



Gloucester Public School Newsletter

Opportunity - Innovation - Excellence

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Term 4 Week 2

This week's expectation: **Wear full school uniform with pride**

Tuesday 17 October 2023

Dates to Remember

23/10 P&C Meeting
27/10 Family Breakfast
3/11 Kinder Excursion
3/11 Stage 1 Excursion
7/11 Stage 2 Excursion
6/12 Presentation Night 6pm
12/12 Year 6 Farewell

10/11 Information Session
for Kinder 2024
Parents/Carers
10/11 Smoothstart for
Kinder students
17/11 Smoothstart for
Kinder students
24/11 Smoothstart for
Kinder students

Canteen Days: Monday
Wednesday
Friday

Uniform Shop is open
Friday mornings 8.30am -
9.30am Weeks 1,3,5,7,9.
(EFTPOS or Cash)

Please check our SkoolBag
App (now known as 'Audiri')
for updates daily.
This is the easiest way to
stay up-to-date with
school events, last minute
notices, newsletters and all
school communications.

1. Download the app
2. Create an account
3. Add our school

Transition to School Program Kindergarten 2024 at Gloucester Public School

SMOOTHSTART – TRANSITION TO SCHOOL PROGRAM – 10.00am to 1.00pm

Parents and carers are asked to escort their child/ren to an area near the Kindergarten classroom at 10.00am and return to collect them from the same area at 1.00pm on the dates listed below. **We have a drop-off/pick-up area for Smoothstart.**

SMOOTHSTART Dates 2023 – Kindergarten classroom

Friday 10 November 10.00am – 1.00pm (Week 5 – Term 4)
Friday 17 November 10.00am – 1.00pm (Week 6 – Term 4)
Friday 24 November 10.00am – 1.00pm (Week 7 – Term 4)

Children will be involved in a variety of activities, for example –

- Structured play
- Listening to stories
- Art and Craft
- Learning activities

During these visits your child will gain the confidence and skills to enable them to successfully enter Kindergarten in 2024 and ensure that your child's transition from preschool to primary school is successful. Participation in this program is voluntary, however highly recommended.

Children will need to bring morning tea, a water bottle and a hat.

PARENT/CARER INFORMATION SESSION – FRIDAY 10 November 12.00 to 1.00pm

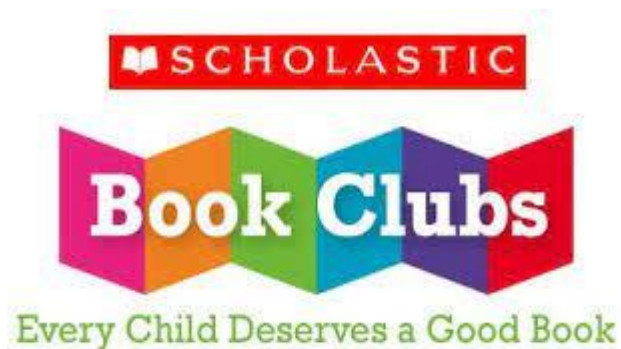
Our Kindergarten information session will consist of –

An informative presentation for parents and carers in our library, followed by refreshments. School uniforms will be available to order after the information session or at our uniform shop.

You can then collect your child from Smoothstart (Kindergarten classroom).

School Dates 2024

Thursday 1 February – Best Start Testing
Friday 2 February – Best Start Testing
Monday 5 February – Kindergarten begins 9.00am – 3.00pm



Book Club

Brochures are going home this week for our last Book Club for this year. This is a chance for you to boost your child's home reading library as well as helping our library purchase books through reward points that we earn.

The easiest way to order is online in Book Club Loop (all the information is in the brochure) but orders must be received by **Wednesday 25th October** as that is the day that the order will be placed. No late orders can be accepted.

Given the time of year we are fast approaching, if you would like some or all of your purchases to be a surprise, please select the 'gift' option in LOOP or let me know and we will hold the books at school for collection by you rather than handing them out to the child.

Kim Macdonald
Teacher Librarian

After school Schools Spectacular rehearsals

Our rehearsals have begun!! We are doing a Monday lunchtime rehearsal and a Thursday after school rehearsal from 3.00pm – 4.00 pm (we know this will not be ideal for everyone).

