



Gold Creek School

Years 7 and 8

Timetable

Information Booklet



Semester 1 2018



Dear parents, carers and students,

At Gold Creek School, we are pleased to be able to offer a wide range of educational choices for selection in 2018. Throughout 2017, we consulted with the IB network in the ACT/NSW and with stakeholder groups at Gold Creek to provide a timetable designed to provide students with a balanced and manageable learning program and one that is underpinned by the values and mission of the school as an IB World School.

The timetable is of a high standard, in both a practical and academic sense, and we are sure students will enjoy and appreciate the range available to them. Students will be asked to make one choice in Semester 1 to build a learning program tailored to their interests and abilities.

Students in years 7 and 8 have 7 lines or classes. Their studies consist of a number of set curriculum areas these include: Language and Literature, Mathematics, Science, Physical and Health Education, Individuals and Societies, Language Acquisition and an Arts/Design rotation class each term. Students are to choose a Community Connections activity in addition to their core classes.

Community Connections activities are focused on service learning, a core component of the IB.

Students should consider their preferences carefully, based on academic and special areas of interest. Once students are placed into their selected classes no class changes may be made. All classes have a limit to the number of students that can enrol, however, every effort will be made for students to be placed in their first or second preference class. Careful choices can help lead your child to make informed, happier and healthier life choices.

The timetable guide for Semester 1, 2018 will be made available to students and parents via the school website from Monday 4 December. Students will then be given an opportunity to complete their selections in class on Friday 8 December or students can complete these online before close of business Friday 8 December using the links on the school website. If any errors are made in class placements, students will have an opportunity to discuss them in week 1, 2018.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Regards

Hamish McDonald
Director of Curriculum
Senior Site

Community Connections

Giving Through Music

In this activity students will develop a wide variety of music industry skills. This may include performance, band management or music production. Think 'School of Rock' with Miss Needham as Jack Black. Students will be given support in developing their chosen skills with a specific focus on how they can use them to support their local and extended community. This course will significantly push the comfort zones of all students who take it and will be great for building communication and presentation skills whilst developing further expert knowledge in this field.

Students will participate in the following depending on their chosen topic of study:

- production students will offer their skills in helping primary site classes record and produce musical acts
- performance students will find ways to entertain the community (potentially playing beautiful music to aged care facilities or busking to raise money for charity)

Sewing and Craft for a Cause

In this activity students will learn basic sewing skills:

~ make or repair clothes

~ create soft toys

~ using patterns and pre-existing guidelines to sew for charities e.g. Walker Caddies for age care homes

~ learn new skills such as crochet or knitting for charity items (this may involve asking the community to teach certain skills)

~ develop quilting skills (with instructions from community members / Mrs Machen) to help students make charity quilts

~ use their skills to support the community by gifting clothes or toys to children in need, aged care facilities or charities

~ raise money for charity by selling their wares at a market

~ develop life skills, independence and creativity, as well as helping others through their creations.

Sports Coaching for Primary Students

In this activity students will learn basic coaching skills. The course is designed for coaches at a primary school level. The course is a combination of various international games coach courses, modified games coaching courses, and a suite of online coaching units through the Australian Institute of Sport.

Students will help with the major school carnivals and coaching on the junior site.

Year 7/8 Leadership

In this activity, students develop leadership and citizenship skills. They will be provided with training on developing key ideas for student work in the school, local and global community. Students will use these skills to engage in projects to improve outcomes for others.

STEAM for All

This activity group will develop and deliver engaging STEAM activities to undertake with Junior Site students. The STEAM activities are designed to engage students in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. These fields are traditionally fields that a number of students find difficult and the STEAM group's purpose is to build students' confidence and engagement in this field.

Landcare

This activity group is structured to help develop the knowledge, skills, values and world views needed to help people contribute to a more sustainable environment. Sustainability education is futures-oriented, focusing on creating a more ecologically and socially just world through informed action, and actions that support sustainable patterns of living require consideration of environmental, social, cultural and economic systems and their interdependence. Students in this group will use their knowledge to work to improve areas around Gungahlin.

Student Newspaper

Students will work on producing a student newspaper, developing journalism skills (including writing, photography, editing, etc.) and administration/organisational skills in producing the final product. Students will work to contribute to communication and awareness of issues in the school community. The newspaper could also be an outlet for raising awareness and discussing issues in the broader local community.

Verbatim Theatre

Students make a community connection to the local retirement village and 'adopt a grannie' or 'grandpa'. Through visitation and improvisation, the students devise a performance made up from a series of the community's best life stories. The performance includes both students and community members and is performed by and to both.

Students will make time to create a connection to their local community. Community members form a relationship with Gold Creek students. The community is empowered to participate in a devising, rehearsal and performance project and begins to grow together.

Stitching for Service

Students will learn to knit and crochet, making things to donate to charity around Canberra. Students will make items to donate to:

- premature babies at Canberra Hospital (hats, booties)
- victims of domestic violence through ACTDVCS (adult and child hats and scarves, toys for children)
- Trauma Teddies (toys)
- stillborn babies through Angel Gowns (hats, booties)
- the homeless (hats and scarves and mittens)

Reconciliation Artwork

Students in this activity group will collaborate, in consultation with Aunty Violet a Ngunnawal elder, to create a large ceramic outdoor artwork.

