Dear parents and caregivers,

A warm welcome back to Term 2 to all our students and families. We trust you had a relaxing and enjoyable break. As I moved around the school this week and witnessed the work of our staff as they interacted and taught our students I am struck by how calm and productive everyone is. I believe this is a product of us all being of like mind and having the common objective of providing the best education opportunities for all students.

P&C

I would like to thank our outgoing P&C Executive for all its hard work to support our school in 2015. Congratulations to our new executive elected into their roles at the AGM last term:

President – Kylie Soe
Treasurer – Amanda Morris
Secretary – Fiona Blaney

It was fantastic to see so many interested parents at the meeting and I look forward to working with all parents this year to add value to our school. It is true that many hands make light work, so I would encourage all families to support our P&C this year. The money raised by our P&C will go directly to our school to make it an even better place for your children to come every day to learn and play.

Yours in quality education,
Robyn Conlin
Principal

Goodna State School is moving into the 21st century.

GOODNA STATE SCHOOL will be using social media (Facebook) www.facebook.com/GoodnaStateSchool and our website www.goodnass.eq.edu.au to provide information at your fingertips with upcoming events, photos, newsletters, community and general information.

Because we are being more active in social media it is very important for students to have their permissions up to date. Every child will be sent home with a consent form including a covering letter of explanation. If you require assistance in completing or understanding the form please contact the school office staff who will be very happy to assist you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 21 Apr</td>
<td>Yr 6 Forestry Excursion</td>
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<td>Fri 22 Apr</td>
<td>ANZAC Assembly</td>
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<td>Mon 25 Apr</td>
<td>ANZAC Day public holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 27 Apr</td>
<td>• Community forum</td>
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<td>• P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>Mon 2 May</td>
<td>Labour Day public holiday</td>
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<td>Tue 10 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Wed 12 May</td>
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<td>Fri 13 May</td>
<td>Ipswich Show Day public holiday</td>
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<td>Fri 27 May</td>
<td>Met West Team Maths Challenge</td>
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<td>Tue 31 May</td>
<td>ICAS International Science Competition</td>
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<td>Mon 6 Jun</td>
<td>Kambu hearing tests</td>
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<td>Wed 8 Jun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13 Jun</td>
<td>ICAS International Writing Competition</td>
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<td>Mon 17 Jun</td>
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<td>Tue 14 Jun</td>
<td>Start Smart Program</td>
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<td>Thu 16 Jun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 21 Jun</td>
<td>Yr 6 Start Smart Program</td>
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<td>Fri 24 Jun</td>
<td>Last day of Term 2</td>
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BREAKFAST CLUB

Monday to Friday from 8am in the cooking room. Free for students of Goodna State School.

Proudly sponsored by Goodna RSL Services Club
CHANGE OF DETAILS

Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thank you to all the parents who have already met with their child’s teacher. Parents play a vital role in supporting successful learning outcomes for their children. Research tells us that the most meaningful partnerships are those where schools, parents and students work together to focus on student learning.

Please remember, you don’t need to wait for a formal interview to be scheduled to meet with your child’s teacher. You can request an interview at any time during the year with the teacher. These can be made by appointment directly with the staff member or through the office.

Report Cards will be sent home at the end of Term 2. We look forward to your attendance as we work together in the best interests of your child and his/her learning. Our bonus draw will be held next week for those parents who have attended their parent teacher meeting.

Every day counts
As we begin Term 2, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year. Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year. Parents should notify the school if a child is absent due to illness.

2016 NAPLAN Tests
In Week 5 of this term, students in Years 3 and 5 will sit the annual NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) tests.

The dates for the tests are as follows:

- Tuesday 10 May Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Writing tests
- Wednesday 11 May Reading test
- Thursday 12 May Numeracy test

It is important that Year 3 and 5 students are present on these dates so that they are able to sit the tests under the same conditions as their classmates. Monday 16th May is set aside as a ‘catch up’ day for the tests, however, this will usually be done under the supervision of a teaching staff member in the administration building. We strongly advise that you ensure your child is present on the set dates to participate in the tests with their classmates.

Next week, parents of students in Years 3 and 5 will receive a brochure entitled “NAPLAN: 2016 Information for Parents”. More information can be obtained from your child’s class teacher or at www.nap.edu.au.

