24 October Volume 17, Issue 10

Dear Parents and Carers

Great News! We now have a mobile phone app. This will allow parents and students to instantly access our local community information seven days a week. You will be able to read our newsletter and information without going to the school website, find our venues and most importantly receive important pop-up notifications from us. We will be sharing many of the other features with you over the coming weeks.

Please download it to your smartphone by going to either the Apple App Store or Android Google Play Market and search for Gold Creek School. Once you have found it, press install or download.

My staffs have worked exceptionally hard to build a strong home school partnership this year. It is however rather disappointing for those who have spent considerable time preparing for presentations and workshops to have only a few parents come along on the night.

It is therefore with regret that the final IB Parent workshop will be cancelled next week. The feedback from past workshop participants has been extremely positive, however without parent participation, the evening would not be as beneficial as one might have hoped. Keeping parents well informed about Gold Creek School’s curriculum and the role parent’s play in supporting their child’s education is extremely valued in building home school partnerships. Please support future initiatives by completing an online survey, to be delivered in the coming weeks, requesting feedback as to when, how and what to deliver for parent workshops in 2015. We thank you in advance for completing this survey to further develop our partnership in your child’s education.

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 3
**Oct/Nov**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation. 1.30-2.30pm. Primary Vocal Group Sing at Parliament House 10-1pm. English Extension College Visit. <strong>SS Assembly Halloween South Building Social 6.30-9.30pm.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td><strong>P-2 assembly</strong> JS School Banking Community ACT Badminton 9/10 Yr 9/10 Ultimate Frisbee Gala Day, Deakin.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Week 4
**Nov**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Community Boys T20 Cricket Day Deakin 13 yrs +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>NPS Farmyard Nursery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 6.30pm Senior Site Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>ACT Athletics Championships.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Yr 3-6 assembly. <strong>Joint Facilities Disco. JS School Banking. Yr 7 &amp; 9 Immunisations. NPS Farmyard Nursery.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>NPS Farmyard Nursery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Outdoor Ed Kangaroo Valley Canoe Exc. ETD 3pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Week 5
**Nov**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Outdoor Ed Kangaroo Valley Canoe Exc. ETA 3pm <strong>WS Remembrance Day assembly, 10.30am.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>**Outdoor Ed Kangaroo Valley Canoe Exc. ETA 3pm <strong>WS Remembrance Day assembly, 10.30am.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><strong>Yr 1-6 2015 New Students 8.45am-2.45pm. School Production Dress Rehearsal.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td><strong>P-2 assembly. JS School Banking. Yr 9/10 Sculpture Exc, Ante Dabro Studio. School Production Dress Rehearsal.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation 1.30-2.30pm. HPS Kenny Koala Community Care School Production Dress Rehearsal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Preview School Show Production, 11am, Premiere at 6pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Whole School Drama Production – Midsummer Night's Dream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation 1.30-2.30pm. HPS Kenny Koala Community Care School Production Dress Rehearsal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Preview School Show Production, 11am, Premiere at 6pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation 1.30-2.30pm. Parents Matinee School Production, 11am, Show at 6pm. <strong>International Children's Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Yr 3-6 assembly. <strong>JS School Banking. School Production Gala Night-VIP, 6pm.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Yr 3-6 assembly. <strong>JS School Banking. School Production Gala Night-VIP, 6pm.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILE WORDS OF WISDOM

IB Learners are caring:

“An acquaintance merely enjoys your company, a fair-weather companion flatters when all is well, a true friend has your best interests at heart and the pluck to tell you what you need to hear.” E. A. Bucchianeri

TINNED FOOD DONATIONS FOR HOMELESS WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Ewan Elliott and Lucas Duncan (Yr 10) are collecting tinned food to donate to the Beryl Woman Foundation. This foundation helps women and children in Canberra who are escaping domestic violence.

Please place your donations in the box at the front office.

Thank you.

JUNIOR SITE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

Teacher Workshop – Making the PYP Happen

The Junior School staff showed how they are ‘inquiring’ during the recent PYP workshop hosted over the school holidays. Two educators trained by the International Baccalaureate Organisation in Singapore delivered two full days of professional learning to all the junior site staff. Teachers inquired into the concepts of internationalism, inquiry pedagogies and 21st century learning. They collaborated with their teaching teams to refine their programmes to ensure Gold Creek School delivers an academically rigorous education for all students.