The students will identify appropriate location for the installation and liaise with appropriate authorities to showcase the work. The intention of the work and students' engagement in the project is to represent reconciliation and respect between Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members and to recognise the history of the local area. As a bonus the artwork is intended to be an artwork that all can enjoy.

Duke of Edinburgh

This activity is intended to be undertaken across the whole year. The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is available to all 14–25 year olds, regardless of their background. Participants are required to complete four sections: Service, Skill, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Journey. In Semester 1, students will build their understanding of each key element of the award and use the time to undertake activities to practice each section. In Semester 2, students will use these skills to formally undertake their Bronze Medallion. Students will use the Community Connections time to liaise with the teacher on their progress and completing their log book, as well as undertaking training for their Adventurous Journey.

Field of Dreams

In this activity students will learn the key skills involved in sustainably feeding people through the development of a veggie patch. Students will learn about composting, worm farming, garden maintenance and raising seedlings. Students will use their skills (and their own produce) to:

- sell vegies and seedlings at a local farmer's market to raise money for those in need
- use in cooking healthy meals for students who do not have access to lunches at school

Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse...

In this activity students will explore ideas of sustainability and the impact of sustainable use of resources on the betterment of our world. Students will develop skills to recycle, repurpose and reuse everyday items to create new and useful items. Students will also work with the Field of Dreams group and the Landcare group to propagate seedlings to enhance the environment around them. Students may also choose to sell their 'new' items to raise money for those in need.

Reading to Connect

In this activity students will visit local retirement villages and nursing homes to read with the residents. Students will be able to develop stronger interpersonal skills and be able to learn about the history of Canberra through discussions with the residents.

Radio Gold Creek

In this activity students will learn about the power of communication and how radio stations and radio programming can enhance the lives of others through entertainment, information and opinion. Students will develop an understanding of how to use audio tools to create their own radio shows. Students will engage in developing material for break time shows as well as pre-recording shows for publication. Shows can explore key issues facing young people and students' ideas on how to enhance the world around them.

Cooking for a Cause

In this activity students will learn to cook healthy meals that can be packaged and transported to provide nutritious meals for homeless and/or elderly people who do not have easy access to good food options. Students will identify the most appropriate organisations to liaise with to ensure the food is directed to the most appropriate recipients. Students will then learn skills to cook for multiple people.

First Aid

In this activity students will learn basic first aid skills to enable students to confidently manage emergency situations and apply lifesaving skills. It also covers the most common first aid injuries and illnesses that people might be called upon to deal with. At the end of the course students could negotiate to complete an accredited first aid training course at their own cost, however, this is not compulsory.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is an independent, global movement that campaigns courageously for human rights for everyone. They are ordinary people from all walks of life, standing together for justice, freedom, human dignity and equality. Students can join the GCS Amnesty International group to learn about the various campaigns that Amnesty International highlights and provide their own opinion and voice towards the issues.

Dancing Divas

In this activity students will choreograph dance routines that explore key issues facing young people today. They will develop their dancing skills to communicate their ideas. Students will negotiate the performance spaces for their dance routines and use their dances to entertain, inform and challenge other people.

Reading to Rugrats

In this activity students will read with young students on the Junior Site and at other primary/pre-schools. Students will read with younger students to help improve literacy and reading skills for them. In addition, the students will develop mentoring skills to use the time with younger students to help them develop positive relationship skills.

Week A									
Monday		Tuesday		Wed		Thursday		Friday	
8:50	1	8:50	3	8:50	7	8:50	2	8:50	SEL
9:50	PC Group			9:50	PC Group			9:50	PC Group
10:00	Break 1	10:05	Break 1	10:00	Break 1	10:05	Break 1	10:00	Break 1
10:20	5	10:25	6	10:20	3	10:25	5	10:20	4
11:20	7	11:40	PC Group	11:20	2	11:40	PC Group	11:20	1
12:20	Break 2	11:50	Community Connections	12:20	Break 2	11:50	1	12:20	Break 2
1:00	4	1:05	Break 2	1:00	5	1:05	Break 2	1:00	6
2:00	2	1:45	4	2:00	6	1:45	7	2:00	3

Week B									
Monday		Tuesday		Wed		Thursday		Friday	
8:50	7	8:50	4	8:50	1	8:50	2	8:50	6
9:50	PC Group			9:50	PC Group			9:50	PC Group
10:00	Break 1	10:05	Break 1	10:00	Break 1	10:05	Break 1	10:00	Break 1
10:20	4	10:25	IDU	10:20	3	10:25	3	10:20	Assembly
11:20	5	11:40	PC Group	11:20	2	11:40	PC Group	11:20	5
12:20	Break 2	11:50	1	12:20	Break 2	11:50	7	12:20	Break 2
1:00	2	1:05	Break 2	1:00	6	1:05	Break 2	1:00	1
2:00	3	1:45	6	2:00	7	1:45	5	2:00	4