



GRETA VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL: Mr Howard Gibson

NEWSLETTER 30 January 2018

Dates for your Diary

FEB	Fri	2	Swimming
	Mon	5	Art
	Wed	7	Foundation Day Off
	Wed	7	Foundation Information Evening 7pm
	Fri	9	Swimming
	Fri	9	Welcome BBQ 6pm
	Mon	12	Cooking
	Wed	14	Library
	Wed	14	Foundation Day Off
	Fri	16	Swimming
	Mon	19	Art
	Wed	21	Foundation Day Off

VACUUM ROSTER

FEB	2	Preston
	9	Randell
	16	Ring
	23	Robertson
MAR	2	Rothera
	9	Shepherd

TOILET ROSTER

Robertson
Rothera
Shepherd
Stafford
Tanner
Wood

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SECURITY SYSTEM

NEW PARENTS PLEASE COME TO SCHOOL TO SEE HOW OUR SECURITY SYSTEM IS DEACTIVATED FOR VACUUMING DUTIES

NOTE If you can't clean on your rostered time, swap with another family. A list of family numbers is in your handbook. Thank you.

MOWING ROSTER

David Boonzaayer
Peter Paccagnan
David Cavicchiolo
Gill Cunneen
Scott Flanigan
Tim Northey
Shannon Murphy

Return the key to school when mowing is done. Thank you

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another year – one that hopefully won't go as quickly as the last one, although one month has virtually passed us already.

We have many great things happening here this year – the staff were busy yesterday planning excursions, themes, camps, curriculums, and much more. In general, another busy, but exciting, year.

Welcome

Firstly I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Foundation students. Starting school for the very first time we have

Jett Brosig-Welsh

Georgie Clancy
Alex Lambert
James Pollard
Dallas Ring
Sally Shepherd

We look forward to continuing a long lasting relationship with them all and the Greta Valley Primary School community.

Staffing

We're all back and refreshed and ready to go!!!!

Welcome to Fenella Elsom (Gr 2/3) who will be working three days a week (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday and I make up the other two days), and Rosalie (F/1) and Reetisha (Grade 4/5/6). We have Cheryl and Tanya back with us as our Integration Aides. For our new parents, Tina, our Business Manager, works Monday, Tuesday Wednesday (full days) and Thursday afternoons.

We welcome back all our specialist teachers as well:

Leonie Brien – Music
Peg Halbwidl – Italian
Anthony Lawler – Library
Sandra Moore – Art
Linda Forrest – Cooking (Grade 4-6)

The Library van will continue to service us fortnightly on a Wednesday and the Art Van will visit us every second Monday. Italian is weekly on Tuesday and music is weekly on Thursday's. The Grade 4-6 children will go cooking fortnightly to Edi Upper Primary School commencing Monday, 12 February. Keep an eye on the calendar at the top of each newsletter to see what is happening.

Long Service Leave

School Council was informed at the end of last year that I will be taking Long Service Leave for all of Term 2. My position will be advertised shortly. I'll keep you informed once an acting Principal is appointed.

Thank you

Thank you to Caz Preston who looked after our chooks over the holidays – I hope they behaved themselves!!!! They might be having an extended holiday until we get our new chook shed constructed.

Thank you also to Emma Gall, Briggs, Leadbetter, Shepherd and Tanner families who assisted in keeping our gardens and lawns watered over the holidays.

And a HUGE thank you to all the families who came on Saturday to our working bee (new families – you were excused from this one but not from now on!). It was great to walk in yesterday and see the school looking so great! We had an amazing turnout,

especially given that it was a long weekend. A number of families who were unable to come on Saturday did some jobs earlier in the week – what a brilliant and supportive community we have. Thank you – Bordignon, Briggs, Cavicchiolo, Flanigan (including grandparents!), Graham, Gillian, Fullerton (including grandparents!), Leadbetter, Murphy, Paccagnan, Robertson, Shepherd, Tanner & Wood families.

A number of rakes and one yellow glove were left behind. Please come and claim them if they are yours.

Bus

At the end of last year everyone should have received a bus timetable for this year. If you have misplaced it please let me know so I can get you another copy.

A reminder that unless we have been notified of any alteration to your child's normal designated bus stop, then that is where they will be dropped off. We cannot rely on your child telling us that mum or dad is picking them up or mum said I'm to go to my friend's house. Please either send a note or ring us.

Family BBQ

Please mark Friday 9th February in your diary for our annual 'welcome to the new year and new families' BBQ. This will be at the school commencing at 6pm. All meats will be provided, but we ask that you bring either a salad or dessert and your own drinks. This will be followed by a tabloid sports session (get in training!!!) that our older students will organiseor maybe a water fight like we did last year.