Please see Thursday afternoon rehearsal times below:

- Term 4, Week 2 - Thursday 19 October
- Term 4, Week 3 - Thursday 26 October
- Term 4, Week 4 - Thursday 2 November
- Term 4, Week 5 - Thursday 9 November
- Term 4, Week 6 - Thursday 16 November



Parents are required to collect students from Mrs McLeod's room at 4:00pm. If you have made alternate arrangements, please advise with a note. Students may like to bring an afternoon tea snack for the Thursday rehearsal. A **permission note** for our Thursday afternoon rehearsal was sent home last week.

All students should now have a **copy of the primary choir score (song booklet)**, a **weekly rehearsal schedule** and all the **songs on a USB**. We have also added the songs to the Stage 3 google classrooms, which all Year 5 & 6 students should be able to access.

If any Year 4 students require google classroom access, please just let us know.

Please ensure your child comes to see Mrs McLeod ASAP if they have not received any of the above-mentioned items.

Year 5 Parent/Carers - Year 6 Farewell meeting reminder



Our next meeting to plan the Year 6 Farewell will be held on Tuesday next week, 24 October, in Mrs McLeod's classroom (the Stage 3 classroom closest to the hall) at 3.15pm. We hope to see as many Year 5 parents as possible to make this event as successful as it can be.

Rod Maggs – Assistant Principal – Stage 3



Our first Family Breakfast event is coming up fast! We are aiming to put the FUN into Fundraising and are hoping to see lots of family members there as we celebrate World Teachers' Day.

MUFFIN DONATIONS

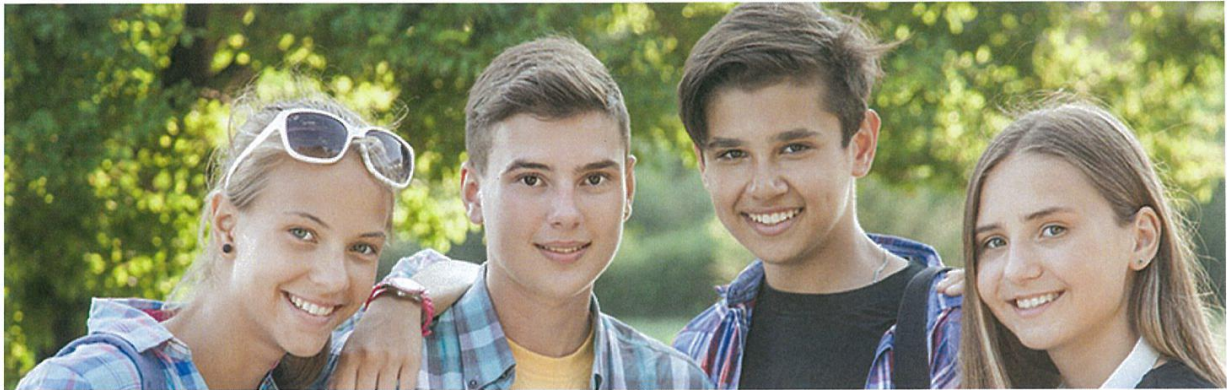
We are looking for donations of muffins for our Family Breakfast on the 27th October (next Friday). Muffins (sweet or savoury) can be dropped off at the stand on the morning of the breakfast as you arrive. Please label the container you bring them in to assist in easy return after the event. All muffins will be sold for \$2 with all proceeds going to the school.

****no nuts please****

The next P&C meeting is Monday 23rd October at 6:30pm in the library. We always love to have new members join us.

Thank you - GPS P&C

Making a smooth transition to secondary school



Going to secondary school is both exciting and scary for many kids. There's excitement about new friends, teachers and ventures, but this can be overshadowed by anxiety and stress.

The sheer size of a high school building can be overwhelming to the uninitiated. The potential loss of status when moving from big fish in a small pond to tiny minnow in a large ocean can be hard to swallow for some. Add the increased number of teachers and the hormonal changes that accompany puberty and drive emotional and cognitive development and it is little wonder the first year of secondary school often sees a plateauing in learning. Most kids are flat out making new friends and getting used to how secondary school works, so learning takes a back seat for a time.

