Dear parents and caregivers,

At Goodna SS we believe that attendance matters! By attending school everyday students have the very best opportunity to achieve success. Each week we monitor individual and class student attendance. ‘Every Day Counts’ is a state wide initiative that aims to assist in improving student attendance at school through a shared commitment by students, parents, caregivers, schools and the community.

Please watch the following videos which aim to explain the importance of coming to school every day.

Jonathan Thurston 'Attendance Counts'
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9iIBeJ5CSS&list=PLgjv5epyrnQDLNMTmhLA6z-cssQylcsvN&index=5

Attendance adds up
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VniGVhJb-SM&index=3&list=PLgjv5epyrnQDLNMTmhLA6z-cssQylcsvN

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 Attendance counts
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=libK7b-IDgA&feature=youtu.be

STEM :

Innovations and technological advancements in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) play a key role in our lives. Not only do they fuel gains in economic productivity, but they also drive improvements to our lives through new inventions and discoveries. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects provide students with essential skills for an increasingly digitised future.

As part of the Department’s commitment to strengthen STEM education in Queensland state schools, a STEM hub has been established. The STEM hub is designed to provide schools, teachers, students and parents with access to STEM resources, professional development, career information and news and events. The hub aims to encourage increased participation and achievement of students in STEM and inspire a greater number of students to continue on to higher education in a STEM field.

The STEM hub for parents and students makes it very simple and easy to access information. You can visit the hub at https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/file/5da759ed-285d-4132-b8e8-58198109fb03/1/index.html

Students at Goodna SS are very fortunate that we have two very dedicated Science teachers that engage students every week in learning about the world around us. Students can be involved in STEM activities through the range of clubs and activities, such as Coding Club, Makerspace, Engineering Club, Science Club – and we have to thank our wonderful teachers for giving up their time to run these clubs for students.
Student Clothing:
While we all enjoy our beautiful mild temperatures that we are currently experiencing, it might be timely to think about the upcoming winter. Now might be a good time to check that student names are clearly marked on the labels of track suit pants, jackets etc (the sort of clothes that students shed throughout the day). Clear labelling makes it easier for us to find the owner of discarded clothes.

Robyn Conlin
Principal

From the Deputy’s Desk
This fortnight’s Peace Code focus is: Find Help

Attendance – EVERY DAY COUNTS! Remember, successful students are at school, on time, every day!

Congratulations to our most recent award winners for attendance and ‘Learning Like Lightning’:

Monday Raffle tickets - Congratulations to two students who were drawn out last week and have won a free tuckshop voucher!

Class attendance award – Well done to last week’s winners, 6C!

Year level attendance award - Year 3 are holding on to a very slight lead!

Goodna State School Makerspace
Our before school Makerspace club started last week with great success, with all students fully engaged developing their ‘maker mindset’. As part of the club, students are encouraged to be curious and creative and are given complete choice over what they would like to make. As we move into Week 2 of the current focus using Lego, simple robotics and other construction based materials, it’s exciting to see ‘hands on’ learning and active engagement being nurtured in students. A huge thanks to all staff and students involved!

Friday Sport Gala Days
Last Friday saw the successful start of the interschool winter sport competition with the first of three sporting gala days for students in Years 4-6. Students proudly represented Goodna State School in soccer, netball and rugby league, with lots of skill and determination on show. All of our teams are now looking forward to the next two Fridays to continue developing their skills and teamwork. Good luck to all teams!

Buddy Bench
Thanks to the generous support from Councillor Paul Tully and the Ipswich City Council, you will soon notice two new playground benches installed within the school as our new junior and senior ‘Buddy Bench’. Used across the world, the Buddy Bench is a simple idea to eliminate loneliness and foster friendship in the playground, as well as help to stamp out bullying. The Buddy Bench is a permanent bench at school where children are encouraged to sit when they are feeling left out and have no one to play with or might be being bullied. If another student sees someone sitting on the bench, they are urged to invite that student to play, walk, or talk with them. Issues such as loneliness, anxiety and bullying are often traumatic for some students. Through the use of a Buddy Bench, positive interactions in the playground are promoted and students are encouraged to ‘care for each other’ and ‘be a peacemaker’. Staff and student leaders will monitor and promote the use of the benches. Stay tuned for more information!

