

Newsletter

21 November Volume 17, Issue 11

Dear Parents and Carers

Last night I attended the premiere of the 2014 whole school production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. I was absolutely enthralled from start to finish! The quality of the performances by every student was exceptional. It was wonderful to see some of our youngest students in the roles of fairies. They almost stole the show! I am extremely thankful to the Arts faculty staff for producing, directing and organising such a spectacle and thankful to have such a talented and dedicated team. A special thank you and congratulations must go to Ms Dale Thain for her inspiration and for creating such a band of 'thespians'! If you have not yet seen the performance, I am sure that there may still be a few seats for tonight's show. Please be quick!

Recognising and celebrating student achievement is part of the culture of the school. In the past a number of certificates have been handed out but we would like to improve on this. This year we are recognising student achievement slightly differently to past years.

Junior and senior site assemblies will be held in the next couple of weeks to recognise personal achievement and individual effort across all subjects. Students receiving awards will be notified shortly. Parents are most welcome to attend but there will be no formal invitations sent.

Our official Awards Ceremony to celebrate achievement and special recognition across both campuses will be held on 3 December at 9.15am in the senior school gymnasium. There will be a number of official guests attending including a guest speaker, who will give a formal address. Invitations for this award ceremony are being sent to parents of students receiving awards. Every child receiving an award will be asked to select books before the ceremony which will then have a certificate outlining recognition of the student's individual achievement inserted inside the front cover. In addition to this a number of new awards have been added to our current award list.

Please remember to join us at our very first community event, An Evening on the Green on 4 December 2014. Please visit our website for details.

Kind Regards,



Linda Baird
Principal



CALENDAR DATES

JS–Junior Site HS- Holy Spirit SS–Senior Site NPS–Nicholls Preschool HPS–Hall Preschool WS-Whole School

Week 7 Nov	24 Outdoor Ed White Rocks Rock- Climbing/Abseiling, 8.45-3.00pm	25 Grasstrees Project, Birrigai 9am-3pm	26 Yr 1-6 2015 New Students 8.45am-2.45pm. ATSI Feeder Primary Schools Transition Visit, time TBA.	27 Personal Achievement Assembly 11.30am	28 JS School Banking. P-2 assembly. Belconnen Book Purchase Trip, Dymocks.	29/30
Week 8 Dec	1 EALD excursion	2 NPS (M-T-W Groups) End of Year Concert 8.45am. Board Meeting 3.30- 6.30pm.	3 WS Awards Ceremony. P & C Meeting 6.30pm Senior Site Library.	4 HS/GC Year 6 Market Day. 'Evening on the Green', 5.00- 7.00pm.	5 NPS (M-T-W Groups) End of Year Concert 8.45am. Yr 3-6 assembly. JS School Banking. JS Disability Sports Afternoon. JS Governor General's Sports Day. Year 10 Farewell assembly and Breakfast. Yr 9 Drama Exc Canberra Theatre Centre. (International Day of People with a Disability).	6/7
Week 9 Dec	8	9 Kindergarten 2015 Orientation 1.30- 2.30pm. Yr 8 & 9 Dickson College Math day.	10 Year 10 Graduation & Formal, QT Canberra (Formerly Rydges Lakeside) 5.00pm-11.00pm	11 Kindergarten 2015 Orientation 1.30-2.30pm. End of Year Activities.	12 JS School Banking End of Year Activities.	13/14
Week 10 Dec	15 End of Year Pool Day, Big Splash, Jamison Pool. Year 6 Graduation Evening.	16 Preschool End of Year Concert 9.15am End of Year Activities.	17 Clean up day LAST DAY OF TERM 4	18	19	20/21

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILE WORDS OF WISDOM

IB Learners are thinkers:

"The essence of the independent mind lies not in what it thinks, but in how it thinks." Christopher Hitchens

2015 INTENTIONS

Please let the front office know in writing if you are not returning to Gold Creek School in 2015. This can be done either via email sent directly to the info@goldcreek.act.edu.au address, or via a handwritten note. Please make sure you include students full name, class and year level. This assists us with our planning and staffing for next year.

CLASS OF 2004 – TEN YEAR REUNION

On Saturday 15 November, Gold Creek School's class of 2004 gathered at the Gungahlin Lakes Club for our ten year reunion.