While it's easier for those who have a brother or sister already there who can pass on some tips about how to survive secondary school, many don't have that luxury. Fortunately, there are number of strategies parents can use to make the transition to secondary school easier.

Know the school space

Familiarity helps reduce anxiety. Most secondary schools have familiarisation programs for incoming students but it helps to reinforce with your young person where the key spaces are – such as administration, toilets, the tuck shop and drinking taps. A trip to the school during the holidays, if possible, can help reassure a nervous secondary school starter.

Make the leap with friends

Negotiating new friendships can be stressful so it helps to identify some friends from primary school or outside school that your child can travel with or meet up before school, at lunch breaks and during times when classes aren't scheduled. This will give them the opportunity to share and compare experiences, which is therapeutic for kids who are experiencing change.

Help with planning and organisation

Some students can be overwhelmed by the organisational demands of secondary school. If your child fits this category, be prepared to be on hand to coach your young person in the finer arts of being on time to class, organising work in folders, planning homework time, handing in multiple assignments and filling out forms.

Set up a designated study space in the home

Now that your young person has hit the big time it's important that they have a study space to call their own. Keep this outside the bedroom if possible – the bedroom is a space for sleeping and relaxing. Use any area that is reasonably quiet and well lit. Set up a desk with a computer, if possible, along with stationery items.

Establish a work schedule

parenting*ideas

If your child's primary school homework was given inconsistently then be prepared for a change. Most secondary schools try to coordinate homework between different teachers but there will be more times than not when your child will come home with multiple homework assignments to complete. Build the homework habit early and choose a regular time that allows for breaks. Encourage them to work quickly so that work does not drag on and become demotivating.

Stay patient and positive

The social and academic demands of going to secondary school can be mentally draining for young people. Some will miss old friends and the relative comfort of primary school. It's important for parents to be patient with their young person, to expect a few behaviour blowouts and to be prepared to listen and help them process their new experiences. If your young person has negative experiences, point them in the direction of the good things that may happen during the day.

Your young person's coping mechanisms are being tested during this time. They can change on a daily basis. If stress becomes overwhelming or persistent to the point that they don't want to go to school after the initial settling-in period, consider organising some extra assistance. A year-level coordinator, school counsellor or the local doctor can be good starting points should extra assistance be needed.

Starting secondary school is one of many transitions your young person will face in life. With planning and support, your child can make a positive start to secondary school and enjoy an amazing time at their new school.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

Class Awards Term 4 Week 1



Kindergarten - Wathu: Harriet Christensen,
Toby Brooks



Balay - Charlie Rawlings



1 Wathaan - Ace Baker, Lachlan Sansom,
Tylar Garland



1 Bikan: Michael Harris, Braxton McDonald



2 Guula - Maddison Hennessey, Zeke Predebon,
Jaiden Schumacher



2 Wayila - Olsen Landers, Tomas Dellsperger
Harrison Leitch



3/4 Burrang: Gracie Tukuafu, Leon Blanch



3/4 Dhurrung: Harrison Fisher, Izzabell Goodwin



3/4 Gukandi: Aidyn Edgerton, Cooper Walker, Dane Laurie, Spencer Haschek



3/4 Gulan: Hetvi Bhandari, Spencer Galvin, Aliyah Matri



5/6 Mikiri: Krickett Jolliffe, Hallie Coubrough, Ryder Martin



5/6 Wambuyn: Jade Everett, Hunter Williams



5/6 Witjagit: Rhys Redman, Maggie Compton



5/6 Wurrn: Jasmyne Warner, Khloe Blanch, Miller Ribbons



Expectation Awards:

Mayson Williams
Tomas Dellsperger
Harrison Leitch

Year 5 Students – Application for Selective High School Placement in 2025

A note was sent home last week to all parents/carers of Year 5 students with details on how to apply for a Selective High School placement in Year 7 in 2025. It is important to note that this process will close on 20 November 2023.

If you feel your child may be suited to such a placement, it is highly recommended that you discuss this with your child's class teacher or myself for further information regarding their suitability.

This is an excellent opportunity for our high performing students to extend their learning opportunities as they head into Year 7.

Mr Rod Maggs

Assistant Principal – Stage 3

