



GUILDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

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NEWS UPDATE

19 FEBRUARY, 2014



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's clear that we have all settled well into term 1. With just a few weeks gone into the school year, it is wonderful to see such exciting Teaching and Learning activities taking place across all classes. Students are happy and settled with their new teachers K-6. All teachers have recently engaged in collaborative planning so that they can develop the most comprehensive and appropriate programs to cater for the needs of all students in their class and across the stages.

Parent Information Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Parent Information Evening on Wednesday we had about 100 parents in attendance. Parents were able to meet and visit their son/daughter's class teacher for 2014 and to hear from them some basic information about class expectations and organisation for the year. At 6:30pm we commenced a combined meeting in the hall where myself and other leaders and teachers addressed certain areas.

For parents who were unable to attend I have summarized our main points and have included them in this newsletter for your information.

Swimming Carnival News

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we had a very pleasant swimming carnival back in week 2. I have included a display of photographs I took on the day. The students and teachers appear to be enjoying themselves. Miss Smith (carnival coordinator) is including a short report on the event later in this edition.

As a general comment about swimming it was great to see a number of students participate enthusiastically in the competition races between teams. It's also good to see many students enjoy

the novelty events. However, as a school overall we have very few competent swimmers which is both a disappointment and concern. Despite many students attending the learn to swim classes held every year at Guildford Pool, only a few students continue to practise or develop swimming skills.

Can I suggest parents encourage their children to learn to swim? This will require regular practise. We have a good climate in Sydney and most of the swimming centres are opened for several months each year. Guildford Pools is open all year as it has a heated pool inside as well as an outside pool. As well as learning to swim it is obviously an outstanding form of exercise. One is never too old or young to learn to swim. But one must practise to improve.



Captains, Prefects and SRC Induction Ceremony

You are invited to attend an assembly next Wednesday 26 February at 12 midday under the COLA.

2014 School Captains, Vice-Captains, Prefects and all the Student Representative Council (SRC) members will receive their badges and recite their pledge. Hope to see you there.

ANNUAL GENERAL SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION

Thanks to the many parents who have paid their Annual General School Contribution. The General Contribution for 2014 has been set at:

One Child \$35.00

Two Children \$50.00

Three Children or more \$60.00

These funds are used to support improvements in the school and are especially used for funding library and class resources. Please contribute if you can. However, I assure all parents that no embarrassment or discrimination will ever occur in our school as a result of non-payment of this contribution. You will find, however that our request is considerably lower than many primary schools.

**SPECIAL STUDENTS
SENT TO SHOW
GOOD WORK
TO THE PRINCIPAL
THIS FORTNIGHT**

1P Sidique Boima

3W Ranim Saleem

Peter Marona Puhotau

4B Ali Barri

Raziq Naseri

4C Jessica Trieu Phu

RFF Zaynab Haouchar (6J)

CONGRATULATIONS!

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

Mr Lawless

I HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT FORTNIGHT

Have a great fortnight!

Mr Peter Lawless
Principal



Attendance & Absences

Although it is only week 4 of this term, it has been disappointing to see many students absent from school. Missing school means your child misses out on vital information and maintaining learning routines. This can result in a loss of confidence and missing out on forming vital friendships.

As a parent or caregiver you are responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day, including sports days unless your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- is genuinely sick, or has an infectious illness.

If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, you might like to talk to the Mr Lawless or Mr Hanna. An appointment will need to be made.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child's teacher or the administration assistant at our school. A written note needs to be brought in to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.

Mr Peter Hanna

Assistant Principal



PSSA SPORTS REPORT

PSSA - TERM 1 - 2014

PSSA for term 1 starts on Friday, 21 February, 2014. Below is the teams, who they are playing against and where they are playing.

**PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILD TO
PAY THE \$5.50 BUS PAYMENT TO
THE OFFICE ON THURSDAY
MORNING.**

AFL

Date	Playing against	Venue
21/2/14	GRANVILLE EAST	WEBBS AVE
28/2/14	AUBURN WEST	WEBBS AVE
7/3/14	LIDCOMBE	WEBBS AVE
14/3/14	GRANVILLE	WEBBS AVE
21/3/14	ROSEHILL	WEBBS AVE
28/3/14	GUILDFORD WEST	WEBBS AVE
4/4/14	AUBURN NORTH	WEBBS AVE

SOFTBALL

Date	Playing against	Venue
21/2/14	MERRYLANDS	GRANVILLE PARK
28/2/14	LIDCOMBE	HARRY GAPES
7/3/14	GRANVILLE SOUTH	HARRY GAPES
14/3/14	GRANVILLE EAST	GRANVILLE PARK
21/3/14	GUILDFORD WEST	HARRY GAPES
28/3/14	AUBURN NORTH	GRANVILLE PARK
4/4/14	AUBURN WEST	HARRY GAPES
11/4/14	BYE	

TEEBALL

Date	Playing against	Venue
21/2/14	MERRYLANDS	GRANVILLE PARK
28/2/14	LIDCOMBE	HARRY GAPES
7/3/14	GRANVILLE SOUTH	HARRY GAPES
14/3/14	GRANVILLE EAST	GRANVILLE PARK
21/3/14	GUILDFORD WEST	HARRY GAPES
28/3/14	AUBURN NORTH	GRANVILLE PARK
4/4/14	AUBURN WEST	HARRY GAPES
11/4/14	BYE	

**WEBBS AVENUE PARK, WEBBS AVENUE,
AUBURN
GRANVILLE PARK, CLAREMONT STREET,
MERRYLANDS
HARRY GAPES RESERVE, LAVINA STREET,
MERRYLANDS**

Alisha Smith

Sports Coordinator

Congratulations!!



Congratulations to Taku Lutui, Xavier Osekerita and Sherif Awick who have been selected as part of the Auburn / Merrylands / Parramatta combined zones Rugby League Teams. They will be playing in the Sydney West Rugby League competition in April.





Guildford P.S Swimming Carnival

Congratulations on a great turnout to our Annual School Swimming Carnival Thursday 6th February. We had a few fantastic swimmers who competed in the 100m and 50m events, with many earning a place at the Auburn Zone Swimming Carnival.

The winning house this year was... **Waratah** – with 244 points. A close second was **Blue Gum** on 213 points and **Wattle**, third with 139 points.

Good luck to the following students who are attending the Auburn Zone Carnival on Tuesday 4th March: Amy Tran, Ivy Tran, Sohaib Agha, Renalds Sar, Amir Awick, Sherif Awick, Jayden Christmas-Estephan, Jeyda Olca, Dylan Wallace, Abdullahi Said and Taylan Yag.







Whispers from the Library



Library Bags

Library bags are available from the Library. They are \$4 each and students can buy them during class time or parents can buy them ALL day Wednesday or AFTER 3pm on Mon, Tues or Thursday.

Library Days

The library program has officially started and the time table has finally been set. Here are the days that your child will be having library lessons.

Mondays:

4 Bunyip
1 Yabby
2 Brolga



Tuesdays:

6 Barramundi
3 Coolamon
K/1 Witchetty
5 Corroboree
2/3 Boomerang

Wednesday:

5 Billabong
4 Coolabah
3 Wobbegong
Kindergarten Mallee

(with Mrs Hemming)

Thursday:

2 Goanna
1/2 Budgerigar
6 Jamberoo
Kindergarten Bombora

(with Mrs Hemming)

Friday:

(with Mrs Prasad)

Kindergarten Waratah

1 Potoroo (with Mrs Prasad)

(with Mrs Prasad)

Kindergarten Cooee

(with Mrs Prasad)

Kindergarten Yakka

(with Mrs Prasad)

- Mrs Prasad will be taking library lessons on Fridays
- Please remember that students can only borrow books if they have a library bag and books are on loan for 1 week!
- If you are leaving the school or going away for a while, please return your books before you leave.