We had a total of 45 people attend and even one teacher (Ms Robey). It was great to catch up and share travel stories and what professions we all ended up in. There was a construction worker, a police officer, a physiotherapist, an accountant, a customs officer, a few parents, and the list goes on. Our year had a graduation video that included footage of all students throughout the year - it was very funny to watch much younger versions of ourselves. We also had every year book from 2000 to 2004, plus our formal photo. A lot of

people have kept in touch with each other and there are even a few high school romances! We are already looking forward to our 15 year reunion.

Cheers
Kayla Scott



JUNIOR SITE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

New findings: students enrolled in IB early education receive strong academic foundation that supports school 'readiness'

The IBO dedicates considerable resources to assessing the effectiveness of all of its programmes. Universities around the world, as well as a dedicated IBO research team, conduct research and report their findings to ensure the programmes are meeting the high expectations set by the IBO. Some recent research conducted by Deakin University in Australia has highlighted the benefits of delivering the PYP to preschool students. This research investigated the processes and outcomes of early childhood education in both Australian and Singaporean settings.

The top findings from the research include:

- IB PYP students benefit from their pre-school education over and above non-IB students
- IB PYP students perform at or above literacy levels typically expected for their age groups
- IB students are significantly more likely to have high levels of 'learning skills'
- Parents of IB students are very positive about their children's education
- IB students are aware of their own learning and personal development

For more information on current research related to the IBO programmes please visit the IBO website – www.ibo.org

Angela Spence
Director of Learning

KINDERGARTEN NEWS



Kindergarten has had a fantastic term filled with much learning and exploring. We have been investigating how plants sustain life on earth, which included a fabulous excursion to the Botanic Gardens. We learned about the importance of plants for food, creation of oxygen and stabilisation of the land. Our new Unit of Inquiry will explore celebrations and traditions, and how we express our values and beliefs. We have begun to explore our personal beliefs and the celebrations which are important to each of our families. In week 10, we are looking forward to welcoming our Kindergarten families to our celebration of learning, as well as the expressions of what is important to our Gold Creek families.

We hope that the weeks leading up to the end of the year are happy ones for you and your family, and we wish you a restful and relaxing break over summer.

From the Kindy team – Cadeyrn, Katie and Jane



STUDENT ABSENCES – Junior Site

Our 24 hour dedicated absences phone number is
6205 5737



To report your child's absence, please leave a short message stating their name, year, class group and reason for absence - Sick/Leave etc by 9:30am, any calls after this time should be reported to **6205 2955**.

All absences must also be explained through a written format either via email info@goldcreek.act.edu.au or a note given to the class teacher upon return.

LANGUAGES FACULTY

With the upcoming break, and of course Christmas, it seems to be the perfect time to talk about holiday reading. Here are a few resources you might find useful to find those perfect books to get you through the holiday period. If you aren't escaping on a holiday, maybe escape into a good book. If you are escaping then take a good friend along (yes, the trusty fantastic novel).



Paperchain, a local bookshop in Manuka, recently released their Summer Reading Guide with a list of books to suit all tastes. You will find the catalogue at their bookshop.

Another fantastic resource if you are looking for good books is the Good Reads website. You may be interested in their selection of best Australian novels for young adults:

http://www.goodreads.com/list/show/10365.Best_Australian_Young_Adult_Books

A slightly more out of date list is found on the Booktopia blog, it lists some Australian novels that are long-term favourites with Australian readers. This list includes some options for mums and dads too:

<http://blog.booktopia.com.au/2011/01/11/50-must-read-australian-novels-as-voted-by-you-in-2010/>

And a final recommendation - go to the local public library. They have an amazing collection for any reading taste. They also have a book club page that includes a list of books that they have purchased for book club groups. This is another useful list to see what is trending in literature and reading.

http://www.library.act.gov.au/learning/book_clubs

Whichever books you choose, enjoy! Michelle Morthorpe and the Languages team ☺

SECOND HAND TEXTBOOK SALES

Second hand Mathematics and Science textbooks will be available for purchase before school during week 8. If you would like to sell your child's current textbooks please ensure they bring them to Ms Gogia in the upstairs staffroom with a signed permission note that will be given to students during week 7.

STEPOUT - BRICK AND BLOCK LAYING PROGRAM

Palmerston Primary School submitted an application to the ABBTF (Australian Brick and Blocklaying Training Foundation) in conjunction with the ACT Education and Training Directorate Work Experience Training, to have a brick wall for a handball court built. The court was designed by the Year 5/6 students and the Principal of Palmerston Primary, Melissa Travers, requested assistance from Gold Creek School to build their project.

