenship Movie Day
- 11/12 Smooth Start K 2018
- 12/12 Year 6 Farewell
- 14/12 Semester 2 Reports go Home
- 14/12 Class Party Day - further Details to follow
- 15/12 End of 2017 for Students
- 19/12 End of 2017 for staff

### Assemblies

- Week 7 - 4D
- Week 8 - Citizenship  
Assemblies 11.30am & 2pm
- Week 9 - Yr 6 Final  
Assembly
- Week 10 - No Assembly

### Canteen Roster

- 22/11 Tracey Bignell  
Liz Davis
- 24/11 Tash Henrickson  
Karen Johnson
- 27/11 Jayne Fry
- 29/11 Brad Sparke  
Ruth Edwards
- 1/12 Ange Parish  
Margo Cameron



## KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November



## Message from the Principal -



### P&C Christmas Raffle

Don't forget our Christmas hampers to be raffled on Presentation Night.

The P&C has sent home a small book of raffle tickets for \$1.00 each to every family to sell. Tickets will also be sold at Presentation Night on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at the RSL at 6.00pm. Please send non-perishable items to the office. A collection box is located in the admin area.

Thank you for your support and for helping raise funds for the students of Gloucester Public School.



### Schools Spectacular

Good luck and best wishes to our team and Mrs McLeod. I am extremely proud of all your efforts over the last term. Our team of 20 are part of a 3000 strong choir at the event. I can't wait to see you all performing on Friday and Saturday night. Thank you to all the dedicated parents and carers for their commitment over the next 5 days, without you our team could not participate.

### Salute to Australia - Australia Day in Sydney

Our GPS choir will be participating in the 'Salute to Australia'. This is the second time our school will participate and this year we are singing on board the ship 'The Young Endeavour'.

Today permission notes, media consent notes and sheet music was sent home with students. We now have 25-27 students attending. Students have been asked to bring a USB to school by this Thursday for the 3 songs/tracks to be loaded for students to rehearse. Students should start practising this weekend. Our first rehearsal is next Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November in our lunchtime.

**For your diary** - The mandatory rehearsal for the 'Salute to Australia' is 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at the Sydney Congress Hall (Salvation Army) 140 Elizabeth Street Sydney from 1.30pm to 4.00pm. You will meet Mrs McLeod at the venue. Parents and carers are asked to deliver their child/ren at 1.30pm and collect their child/ren at 4.00pm. Thank you

Our songs this year are Bapa by Dr G Yunupingu, I am Australian and Advance Australia Fair. More information will come home next Monday 27<sup>th</sup> regarding a Video Conference and the media visiting our school to film our 'Salute to Australia' performers.

### HELP NEEDED

The Year 6 Farewell organising committee needs your help. If anyone has battery operated white Christmas/fairy lights we can borrow for the farewell, could you please send them to school to Mrs Amy Schafer asap. Thank you. They will be returned to you after the farewell evening.

*Yours in Education*  
*Leanne Wakefield*

**FOR SALE**  
From our school garden  
  
Spinach - \$1.00/bunch



## Kindy Corner

**We are focusing on**

**Weekly Blends:** tr and gr

**Weekly Word Family:** 'an'

**Weekly Sight Words:** not, say, house

**Number Focus:** Reading, writing, counting and ordering numbers 0-1000

**Maths Focus:** division, fractions, position, data

**News:** This week our news topic is 'share a special memory'. This may be a special family memory to tie in with our family booklet we have been working on.

*Loryn Bratfield, Alicia Taylor and Susie McLeod - Kindergarten Teachers.*

**3-6 Assembly**  
**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November**  
**2.10pm**  
**Hosts/Item = 4D**  
**Everyone welcome!**

### Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will be closed this Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

The uniform shop will be open for a few extra days this term for Kindy Smoothstart days. These days are Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Opening times for these days will be 9.00am to 11.00am.