School Fees

Invoices for School Fees will be sent out shortly. These fees are used to cover Student Insurance and the purchase of all their books and pencils etc and to cover the Art and Library levy that we are charged for these fortnightly services.



Hats

A reminder that all children are required to wear a hat while they are outside during Term 1. Please ensure that your child has a hat with his/her name in it.

School Nursing Program

All Victorian State Schools have access to a School Nursing Program – aimed particularly at Foundation students. This is a very basic assessment of each Foundation student's eye sight and hearing. But before we can access this we need your consent. As such all Foundation students should have brought home with them a Student Health Questionnaire. These are confidential documents and are handed directly to the School Nurse. Can you please complete the questionnaire and return to school by Friday 9 February. Any queries please feel free to contact me.

Term Dates

For you diary/calendar the school term dates for 2018 are:

Term 1	30 January to 29 March
Term 2	16 April to 29 June
Term 3	16 July to 21 September
Term 4	8 October to 21 December

Applicable Public Holidays are:

Labour Day	12 March
ANZAC Day	25 April
Queen's Birthday	11 June
Melbourne Cup	6 November

Foundation Information Evening

We will be running an information evening for all our Foundation parents on Wednesday, 7 February commencing at 7pm here at the school. The key focus of the evening will be to inform you particularly about our teaching of literacy and numeracy, and how you can assist at home, along with some other general information about your child's first year of school. This is a great opportunity for you to learn some valuable information, particularly as for many of you this is your first child at school. Please make every effort to attend.

Medication Plans & Student Details

As you will appreciate, we need to be kept up to date with your relevant details that apply to us. As such, attached is a copy of all the records that we currently hold on your children.

Please be sure to check all details – medication, emergency contacts, telephone numbers, etc. We would appreciate all the details being returned to us by no later than next Friday, 9 February. Please sign and date each page.

New parents to Greta Valley will not have received this data as you have all just completed an enrolment form – hopefully your details won't have changed in this short time!

School Council

I will be sending home shortly information regarding the election of Councillors for our School Council. Please read this information carefully when it arrives and if you have any queries feel free to contact me. We have six parents on our School Council – all elected to serve for two years. Elections are held at the start of each year and we have two positions vacant this round. These positions are currently held by Peter Paccagnan and Leonie Partridge – both of whom are eligible to renominate if they wish to.

Council meetings are held twice per term. School Councils play an important role in the operation of a school. More information soon!

Foundation Day Off

A reminder to our Foundation parents that in accordance with Education Department policy our Foundation students are allowed one day off each week for February. We recommend these children have the Wednesday off, simply to break the week up for them. However the choice is basically yours as you will be the best judge of when your child is getting tired and would benefit from the day at home. These will commence next week through to and inclusive of Wednesday 28 February.

Cooking

As mentioned earlier our Grade 4/5/6 students will be participating in the Stephanie Alexander cooking program fortnightly commencing Monday 12 February. Can you please complete the attached permission form and return as soon as possible.



Camps, Sport Excursions Funds (CSEF)

Attached to the newsletter is a flyer regarding the CSEF that we encourage all eligible parents to apply for. The funds are allocated to the school and we then use the money to offset your families account in relation to camps and excursion. For example for those families in receipt of CSEF we will use the funds to pay for Term 1's swimming instructors.

Families who are already in receipt of CSEF do not need to reapply – it simply rolls over. For our new families, eligibility is based on you holding a current Health Care Card. If you have one of these please complete an application form (available from the office) and return to us by Friday 9 February. We will need to take a copy of your Health Care Card. Any queries please feel free to contact me.

Swimming

Our swimming program starts this Friday. Children will need to bring their bathers, goggles (if required) and towel. For our new

families, this program is an integral part of our curriculum and the children participate in lessons aimed at developing their stroke technique and water safety skills. These lessons will be at the Benalla Aquatic Centre and will be held each Friday afternoon in Term 1 – February 2 through to March 23. Once we have completed the program we will send an invoice (early Term 2) covering the costs based on the number of lessons your child participated in.

Can you please complete the attached permission form and return to us as soon as possible.

Please notify us beforehand (phone call or note) if you will be picking your children up from the pool after our lessons. We generally get out of the water around 2:30pm.

And Finally ...

Congratulations to Kristy and Tim Randell on the birth of their new son - Spencer Randell. Spencer arrived on Boxing Day. We look forward to meeting Spencer soon.

Thank you

Howard Gibson
Principal

