



GWANDALAN PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Tuesday 12th May, 2015

Term2 Week 4

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Our new **three year school plan** is now available on our school website. Please make sure you have a read of the initiatives and planning processes for the next three years. This school plan is different to the previous school plan and contains a whole school vision statement, along with three strategic areas devised through the consultation with the staff, parents and the school community.

This week we see Year 3 and Year 5 completing NAPLAN tests in Writing, Language Conventions, Reading and Numeracy. I have attached below a list of tips for taking tests that parents, carers and students might find useful for the week ahead. The list comes from the ACARA site- www.nap.edu.au/verve/resources/10_tips_for_taking_tests_April_2015.pdf

Some important tips ones include:

1. Focus on doing your best with the questions in front of you, rather than thinking about how you did in past tests.
2. Eat breakfast – a mix of protein (like eggs) and carbohydrates (like toast).
3. Drink water. Avoid energy drinks, which may interfere with your levels of concentration.
4. Get a good night's sleep.

STAFF CHANGES

We welcome Mrs Jo Ham back to Gwandalan after her time relieving at Swansea. Mrs Ham will now take the SAO position in the office with Mrs Clarke taking up Mrs Ham's position 3 days a week. We would also like to thank Mrs Withycombe for all her work over the past three weeks.

EVENTS

On Monday our leaders will be attending the Grip Leadership conference. As mentioned before we look forward to hearing about their leadership experience there. Our Rugby league team will be playing the Classic Shield on Friday and we wish them luck. Thank you Mr Vine for coaching and organising the senior team.

NAPLAN

Year 3 and 5 students will be participating in the NAPLAN Testing this Tuesday 12th May through to Thursday 14th May, 2015. Friday 15th May is set aside for catch up testing. Should you require a note regarding NAPLAN, they are available in the office.

**2015 National Consistent Collection of Data
FAIRNESS IS NOT EVERYONE GETTING THE SAME.**

FAIRNESS IS EVERYONE GETTING WHAT THEY NEED.

Data collection takes place in government, Catholic and independent schools across Australia. The National Consistent Collection of Data is a process which involves collating data about any types of adjustments required and will provide valuable information relating to the support put in place by the school for a broad range of students.

Adjustments are put in place to offer all students access to the learning program and learning environment.

Adjustments:

- are changes or modifications made to help the student or a group of students participate on the same basis as students without a disability
- reflect the assessed individual needs of the student and can be made in both the classroom and whole school settings as well as at the individual student level
- assist the student to use or access the school's facilities and services
- are planned and implemented after collaboration has taken place

Please feel free to discuss any questions you may have with the class teacher. Appointments may be made through the office.

YEAR 5 OPPORTUNITY CLASS PLACEMENT IN 2016

Parents of Year 4 students who are interested in applying for a placement in an Opportunity Class in 2016 are reminded that applications close **Friday 15th May 2015**. All applications must be made online www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. For further information, please refer to letter sent home in Week 2 or see your child's class teacher. Additional information can be found www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement.

SKOOL BAG

If you haven't done so please download the Skool Bag app. There is no cost involved. Just go to the play store and type *Gwandalan Public School*. This is a valuable communicative tool. It can be used to advise us of absences and you will receive alerts relating to many activities happening at school.

Dates to Remember	
Tuesday 12th May Wednesday 13th May Thursday 14th May	NAPLAN
Monday 18th May	BOOK FAIR Grip Leadership Conference
Wednesday 20th May	Elenor Duncombe Testing
Friday 29th May	Zone Cross Country
Monday 8th June	Queens Birthday Holiday
Wednesday 20th May	Knockout Netball
Friday 26th June	Last day term 2

PAYMENT OF MONEY

All payments should be handed in to the class teacher at 9am when school starts. The money will then be sent to the office for processing. A receipt will be given to the teacher who will return it to your child. Parents are welcome to pay at the counter or over the phone if paying by ETFpos