Two of our students, Sam and Cohyn, together with Zack Beaven from ABBTF, constructed the handball court wall in four days. They were an excellent team and worked very hard to complete the task within the timeframe. Principal Melissa Travers was most grateful for

the assistance provided from Gold Creek and delighted with the result.

Sam and Cohyn were excellent ambassadors for Gold Creek



WORK TRAINING PROGRAM

For the past 6 weeks, Aleesha Bruncic and Taylor Kirchner (Yr 10s) have been going to an outside program on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The program was hosted by Bentley's Hair Salon in Jamison. The girls have obtained 3 competencies in hairdressing (performing shampoos and basin services), hospitality (working effectively in hospitality service), and retail (working effectively in a retail environment).

They worked in the hairdressing salon, washing hair, braiding, dyeing, doing foils, blow waving, straightening and curling. At Calvary Aged Care facility, they prepared a High Tea for the "oldies" and had a great time talking with them.

They had a fantastic 6 weeks, meeting new people, being in a work environment, and learning useful skills, particularly in hairdressing and make-up. They made many good friends and had a lot of laughs. Aleesha and Taylor highly recommend this course for anyone interested in hairdressing or hospitality. "It was awesome and I have made long lasting friendships." "It was heaps better than I thought it was going to be – it was brilliant".

In the photo is June Irving, Jo, Aleesha Bruncic and Taylor Kirchner at their graduation.



Sara Hillier

GC LIVE

From week 3 this term, the senior site radio station, GC Live, expanded. We now have regular live music performances provided by students at least twice a week. So far, we have seen solo singers with ukulele and guitar, dancers, duets and a piano recital. Coming up, we are



looking forward to a 'School Of Rock' concert, we have more piano recitals and some singer songwriters on the way...as well as a rumoured staff band concert!

Week on week this has grown. We now have large student audiences each lunch time, supporting their friends and peers in producing high quality musical performances. It's been a fantastic and positive addition to the school community. There will be more exciting developments as we head into the new year. Watch this space...



STUDENT ABSENCES – Senior Site

Our 24 hour dedicated absences phone number is
6205 1792



To report you child's absence, please leave a short message stating their name, year, tutor group and reason for absence - Sick/Leave etc by 9:30am, any calls after this time should be reported to **6205 1814**.

All absences must also be explained through a written format either via email info@goldcreek.act.edu.au or a note given to the tutor group teacher upon return.

DSTA/DTM NEWS

DEFENCE NEWS

Remembrance Day Poppies

It was lovely to see so many students, staff and parents wearing poppies on Remembrance Day last week. Across the school we raised \$451.25 for the RSL. A big thank you is extended to the Defence students who volunteered to sell the poppies and to all the students, teachers, and parents who gave generously and bought a poppy.

Regards
Hilary Kinraid
DTM/DSTA
Ph: 6205 1814 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)
Ph 6205 2955 (Thursday, Friday)
Email: Hilary.Kinraid@ed.act.edu.au





OSHClub News
Before School / After School Care Program



Program Update
Hi we hope you are enjoying this lovely weather as much as we are at OSHClub. It is great to see the children outside making the most of the warm weather. We ensure that all children wear hats, apply sunscreen and water is always available to drink. We have been engaging your children in some fun new activities like woodwork requested by some of the Wizard children, cubby making and designing Minecraft houses. We had fun dressing up and apple bobbing last week for Halloween, while this week children have been showing us their creativity and leadership skills. Over the next couple of weeks we will be providing lots of sporting activities and completing activities for Remembrance Day and World Kindness Day. Following this your children will be involved in activities that require them to make and bake. Please see below for a snap shot of the activities we have lined up for your children. A reminder about the charge for late pick up, fees of \$2 per minute per child apply. The procedure in the afternoon if your child is on the role but does not turn up is as follows: I ring the school to find out if they were absent, if yes no more action taken. If no I then ring the contact numbers on the enrolment form. If at all possible cancel online or ring the program so people waiting for a spot can get in and less time is spent chasing up children. Thanks Kathleen and team.

