

Senior Site Bites



**Term 1
Week 8**

29 March 2018



Dates to remember:
[Calendar](#)

3 April

- Parent Teacher Interviews, 3:30-6pm
Gymnasium
- Switched On Programme
3-4pm (chat, games & food)

4 April

- Parent Teacher Interviews, 3:30-6pm,
Gymnasium
- Y7/8 Girls AFL
- Homework Centre 3:00-4:430, Library

4-6 April

- Adv Outdoor Ed Camp,
Broulee

6 April

- Y7-10 Basketball
- Y10 Meningococcal Vaccines

Check out the P&C website:
<http://goldcreekschoolpandc.org.au/>

Follow us on twitter:
@GoldCreekSchool



Hello Parents and Carers

Gold Creek Student Services is a multi-disciplinary team working in partnership with students and their families as well as statutory and voluntary agencies to secure better educational outcomes for children and young people.

Director of Community Partnerships, Jill Shearer

I am a Social Worker with international experience in the fields of child protection, criminal justice and education. I oversee student welfare across the Junior and Senior Sites at Gold Creek School (this is a new role as of this year). My role is subject to the Principles of the 'Children and Young People Act (2008)' and the 'Education Amendment Act (2008)'.

These Principles include:

- The welfare of the child is the paramount consideration in all matters.
- The child's voice should be heard and taken into account in all matters relating to the child.
- The child has a right to free and compulsory education.

I work with Cherie, Colin and Eva to ensure our students receive the appropriate support to promote their learning and to develop their capacity as global citizens.

School Psychologist, Cherie Nicholson

I am the school psychologist at Gold Creek and have a background in clinical psychology. I work at the senior site three days per week and operate out of the Student Services office where the team works to support students' abilities to learn and teachers' ability to teach. School psychologists have knowledge in mental health, risk assessment, learning and behaviour. We can also help you link to mental health services that may be available in the community. Our main goal is to assist students, parents and teachers to overcome barriers to learning. If a student is having difficulties engaging in their learning for any reason relating to school, the individual or home, the Pastoral Care teacher is usually the first point of contact. If issues are not simply resolved, the year coordinator, executive and student services team, including the psychologist, can offer assistance.

Defence Transition Mentor and Defence School Transition Aide, Colin Wilson

Defence School Transition Aides and Mentors are based within schools across Australia for the purpose of providing information and support to the students of mobile Defence families. Defence School Transition Aides are positioned in primary schools and Defence Transition Mentors in secondary schools. Aides and mentors are funded by Defence but are employed by the local state or Territory Department of Education. Gold Creek School recognises that Defence Force families can, at times, experience mobility and disruption due to postings and deployment. The DTM/DSTA at Gold Creek School works across both the Senior and Junior sites and monitors the wellbeing of defence students as well as offering support and assistance tailored to individual needs.

Cont/

Gold Creek School

Phone: 6142 1300

Absences: 6142 1323

Kelleway Ave, Nicholls, ACT, 2913

www.goldcreek.act.edu.au

Info @goldcreek.act.edu.au

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Youth Worker, Eva

I facilitate a diverse range of programmes which aim to support the emotional, physical and psychological needs of our students. Current programmes include:

- **Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME)** believes in an Australia where Indigenous children finish high school at the same rate as all Australian students. AIME is an educational program that gives Indigenous high school students the skills, opportunities, belief and confidence to make this happen. By matching Indigenous high school students with university student mentors, AIME successfully supports the students to finish high school. AIME also connects students with post year 12 opportunities, including further education and employment.
- **Years 7, 8 and 9 Girls' Group** is based entirely around relationships, party life, friendships, health and wellbeing. Community workers from family planning and other organisations (*The Junction*) are invited to come and talk to the girls. Many practical girl activities are also run on a social basis.
- **Year 10 Boys' Mentoring Group** is a safe forum for students to talk about their emotional wellbeing and any issues affecting their lives.
- **SWITCHED ON** sponsored by Northpointe Church & Scripture Union. This is an afternoon activities programme held on the concourse each Tuesday afternoon from 3:00pm – 4:15pm. This promotes opportunities for students to participate in a structured event after school with adult supervision and promotes student connections with new friends, participation in activities, craft, board games and sports. Northpointe Church and Scripture Union will provide food and drinks for the students attending the program.
- **Breakfast Club** each Wednesday from 7:30am until 8:50am. Also sponsored by Northpointe Church and Scripture Union.
- **Young Carers Programme** is a support group for young carers at Gold Creek School. The group is available for students to gain support, discuss difficulties in being a young carer and talk about coping strategies.
- **Messenger's Programme** in partnership with Tuggeranong Arts Centre and Belconnen Community Services. This is an arts based early intervention mental health programme for young people who are disengaged with or are at risk of disengaging from school and their community. The programme teaches young people creative skills across a range of artistic mediums, including visual art and drama. The programme is run at the Community Centre at Belconnen. At the conclusion of the eight week program, students have a special exhibition to invite teachers and parents to view a display.
- **Bungee Youth Resilience Programme** in partnership with Belconnen Community Service. Students in this art class will focus on identifying their strengths and resources and how they can build on these in order to achieve their dreams and goals. Bungee aims to teach students how to utilise their own skill set to manage a range of personal challenges.