*Leanne Kearney*

*Uniform Shop Coordinator*

### Class Awards - (Week 6)

- KC** Riley Blanch  
Ryder Guttridge  
Shirley Guiren  
Dean Griffin (E)
- KS** Amelia Fenning  
Sienna Sanderson  
Sam Griffin  
Ava Saunders (E)
- KL** Layla Collins  
Reanna Gorton  
Ewan Sheely  
Bodhi Murphy (E)
- 1S** Kyharlee Holden  
Christopher Bolton  
Emma Latimore  
Holly Davies (E)
- 1M** Olivia Wade  
Lara Taylor  
Liam Wamsley  
Sami Soupidis (E)
- 2G** Bodhi Ashby  
Chelsea Wenham  
Alice Murphy  
Rahni Coulton (E)
- 2T** Jacob Whittaker  
Fallon Hardy  
Daniel Hoptman  
Mia Blamires (E)



Daniel Rowney  
Nicholas Maslen  
Mae'e Parks  
Marshall Guttridge  
Krystal Penfold  
Bradley Higgins  
Shirley Guiren  
Thomas Hooke  
Ale'andra Parks

### Year 6 Farewell Meeting/Workshop

The next committee meeting for Year 5 parents/carers helping to organise the Year 6 Farewell is next Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 3.10pm in the 5/6C classroom.

All parents/carers of Year 5 students are welcome to attend. We will spend some time supporting the decorating team and putting together any last minute plans.

*Year 5 Teachers*

# library news

## Book Club

The last book club for the year was sent home with the students at the end of last week. This is due back on Thursday November 30.

I realise we only recently had a book club, however we were unable to offer it in Term 3 due to a new system being implemented in the office. This extra book club is to make up for that.



## Activities club

Each Thursday this term some wonderful volunteers from Stage 3 have been running various activities at lunchtime in the library. From drawing lessons to origami and lego challenges, the children have been having a great time.

A big thank you to our wonderful volunteers who have at times conquered nerves and stage fright to run these activities.



## Library borrowing coming to a close

This week will be the last week of borrowing for the year. All books that have been borrowed from the library must be returned next week in order for us to begin our annual library stocktake in Week 9.

Overdue notices will also be sent home shortly. If you receive one of these can you please take some time to have a search for the missing books. Unreturned books cost our school a lot of money and we may request that the cost of these lost books is reimbursed in order to replace them.

*Kim Macdonald*  
*Teacher Librarian*

## Kindergarten Orientation

Yesterday was our Kindergarten Orientation for our 2018 students. Excited children came into the school and had the opportunity to become familiar with the Kindergarten rooms and some very important school routines (with a little help from their big Buddy)!

Thank you to Year 4 students who were fantastic role models and a wonderful support to these new students. Your kindness, helpfulness and maturity played a very important part of this special day!

Smooth Start will continue for our new Kindergarten students on Monday mornings in Weeks 8, 9 and 10.

We look forward to welcoming Kindergarten 2017 back to the school on those days.

I would also like to thank all of the speakers at our parent information session and make special mention of the P&C who provided a delicious morning tea for our Kindergarten parents/carers.

**Susie McLeod**

**Kindergarten Orientation Coordinator**



## Upcoming Choir Performances

Our School Choir has a very busy performance schedule for Term 4. There are a few out of school performances and we would really appreciate your support in bringing you child/ren to each of these events.

Date	Concert	Venue
<b>Monday 4 December</b> (School Time)	Baptist Church Seniors Christmas Lunch	Baptist Church Hall
<b>Tuesday 5 December</b> 6:00pm	GPS Presentation Evening	Gloucester RSL
<b>Friday 8 December</b> (During School Time)	Narraweema Christmas Party	Narraweema
<b>Sunday 10 December</b> 7:00pm approx	Carols in the Park	Gloucester REC Centre and Sporting Grounds
<b>Wednesday 13 December</b> (During School Time)	Kimbarra Visit	Kimbarra Lodge

**Good luck to our Schools Spectacular children!**

**ONLY 1 MORE SLEEP!**

Tomorrow we begin our big adventure at Sydney Olympic Park. I'm sure we'll have lots of stories and photos to share when we get back, so watch this space!