If you have any questions or concerns around exemptions, withdrawals or special considerations, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or Mr Dempsey.
From the Deputy Principal

Welcome back to everyone for the start of Term 2! This will be a very busy 11 weeks, but we look forward to having a very successful term!

This term we continue our focus on attendance and being in class quickly after breaks so that all students are ‘learning like lightning’. Throughout the term we will continue to hand out awards at our assemblies. Remember, successful students are at school, on time, every day!

2016 Brisbane Primary GRIP Leadership Conference – written by Dominic, Cecilia and Myles

Last term, on Friday 18th March, the Year 6 school leaders travelled with Mr Dempsey, Mrs Soe and Mrs Lologa to Chandler in Brisbane for the 2016 Primary GRIP Leadership conference. The conference was designed to help us become better leaders, because it is not enough just to ‘know’ what leadership is, but you must ‘grow’ in leadership and ‘show’ leadership. This was the message in our first session, called ‘How to grow as a leader’. The second session was about being able to say ‘Bye bye to a bully’, using three ways; spot it out, speak it out and stamp it out! In the third session, we learned about traffic light leadership by being able to spot things around the school that need attention. This involved learning how to identify the RED areas, which are negative things that should be stopped, AMBER areas that could be slowed and new, positive GREEN areas to go forward with.

As well as this new learning, we also played some leadership games, had fun with students from other schools and began working on our leadership plan. We had a really fun and fantastic day and learnt a lot more about leadership. We would like to thank Mr Dempsey, Mrs Lologa and Mrs Soe for the opportunity to attend and for taking us to the conference.

By Dominic, Cecilia and Myles

Each year the Ipswich Festival and Walker Pender Group invite our schools to paint a giant 1.5m mask. The theme for this year’s Unmasked is “Water Wise”. Water is an incredibly important resource and covers more than 70% of the earth’s surface.

Every living thing needs water to survive. It is essential for human survival and well-being and important to many sectors of the economy. Students are asked to present and explore the importance of water conservation and simple ways to reduce everyday water usage.

Unmasked is a fantastic opportunity for schools and their students to be a part of the festival community and showcase their creative expressions and artistic talents.

Students from Year 4C painted the mask and researched information about water sustainability. Their entry for ‘Unmasked’ will be on display from April 11th to April 24th at St Paul’s Anglican Church Gardens, Brisbane Street, Ipswich Central. This is a free event.

SAVE TIME
PAY ONLINE

BPOINT is the preferred method of payment of Education Queensland.

The BPOINT payment method symbol will be displayed with a website link for you to visit and process your online payment.

If you require assistance in paying online please call in to our school office where our staff will be happy to help you.
PARENTING MATTERS

Easing children’s anxiety

By Michael Grose

Anxiety is a normal part of life and can be managed, but it takes time. It’s also contagious so it’s the job of parents to stay calm, think clearly and role model confidence when kids get anxious so that children can learn how to cope with anxiety.

For those with no personal experience of anxiety it can be hard to understand how debilitating it can be. “Come on, get on with it,” seems so obvious. Of course, this response is nowhere near adequate.

Most kids experience some anxious moments or have fearful thoughts and feelings from time to time about certain events. These thoughts and feelings prompt them to proceed with caution.

But anxiety and fear can be paralysing. Some kids simply can’t stop their ‘bad thoughts and feelings’. They can’t silence the voice of fear that whispers to them continually.

Calm is created through your words, voice and facial expression. When children become anxious, help them recognise what’s happening. Some kids get angry, some become upset and others withdraw. Work out the pattern for your child and help them recognise when they are anxious.

Accept your child’s anxious feelings. Your child needs to trust that you are with them, and then they will be more willing to let you help them cope. It’s hard sometimes to differentiate between what may be a bad case of negative thinking and true anxiety.

Challenge the validity of your child’s fears and anxiety, using logic and rational thinking. Don’t allow kids to wallow in self-pity. Move their thoughts towards the future rather than allow them to mope around.

Encourage your child to overcome their anxiety through action.

Anxiety is normal, and part of everyday life. However, it can be debilitating unless it’s managed. Anxiety management takes time for kids to learn, but it’s one of those valuable life skills that parents can teach their kids.