Jill Shearer

GOLD CREEK SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS 2018

I would like to congratulate the following people on being elected to the following positions on the Gold Creek School Board.

Parent Representatives

1. Michael Rush – 2 year position 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2020

Staff Representatives

1. Kai Scott – 2 year position 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2020

Student Representatives

1. Clare Warner – 2 year position (Y9) 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2020

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members and returning members to the Gold Creek School Board and I would also like to thank and acknowledge all those that nominated for positions.

Kerry Lyttle, Assistant Returning Officer

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PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews will be conducted in the Senior Site Gymnasium on:



Tuesday, 3 April 3:30 – 6:00pm

Wednesday, 4 April 3:30 – 6:00pm

You will be able to use the Parent Teacher Online (PTO) booking system to make your appointments from Monday, 26 March. You should have received an email from the school outlining the relevant information, once you have received the email you can make a booking online through our [website](#).

ICAS COMPETITIONS

The note can be found on our [website](#) outlining all the dates and costs involved.

Notes and full payment are due back to the front office no later than **Thursday, 5 April 2018**. Please note a separate form is required for each child entering.

DA VINCI DECATHLON

The da Vinci Decathlon is an academic inter-school gala day for years 5, 6, 7 and 8, run in the spirit of an Olympic Decathlon with events of an academic nature, and which began at Knox Grammar School in Sydney in 2001. The day is a terrific enrichment opportunity for top students across a variety of areas and unlike an Olympic decathlon, however, this is very much a team challenge; not an individual pursuit.

2018 Theme – 'Memories'

Students will compete in ten disciplines inspired by Leonardo da Vinci that connect to the concept of 'Memories':

Mathematics & Chess – emphasis on problem solving, number patterns and logic puzzles

English – spelling, word origins, definitions, textual analysis and writing tasks

Science – students engage with higher level scientific concepts to test their ability to apply them

Code Breaking – students will decipher complex and mysterious codes

Engineering Challenge – a design task that tests problem solving skills, creativity and ingenuity

Ideation – the creative and innovative process of generating, developing and communicating new ideas in response to a problem or challenge

Creative Producers – emphasis on creating under pressure a 60 second dramatic performance

Art & Poetry – the team will develop a poem interconnected with a work of art

Cartography – students will decipher maps and apply the principles of map-making to represent spatial information in an imaginative way

General Knowledge – current affairs, entertainment, the Renaissance, sport and trivia

If you think you have what it takes to be part of the Gold Creek year 7 or year 8 team, please come and see Mrs Machen in the Textiles room. The Competition this year will be on Thursday, 31 May for years 7 and 8.

Mrs Machen

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REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES – SENIOR SITE

Our 24 hour dedicated absences phone number is
6142 1323



To report your child's absence, please leave a short message stating their name, year, pastoral care group name and reason for absence - sick/leave, etc by 9:30am. You can also report absences via mobile phones through our school App or by emailing info@goldcreek.act.edu.au.

SEWING AND CRAFT CLUB NEWS

Students have been enjoying meeting twice a week in the Textiles Room working on their projects. At the moment they are learning hand embroidery. It is a fun and social environment for students to be creative and learn new skills. If you would like to join us, we meet Wednesdays and Thursdays during Break 2 in the Textiles room.



STEAM NEWS

All ready to build the cricket farm!



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Cooking up a storm in the Gold Creek Kitchens – Cricket Cookies.



Finished product

3D PRINTING SUCCESS!!

We have a beautiful new 3D printer at Gold Creek School. Students have been learning how to use TinkerCad to design their own 3D objects in our year 7 & 8 STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) class.



Reed Arcus and Jordan Snell are very proud of their designs. They had to design a house that would withstand a cyclone or an Identification Tag. It could not take longer than 35 minutes to print.

Mrs Machen



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Please join the [2018 Sport Noticeboard](#) for all your ACT school sporting events, dates and other information.

Parents and students can join the code is

1ecnqt.

Join now so you don't miss out!



Thank you for all the vouchers we have received so far!

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