Thank you to all the families who are supporting their children throughout this experience! They will have the experience of a lifetime! - **Susie McLeod** ☺



# STAGE 3

## What's Coming Up?

### *This week!*

Wed 22 Nov PtoH high school visit to GHS

### *Next week!*

Tues 28 Nov Yr 6 Farewell Committee meeting/working bee 3.10pm

Thurs 30 Nov GHS Orientation Day (full day)

Fri 1 Dec 11.30pm Yr 3-6 Awards Assembly

### *Week 9...*

Mon 4 Dec Year 6 Auction

Tues 5 Dec Presentation Evening - all students encouraged to attend

Thurs 7 Dec Gloucester Citizen awardees special event

Fri 8 Dec 2.00pm Year 6 Final Assembly - parents and community friends welcome!

### *Week 10...*

Tues 12 Dec Year 6 Farewell

Wed 13 Dec Year 6 go to classes to fulfil their auction duties

Thurs 14 Dec Class/Stage Party

Fri 15 Dec Final day - Year 6 Walk of Honour 2.40pm - parents welcome! Bring the hankies!

As you can see, we have a fairly hectic schedule in the lead up to the end of the year. We also have a lot of preparation to do to prepare for many of these events. It certainly is an exciting time of the year!

### Year 6 Baby Photos

All baby photos should be in by now. Also, remember to bring in your note and \$15.00 for the farewell so we can begin organising catering and other arrangements.

### GHS Orientation Day - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November

Next week, Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November is the full day Gloucester High School Orientation Day. Students will make their own way to and from Gloucester High School either by normal bus

transport or other arrangements organised by their parents.

Please do not send your child to GPS on this day as no transport from GPS to the high school is available.

Please ensure your child attends this important orientation day as it allows them to form vital relationships with their peer leaders and key GHS staff members. It is a great opportunity for parents to find out more information about the school and key staff. Parents are welcomed for the morning session to hear more about Gloucester High School, with the opportunity to meet staff and ask questions.

Students should wear full GPS uniform, enclosed leather topped shoes and school hat, bring recess/lunch or money for the canteen, and bring a water bottle. Something to write on and a pen would also be useful.

Should you require further information, please contact me at school on 6558 1303 or the GHS Office on 6558 1605. Students not attending GHS in 2017 should attend Gloucester Public School as normal.

### Year 6 Auction - Monday Week 9 - Buy a Year 6 Student!

Yes, it's that time again!

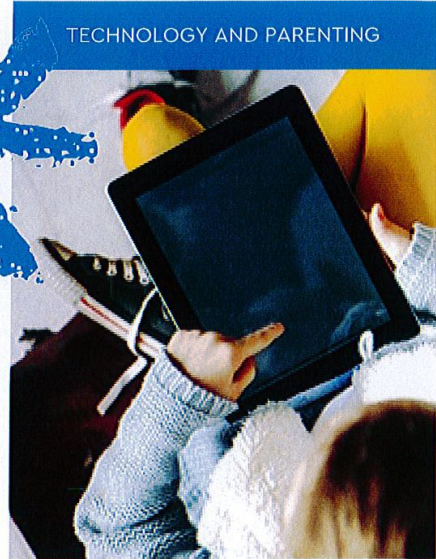
Ever wanted to buy your very own Year 6 student? Imagine owning one! You could finally boss them around as you liked..... get them to carry your things around..... clean out your tote tray or classroom..... maybe even get them to do your school work!

Well, this opportunity doesn't come around very often. It's time to get together with your classmates, teachers, best friends and buddies, to try to snatch one of these Year 6 students at the upcoming Year 6 Auction on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December (Week 9).

Bring a couple of dollars, combine it with your friends or class and see if you can bid successfully for the right to 'own' a Year 6 student for a few hours and show *them* who's really the boss! Year 6 students will come to your classroom on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December for a few hours to do as you command.