Thank-you for your support!
Daniel Dempsey
Deputy Principal
Our Junior SEP students worked throughout Term 1 on their winning entry in the Junior School section of the Ipswich Show Banner Competition. The theme was “Bendigo Bank in our Community”. Students built social skills and teamwork while creating their winning banner. All the sewing felt, painting, drawing, cutting and gluing resulted in 1st prize in the competition (trophy and $500 prize). The banner is being displayed at various Bendigo bank branches around Ipswich. Money will be spent on the school garden and SEP program.

Thanks to all the students for their beautiful artwork, and the teachers and teacher aides who helped supervise.

WE ARE VERY PROUD!

view additional images on www.facebook.com/GoodnaStateSchool

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

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 2.00pm 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 8.25pm, or of an afternoon between 2.30pm and 6.00pm.

Regards,
Cathy, Donna, Robyn and Karen.

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Goodna State School

Fete
Friday 29th July 2016
2.30pm - 6.30pm
Pre Sale of Armbands will be $30 each
On the day Armbands will be $35 each
HELP KIDS TO TAP INTO THEIR CAPACITY TO BE NICE

Listen in to some sibling conversations and you’ll soon realize that children (your children too) can be very cruel to each other. They can say the most cutting things.

One of the jobs of parents is to help kids tap into their capacity to be kind, to be helpful and to be generous to others.

The capacity to be nice is there. It just needs to be developed, encouraged and nurtured. Some children need more reminding than others, so you may need to persevere and keep reminding kids to do the right thing by others. Thriving parenting is about developing real character in kids.

Tips for tapping into.....

1. **Develop a 'No put-down' policy**: Help kids understand the potential destructiveness of putting kids down because of their weight, looks, intelligence or other personal attributes. If you’re told often enough that you’re dumb then it can have a way of sticking. As a parent become intolerant of personal put-downs from your kids.

2. **Help children identify friendly behaviours**: Help kids understand how good friends act. Being a good friend means many things such as being loyal, keeping confidences, accepting mistakes and a whole lot more. Help kids understand these friendly behaviours and refer back to them when they are being...... unfriendly.

3. **Hypnotise your kids**: My dad used to say, ‘If you haven’t anything nice to say about someone, don’t say anything at all.’ Like many parents he passed on his wisdom using memorable phrases, slogans and platitudes. Some of these may have been passed on to him. Importantly, he tried to live by the values they conveyed, so they carried significant weight. (I still open up my mouth sometimes and my dad jumps out!) Find a way to package up your personal wisdom around 'niceness' and start hypnotising your kids....just like your parents hypnotised you!

Language Tips — KEEP VOCABULARY GROWING

Our vocabulary is our ‘mental dictionary’ of all the words we know. It is important to promote your child’s developing vocabulary. You can do this by modelling your own use of interesting words, explaining the meanings of words and by showing enthusiasm for learning new words. Your child’s knowledge of words and their meanings will assist their understanding when they begin to read.

You can help your child’s vocabulary grow in the following ways:

**Be specific:**
Introduce words that mean nearly the same as the ones your child uses, for example:
- **Walk**: stroll, strut, wander
- **Sad**: disappointed, unhappy, grumpy, miserable
- **Bag**: case, suitcase, backpack.

**Think broadly about words:**
Share a range of hands-on experiences and read with your child to promote word knowledge on a wide range of topics.

**Encourage depth of knowledge:**
Expect that your child will develop a deep knowledge of words on a topic that particularly interests them. Show your interest in the topic and ask your child to explain what some of the words mean. For example a child interested in cars might know words such as **manifold**, **head gasket** and **spoiler**.

**Be flexible:**
Show your child that words can have more than one meaning, for example:
- **Park**: park the car / a place to play
- **Sail**: a boat / a clothing sale
- **Write**: write a story / right or wrong.

It will be useful for children’s understanding if they can switch easily from one meaning to another.

**Communicate and have fun!**
For further advice / ideas on how you can help your child’s Vocabulary development please contact the school.

Heidi Yau & Jenny Tang, Speech-Language Pathologists, Goodna State School
Acknowledgement: FLIPS (Fun Language Interactions to Prepare for School Success) Love and Reilly 2008