Class Updates – Community Connections

As we approach the final weeks of the school year students will be beginning their final Units of Inquiry for the year. The Units of Inquiry provide the context for which students gain new skills, knowledge and understandings. Please refer to the Community Connections emailed last week or available on the schools website to gain further information about the intended learning for each specific year level.

Parent Workshops

It is with regret that the final IB Parent workshop will be cancelled next week. Whilst the feedback from past workshop participants is extremely positive, parent participation numbers have been extremely low. Keeping parents well informed about Gold Creek School’s curriculum and the role parents play in supporting their child’s education is extremely valued in building home school partnerships. Please support future initiatives by completing an online survey, to be delivered in the coming weeks, requesting feedback to when, how and what to deliver for parent workshops in 2015. We thank you in advance for completing this survey to further develop our continued partnership in your child’s education.
STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Our Student Leadership Council have been proactive members of our community this year. The Student Leadership Council have collectively driven a range of successful initiatives linked to student engagement.

Totally Talented, held last term, is a prime example of their ability to coordinate events which engage the whole school and showcase the range of talents within our student body.

There are a number of projects and events which the Student Leadership Council are currently working on including: Five Minutes to Change the World, Poetry Tree and Nude Food Day. Stay tuned for more information on these initiatives and events.

Next Friday two current Student Leaders will attend the Minister’s Student Congress. The purpose of the Minister’s Student Congress is for ACT public school student leaders to keep the Minister for Education and Training informed on issues that are important to them and to discuss and give advice on matters raised by the Minister. The topic for the congress is ‘Inclusion in a Diverse Community’.

Finally, it is soon time for our current Student Leadership Council to hand over the reins to a contingent of new student leaders in 2015. In the coming weeks Year 5 students will be invited to put themselves forward for election for the 2015 Student Leadership Council. We wish our aspiring leaders in Year 5 all the best for elections, with successful applicants notified at the final assembly of the year.

Shannon Birch

ICAS and AMC COMPETITIONS

During the year a number of Junior Site students participated in external competitions. The International Competition and Assessment for Schools (ICAS) offered Science, Writing and English to the students while the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) was Mathematics based.

While all the students did their very best in all the tests some of them had outstanding results. An example is recently received results from AMC for students who received a Certificate of Distinction:

- Taaseen Islam (Yr 5)
- Rebekah Williams (Yr 5)
- Mia Sullivan (Yr 4)
- Gabrielle Jordan (Yr 4)

Julie Pickering

STUDENT ABSENCES – Junior Site

Our 24 hour dedicated absences phone number is 6205 5737

To report you 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.
WORLD CHALLENGE
On September 19th, 2014, a group of brave students set out on an adventure that would stick with them for the rest of their lives, the World Challenge. Setting off for Sydney airport, everyone was ecstatic, and although there were bumps in the road, they all made it to Vietnam in one piece.

Starting in the beautiful city of Ho Chi Minh, the group learned about the rich culture of the truly beautiful country, as well as experiencing its many cuisines. While in Vietnam, the group saw many incredible sights including the Mekong River, the Cu Chi tunnels and the wonderful Hoi An.

It was when the group got to Cambodia that the real work began. Crossing the border, we did not stop until we reached Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia. After staying a few nights in this vibrant city, we moved to a small village just 2 hours outside Phnom Penh. We arrived in Kais village and began the long, laborious work moving and flattening huge mounds of dirt, allowing for many lemon grass seedlings to be planted outside the perimeter of the village. Lemon grass has many applications that will be used by the villagers for many years into the future.

After that we explored the wondrous temples of Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom and Ta Prohm. Soon after, the group travelled to the international airport and set off on their last set of flights that would take them home, and on the 12th of October, the group set foot in Australia once again. Eager to go home and tell their families all about this wondrous experience that was the World Challenge.

Lucas Duncan

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.
DEFENCE NEWS

On 15 October, a number of Defence students in Years 7 and 8 attended a Birrigai Activity Day. They engaged in team building and other fun activities with Defence students from other schools across the ACT. It was a fabulous day, enjoyed by all who attended.

On 28 October, a War Memorial Activity day has been organised for Defence students in Years 9 and 10. This is a combined event with Defence students from other schools across the ACT. All Defence students in these years should have received excursion notes. If you are a Defence student planning to attend this excursion please get your note in this week or contact me if you need another copy.