All money raised goes to the Year 6 gift to the school. Be part of the fun!

*Mr Maggs and the Year 6 Fundraising Committee*



## What rules should you have around digital devices? (Primary School)

by Michael Grose

*Children's digital technology needs to be managed and monitored by parents. That means we need to have some rules and guidelines in place.*

I'm often asked about rules and guidelines for children in the early and primary school years about digital devices such as tablets and mobile phones. This is new ground for most people whose own parents didn't have to worry about digital technology. How to persuade kids to leave the television and play outside was the extent of the screen worries of the previous generations of parents.

Digital technology, with all its advantages is here to stay. It connects us to each other in ways we couldn't imagine even a decade ago. It enables us to communicate to our kids when we don't know where they are. It creates new interests and cultivates creativity.

You'd have to be living under a rock to not realise that digital technology also presents new challenges such as cyber-bullying, worries about social media and children's exposure to inappropriate images. Digital devices give kids access to a virtual world that is totally seductive particularly for those with poor impulse control. Also the nature of technology means that children can spend a lot of their time heads bent and staring into a screen, which is not healthy in the long-term.

Children's digital technology needs to be managed and monitored by parents. That means we need to have some rules and guidelines in place. Each family makes up their own rules to suit their circumstances but the following suggestions will help you put some order into the digital devices that come into your home.



### 1. Hold off as long as you can

The age when a child first gets a mobile phone is getting younger. Now most young people seem to have a mobile phone when they start secondary school. I'm currently working with parents who are struggling to hold off on their child's mobile phone until secondary school but it's a continuous battle as cries of 'everyone else has a phone' is ringing in their ears. If you took all these message from kids seriously you'd think that they were all born holding a mobile device and they've had an Instagram account since they were two.

Kids pester power works in a way that you tend to feel guilty that you are somehow denying your child a basic right or access to something vital to survival such fresh air. Best to develop an easily repeatable mantra such as

# parenting \*ideas

"That's great. But every family is different and we do things our way." They may whine when you say it but stick to your own way of parenting, which is not always easy. Alternatively, take the compromise route of allowing a child to borrow your phone, or having a family phone that all kids can use.

## 2. Be prepared to learn

Giving a digital device to a child has more parent strings attached to it than say, giving a box of Lego or most other items of play. With most toys you can leave them to their own devices to play by themselves, which is the basic point really. It's not so simple with a digital device. Be prepared to learn some new games and stay up-to-date with social media trends. Snapchat anyone?

## 3. Put rules in place first

This is an interesting one. If you give your child a device, then later place restrictions on when its overused or used poorly then there's every chance that you'll be seen as the bad guy/gal. Better to put restrictions on in the first place and loosen them later, or better still reward their responsible use with greater freedom. Timing is everything.

## 4. Change rules if need be

Most families seem to have a child who thinks that rules are made to be broken so they always push boundaries, limits and parent patience. Parents, on the other hand, should work from the notion that rules are made to be changed. Be prepared to change your rules based on your child's behaviour, maturity, sleep patterns, incompletion of homework, bullying or other issues that will invariably crop up and cause you to realise that the rules you set just aren't working.

## 5. Keep digital technology out of bedrooms

If there was one rule that you should stay firm on, then this is the one. Many of our children are in sleep deficit as it is, without bringing digital devices into the frame. They may say they want to charge it in their room. If so, keep the charger in a public place. They may even want to use their mobile or tablet to wake up in the morning. I applaud them for taking on this task but insist they use an alarm clock instead.

## 6. Have a digital detox one day a week

The only way that this idea will work is if you join them in making one day a week a digital technology free day. They will probably not like it, and neither will you, but the point of having one day off is to prove that they can live without their digital device and to engage them in different forms of communication and entertainment.



### Michael Grose

*Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 10 books for parents including Thriving! and the best-selling Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It, and his latest release Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children.*