Next Week's Activities

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before Care Activities	Poppy making Kite making	Kindness craft Play dough soldiers	Hands of peace mural Boat building	Friendship bracelets Design a garden	WW1 Spitfire Split pin animals
After Care Activities	Soldier paper craft Peace lantern	War time bread pudding Rugby teams	Kindness cards Fun with wood	Bake a trench cake Noodle wars	Friendship cookies Soccer

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0402 611 484
Program Manager: Kathleen Rigby
Coordinators: Sophie, Azar and Jayne
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

Did you know you can place a canteen order via Flexischools?



Online ordering is a convenient way to place orders, providing a 24/7 payment and ordering system that can be accessed from home, work or a mobile device.

Visit Flexischools at www.flexischools.com.au or phone 1300 361 769 for more information.

marymead
children • families • community

Make a Difference Christmas Appeal

3 ways you can make a difference this Christmas...

- 1 MAKE A DONATION VIA OUR WEBSITE – marymead.org.au**
- 2 DONATE A GIFT FOR A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON (PROCESSED THROUGH SCHOOLS)**
- 3 PURCHASE A GIFT CARD/VOUCHER FOR THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITH WHOM WE WORK**

DONATIONS OF \$2.00 OR MORE ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

These can be delivered during office hours to one of our Marymead A.C.T. locations
NARRABUNDI 255 Goyder Street
OR FLYNN Bingle Street
within the ACT or by phone: 02 6283 6122

Some suggestions are: Grocery Gift Cards, Stationery, School Gift Cards, Youniverse, M and M's, School History Kits etc.

For further information please contact Ruby Skinner on 6283 6122 or email ruby.skinner@marymead.org.au

MARYMEAD IS APPROVED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF CANBERRA AND ENDORSED. AND 90107 100 000

PARAGON



6287 3833

Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT

is a confidential, anonymous telephone counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.

Parentline ACT.

Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.

Phone: 6287 3833

saverplus

Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Patricia Jones, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(02) 6283 7606 / 0448 730 305
or patricia.jones@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in Canberra and Queanbeyan by the Smith Family. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

Rewarding regular savings with precious prizes.

The Dollarmites have uncovered the ancient Clam of Fortune. Inside they found these amazing prizes that you could win a share of:

- 40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
- 150 x Slip 'N Slide Double Wave Riders

Here's how to win

Every deposit you make with School Banking will automatically create one entry for you into the competition. So the more you save, the more chances you have to win (up to a maximum of 6 entries). Competition runs: 20 October–30 November 2014.

To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers

More chances to Win!
Every deposit you make is another chance to win prizes!

CAN

Things to know before you can: NSW Permit No. LTP51/4/05/600; ACT Permit No. TP14/02/3/4; SA Permit No. TP14/4/02. Competition opens 20/10/14 and closes 30/11/14. Prizes will be awarded on 30/11/14. Commencement date: 21/11/14. Prizes: 40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras; 150 x Slip 'N Slide Double Wave Riders. Winner's names will be published in the public notice section of The Australian on 01/12/14. Individual prizes are a GoPro HERO3 White Edition Camera valued at \$299 and a Slip 'N Slide Double Wave Rider valued at \$29.99. The Premier & Commissioner's bank of Australia ABN 68 123 123 123, 2/11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Full terms and conditions at commbank.com.au/deepseasavers

English@Gungahlin
Thursdays 1.00 – 2.30pm

English Conversation for Life in Australia
Speaking - Listening - Reading

1.00 pm Greetings; questions and answers; fun group activities

1.30 pm Conversation / discussion - issues of life and faith in Australia, and

Eating and talking with classmates from around the world

Salvation Army Church Hall
The Valley Ave, Gungahlin

STARTS Thursday 27TH November
Just come or phone Leonie on 0419017552
Cost – gold coin donation.
(Sponsored by combined churches in Gungahlin)



ACT
Government

Education and Training

ACT SECONDARY BURSARY SCHEME

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN IN HIGH SCHOOL?

The ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme can provide
ACT residents on low incomes with **financial
support** for students in Years 7 – 10.

Eligibility: Holders of a Pensioner Concession Card or a Health Care Card with
means tested 'payment codes'
- see application form for more details

APPLY NOW

ACT EDUCATION AND TRAINING DIRECTORATE

Secondary Bursary Scheme
Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning
GPO Box 158 CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Application forms are available at all high schools, colleges, Centrelink
Regional Offices and online at

[http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/starting_school/
financial_assistance_for_families](http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/starting_school/financial_assistance_for_families)

Enquiries: 6205 8262