LANGUAGE TIPS - Developing Vocabulary through Books

In a previous newsletter we discussed reading books with young children. Today we look further at how sharing books with young children will help develop their vocabulary and better prepare them for classroom activities.

When you have found a book that your child enjoys and you are taking turns talking about the book, ‘add language’ that will stimulate your child’s vocabulary.

You can “add language” in the following ways:

Use a wide variety of words - avoid just naming pictures in the book as this will only give your child the names for things. While names or nouns are important your child also needs to hear describing words (e.g. gooey, gigantic, sloppy), action words (e.g. shout, scramble, slide), feeling words (e.g. cranky, frustrated, ecstatic), location words (below, between, above), words about time (before, soon, later), etc.

Stress the important words – the words that are critical to your child’s understanding of the story. You can do this by varying the intonation or volume of your voice, slowing down and pointing to pictures in the book that explain the meaning of the word. Use these new words regularly when reading the book and in your day-to-day life.

Expand your child’s message – when your child is talking about the book, add to their ideas by using longer sentences and giving them more information about the topic e.g. if your child says “there’s a lion” while looking at a picture of a lion hunting, you can expand by saying “Yes, the lion is hunting. He’s getting ready to pounce on the antelope”.

Extend your child beyond the “here and now” – encourage your child to think, solve problems and imagine by talking about things beyond what is in the book. Ask questions that help your child to - predict what might happen next (e.g. what will happen when the wolf tries to blow down the brick house?), compare and contrast (e.g. that boy is tall just like your friend Sam), talk about feelings (e.g. the boy got a new pet. He looks really happy!), and make connections with your child’s own experiences (e.g. remember when you got a new dog you were very excited).

Remember: When reading with your child the aim is to:

**Encourage interest in books **Learn new words, ideas and concepts **Develop imagination

Have fun

Adapted from: Sharing Books with Preschoolers, the Hanen Way, by Lauren Lowry, Hanen Certified Speech Language Pathologist. For further advice or ideas on how you can help your child’s language development, please contact the school SLPs.

Heidi Yau & Jenny Tang
Speech-Language Pathologists
Goodna State School
Get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge!

Did you know your child can get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge, just for being a student at Goodna State School? All you need is your child’s school email address to sign in.

To help prepare your child for success this academic year, the Department of Education and Training has teamed up with Microsoft to provide free Office 2016 to every Queensland state school student. With Office 2016, your child will have access to the latest version of Word for writing, Excel for spreadsheets, PowerPoint for presentations, OneNote for organisation and notetaking, and much more.

You can install a complete version of the latest Microsoft Office on up to five compatible PCs and Macs, five tablets and five smartphones. Your Office subscription lasts for as long as your child is a state school student. Ask your child to follow these simple steps to get Office:

• For PC and Mac, visit [portal.office.com](http://portal.office.com), login using your school email address, click through to install and follow the onscreen process.

• For tablets and smartphones, download from your app store and sign in with your school email address.

Visit [www.education.qld.gov.au/office2016](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/office2016) for instructions on how to download and install Office 2016 to your personal home computers. If you have any trouble, contact [insert local MIS administrator contact details].

Camp Australia provides before and after school care for Goodna State School

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

Before school we are open from 6.30am until 8.30am. During this time we provide breakfast consisting of milo, toast, cereal, spaghetti and baked beans toasties. This is all inclusive of our before school care fee. Preppies and Year 1 students are escorted to school by our staff daily. After school we are open from 2.30pm until 6.00pm. We pick up the Preppies and Year 1 students from their classrooms and escort them to the hall each day. Older children meet in the hall foyer daily. After school we provide afternoon tea consisting of fresh fruit, cheese, crackers, pancakes, jelly, custard, sandwiches, corn chips & salsa and other yummy treats - again this is all inclusive. We also offer a range of physical activities, art activities, cooking, games and lots of fun.

We have vacancies available for both before and after school care. Prep drop offs and pickups are available.

If you have any inquiries regarding OSHC we can be contacted on 0434 422 456, or drop in and see us of a morning between the hours of 6.30am and 8.25am, or of an afternoon between 2.30pm and 6.00pm.