MEDICATION

Parents of children that currently receive daily medications at School are asked to call into the office in order to replenish medications when needed. We cannot have students carrying medications to School on themselves.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please advise the office of any changes to your own contact details or your emergency contacts. It is very distressing for your child when they are not well or have injured themselves and we are unable to contact anyone. Should you need to update personal details on your child's records please be aware that you can do this via the skoolbag app. Simply select the eform icon change of details form

P & C NEWS

We would like to thank all the P & C Volunteers, Parent Helpers, Staff, Students and Parents/Carers for making our Mother's Day BBQ Breakfast and Stall a fantastic success. It was great to see so many of you enjoying yourselves. We hope you had a wonderful morning. Congratulations to Rachael for winning the lucky door prize. Well done GPS!

A special thankyou to Jack & Harrison's Pop for making all the timber signs that we sold at our Stall, Studio 95 at Gwandalan for the lucky door prize, Tracey for making the lovely gifts, Year 6 Helpers and for all the donations of gifts that we received to sell at our Stall.

Raffle Winners:-

1. Tori 4/5 C
2. Joel 5/6 T
3. Jack D 6V

Watch this space next week for total amount raised. Thank you all for your continued support.

GET THE EDGE DANCE PROGRAM

This exciting program will be taught by specialised teachers who have designed and adapted a dance program, to meet the requirement of the skills and fitness components of the PDHPE syllabus. Please remember to return your completed permission forms with payment to your class teacher.

CREATIVE AND PRACTICAL ARTS GROUPS

CAPA Round 2

This week, all Year 3 to 6 students will be choosing their CAPA groups for the next 10 week round, which starts on Wednesday 20/5/2015.

The two prepaid activities are the popular Intermediate Guitar (\$70 for 10 weeks) and Beginners and Intermediate Ukelele (\$50 for 10 weeks).

Positions are limited and places will be filled by the first students to pay for the lessons. Payment upfront is required. The notes for these paid activities will be sent home on Wednesday.

Activities run by the teachers include; Junior and Senior Visual Arts, Aboriginal Dance and Culture, Sculpture, Weaving and others.

The students are encouraged to join a different group than last time to learn some new skills.

Term 2 Week 4

Social and emotional learning: Suggestions for families- Part 1

Parents and carers have a critical role to play in guiding and supporting children's social and emotional learning. Social and emotional skills develop with practice.

Everyday situations present lots of opportunities for children to learn and practice skills for coping with emotions, managing relationships and solving problems.

You can help children build the skills they need by providing effective coaching.

This resource is part of a range of *KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff*. View them online at WWW.kidsmatter.edu.au

Assembly Awards 2015 Term 2 Week 3		
Class	Name	Reason for Award
KS	Liam Knight	Improvement in handwriting
KS	Sierra Rampone	Improvement in reading
KS	Jesse Cunningham	Always trying to produce "QUALITY" work
KS	Allyra Markham	Making positive contributions to all class discussions and activities.
1J	Kiara Walton	Beautiful manners in class
1J	Amber Cunningham	Always following the rules
1J	Cody Nuttridge	Working hard in reading groups
1J	Mitchel Harrison	Excellent results in his spelling test
1W	Aaliyah James	Clever work when counting, grouping and sharing in maths.
1W	Sam McCormack	Improvement in listening and following instructions.
1W	Riley Campbell-Butler	Producing quality work in HSIE.
1W	Bryce Gibson	An excellent Information Report on kangaroos.
2W	Blake Smith	Excellent effort at the Cross Country
2W	Makyla Merritt	Creating a wonderful dot painting
2W	Bodhi Henry	Always offering to help others
2W	Jacinta Cruise	Excellent creations using the painting app on the ipad
2P	Oliver Yule	Working hard in mathematics
2P	Zophia Karakatsanis	Always producing quality book work
2P	Kyle Baker	Improved effort and application
2P	Beau Wilks	Improved effort and application

YOU CAN DO IT AWARDS:

Getting Along Award	Tiana Eastough
Confidence Award	Erin Beeby
Organisation Award	Tea Rampone
Resilience Award	Charles Ryan
Persistence Award	Bella Dundas