Topics in the library

This term the classes will be learning some exciting lessons.

Kindergarten to Year 2 will participate in library lessons based around literature appreciation using the theme from their Science or Human Society and Its Environment units. These are their topics.

Kindergarten: Rules of the library, How to take care of our books and story books about healthy eating.

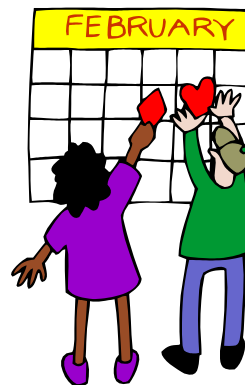


Year 1 & 2: Rules of the library, How to take care of our books and story books about personal celebration, eg birthdays, special celebrations, special days (Mother's Day, etc).

Students from Year 3 to Year 6 will participate in library lessons based around research skills building and information literacy. These students will be taught specialised skills in literacy that will help them develop life long research skills.

These lessons will be based around their Human Society and its Environment units. These are their topics.

Year 2/3, 3 and 4: These students will be learning about Captain Cook and taught skills such as note taking, finding books, web search strategies, and start a research project based on Captain Cook's life.



Year 5 and 6: These students will be learning about different bushrangers in the Gold Rush era. They will learn skills such as how to write a bibliography, how to find information on the website, web search strategies, and start a research project based on a famous bushranger.



Thank you 😊

Mr Norambuena
(Teacher Librarian)



TERM 1	DATES TO REMEMBER
Feb 26	Prefect & SRC Induction Assembly
Mar 4	Zone Swimming Carnival
Mar 13	Focus on Reading – Parent Workshop
Mar 20	Harmony Day
Mar 20	Reg. Swimming Carnival
Mar 25	Cross Country
Mar 27	NAPLAN Parent Workshop
Mar 31- Apr 11	Swimming Scheme
Apr 11	Last Day Term 1

2014 Parent Information Evening

For Parents who were unable to make our Parent Information Evening we have included our main points:

- Welcome from Principal
- Acknowledge of Country ...I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay my respect to elders both past and present.
- Apologies....Miss Walpole and Mr Hanna ...(Assistant Principals)
- I would now like to invite my wonderful staff to introduce themselves.
- What makes a wonderful school? Well there is a lot we could say about this; however, I believe a wonderful school occurs when LEARNING IS PROMOTED AS THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR ATTENDING. As well as this, High Expectations go hand-in hand with Equity. Everyone is important and everyone deserves the best education possible. Also, there must be sentiment and caring. The kids must enjoy being here and know that their principal and teachers care about their learning. And finally, this must be supported by the parents and community. Parents and teachers must work from the same page of learning so that we can together achieve the best results.
- I believe we have this at Guildford Public School. 2014 has seen us with the highest student enrolment in the 12 years I have been principal. 490 students at last count and 20 classes.
- Our school rules are summed up by: Safe Respectable Responsible Learners;
- School Hours: 9am to 3pm; students should be here by 8:50am. All students either walk home or are collected immediately after 3pm.
- Traffic...parking...parents need to realise there is nothing we can do about the shortage of parking. Parents and carers need to leave earlier and find parking in the side streets and walk rather than risk dangerous parking and double parking. Students' safety must be everyone's responsibility. There is no excuse for illegal parking and/or dangerous driving in and around schools.
- Parents in Partnerships ...every Thursday in the hall with the CLO's. Also parent Café' each Thursday at 2pm.

- Parent Helpers must obtain government mandatory Child Protection check. You can do this on line (google... Child Protection Update) and then apply through the RTA website.
- Major Events in 2014 will include ...Multicultural Day, Food Fair and Entertainment in late May, Education Week in late July and Annual School Concert in November. NAPLAN will be on for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students across Australia in May (week 3 term 2).