Our Remembrance Day Service will be happening as a whole school event on the Senior Site on Tuesday 11 November. Invitations to Defence families will be emailed shortly. It would be great to have a good representation of Defence parents at this very special assembly. I am still looking for an Army Representative to lay the wreath in memory of Army personnel who have lost their lives during conflict. Please let me know if you would like to be involved in this way.

A number of Defence students have mentioned to me that they are aware of upcoming postings and/or transfers to different schools at the end of this year. If your family is moving away from Gold Creek school it is important to let the Front Offices on either site know as you will need to complete a leavers form. I would also appreciate you letting me know as I have resources available to share with the students which will assist them with transitioning to another location.

The DCO coffee club for Defence spouses, partners and friends will meet at Gungahlin Library café on Tuesday 4th November and 2nd December at 10 am. These are the last two meet ups for 2014. New faces are always welcome.

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

Well here we are in the last term for the year. We offered an excellent holiday program at the beginning of the month and we will provide holiday care on the 18th, 19th, 22nd and 23rd of December. We then close down until the 5th January and run programs until the 30th January ready to return to school on the 2nd February 2015. Bookings opened on the 13th October.

This term we have been providing opportunities for your children to investigate world celebrations such as Diwali and Halloween and become more aware of global issues such as World Food Day, global hand washing and fire safety. Themes coming up include Remembrance Day, World kindness day and investigating different landscapes and cultural practices. We now mix groups of children on our themed Wednesdays and Free choice Fridays. Children are coming up with some wonderful ideas and activities.

Please check through lost property located in the room between the Comets and the hall. At the end of last term our lost property that was named was taken back to the schools, while unnamed items were taken to St. Vincent De Paul, as will be the case at the end of the year. Take the time to come in and see our planned activities and children’s work on display in the Comets room, and ask me if you have any queries or concerns. Kathleen and Team

Next Week’s Activities

| Monday              | Tuesday                  | Wednesday           | Thursday             | Friday
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------
| **Before Care**     |                          |                     |                      |                        |
| Activities          | Felt food                | Floods and droughts| Fire safety          | Health eating          |
|                     | Diwali Diyas             | Tug of war          | Three legged race    | place mats             |
| **After Care**      |                          |                     |                      | Rainforests            |
| Activities          | Food groups              | Still life painting | Jewellery making     | Popsicle centres       |
|                     | play dough               | Beaded candle holder| Hand washing         | Germ activities        |
|                     | Hand craft               |                     |                      |                        |
|                     |                          |                     |                      | Rangoli patterns       |
|                     |                          |                     |                      | Table tennis           |

Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0402 611 484
Program Manager: Kathleen Raby
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.

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
- 160 x Slip ‘N Slide Double Wave Riders

Here's how to win

Every day you purchased with School Banking will automatically count as a entry. For each purchase, we will enter you into the competition. The more you save, the more chances you have to win up to a maximum of 2 entries.

To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers
Our School will be participating in the Right Here Right Now art project to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

This project is an initiative of the ACT Children & Young People Commissioner, supported by the Education and Training Directorate.

Every student in Canberra is being invited to create their own self-portrait in one of a rainbow spectrum of colours and to include a message about why it is important for adults to listen to children and young people, or their own message they would like to share with the community. Portraits will generally be created at school, but students may wish to work further on them at home. No names or identifying information will be included on the self portraits and participation is voluntary.

The self-portraits and messages will be attached to thousands of cardboard boxes, which will be used as building blocks for a large-scale art installation in Civic Square for Youth Week 2015. The installation will be a maze in the form of a fingerprint, symbolising children and young people leaving their mark on the city, and the unique contribution of each child and young person in the ACT.

As well as providing their self-portraits and messages, students and their families will also have the chance to participate in the construction of the installation, as part of a fun and interactive event on 9 April 2015. The installation will then be opened to the public in a formal launch on Friday 10 April 2015, and will remain on display for public viewing over the weekend. The installation will be documented in a short film. More information about the project is available on the website at www.ACTkids.act.gov.au

The Commissioner is also seeking volunteers to assist with the creation of the installation. If you are interested please contact Alasdair Roy or Gabrielle McKinnon on 6205 2222 or email ACTkids@act.gov.au