Mr P. Lawless

Principal

Assistant Principals

Mrs Haidar spoke about:

Communication / Change of Details

- The school communicates with parents and caregivers in various ways. The newsletter is sent home every fortnight and notes go home regularly regarding what is happening at school and excursions. It is important that you check your child's bag for notes so that you are aware of events and important dates. You will also find up to date information on the school's website www.guildford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au.
- If you would like to speak to your child's teacher please make an appointment by calling the school on 9632 9675 and arranging an appropriate time that suits both of you.
- It is very important that your details are up to date so that we can contact you if there is an emergency. You can do this by calling the office or coming in to the school and speaking to our office staff.

Positive Reinforcement

- The school has a strong focus on positive reinforcement. Each class teacher has his/her own reward system. We also present merit certificates at fortnightly assemblies.
- As well as this we have a whole school Positive Reward System called Guildford Stars.
- 10 Guildford stars earn a Super Silver award certificate presented by the principal.
- 20 will earn a Gold certificate. Names will appear in the newsletter.

- We have the principal Positive Reinforcement weekly. One student is sent weekly from every class to the principal to show improved or outstanding work across any of the 6 KLAS. Names are also entered in the newsletter and students usually receive a special sticker and a Magic Pencil.

Detention

Students are given a detention if they have consistently broken our school rules; Safe, Respectful, Responsible and Learner. This will have been documented and monitored by a teacher and an executive.

- It may be a playground incident or a classroom incident whereby several strategies would have been put in place to try and manage that behaviour.
- There are major behaviour issues which will result in an immediate detention, for example violence, disobedience, swearing, racism and disrespectfulness
- Others might be minor and after several warnings if the student is still breaking that rule, it will result in a detention. However as every situation is different, it is investigated thoroughly by the teachers and executive to ensure students are treated fairly.
- Whilst students are in detention they have to reflect on their actions and how they can improve behaviour by filling in a reflection sheet with the supervision of a teacher. The reflection sheet goes home with the student on that day and needs to be returned the next day signed by the parent.

Scripture

Scripture at Guildford Public School will be taught on Thursday from 2.00 – 2.30 for K-2 and 2.30 – 3.00 for 3-6 . The scripture groups include; Anglican, Catholic, Muslim and Non-Scripture. Please ensure that your child's details with regards to scripture are correct if you would like them to attend a particular scripture group.

Attendance and absences

- As a parent or caregiver you are responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day, including sports days unless your child :

- has a medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- is sick or has an infectious illness

- If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, you might like to talk to the Principal Mr Lawless or Assistant Principal Mr Hanna. An appointment will need to be made.
- If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child's teacher or the administration assistant at our school. A written note needs to be brought in to the classroom teacher as soon as possible or within seven days.

Miss Blewitt spoke about:

Healthy lunch box-

- please ensure students have two pieces of fruit, a snack water and sandwich.
- try to make a healthy sandwich with meat and salad
- avoid over packing your child's lunch box and talk them about their food to see what they like or dislike having at school

crunch and sip

- held in the classrooms each day where possible. Students are given the opportunity to eat a piece of fruit and drink some water while bring read to or engaging with the IWB.
- Ensure you pack fruit that is easy to eat and not messy that can easily be eaten in the classroom.

Uniforms

Full school uniform everyday

- white socks, black shoes (suitable for school no slip-ons) and school hat
- sports shoes can be worn Friday
- school hats are available from the canteen for \$10
- if your child is unable to come to school wearing full school uniform they will need to give a note to their teacher.

School weeks

Q: Why does the school use "week 6" instead of dates?

A: We find it useful for planning each term.

Here are the actual dates for the rest of this term for most of NSW.

TERM 1

Week 3 10/2

Week 4 17/2

Week 5 24/2

Week 6 3/3

Week 7 10/3

Week 8 17/3

Week 9 24/3

Week 10 31/3

Week 11 7/4

Helping with homework

How much should you help your child with homework? When your child makes a mistake, should you fix it? **Teachers talk** about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/helping-your-primary-school-child-with-homework>

Back to school

Homework, hot weather and class sizes – here are some answers to frequently asked questions about going to a NSW public school.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/en/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/back-to-school-2014>