

# Senior Site Bites



**Term 1  
Week 1  
9 February 2018**



**Dates to remember:**  
[Calendar](#)

#### 21 February

- Y10 Meningococcal  
Vaccine notes due back

#### 16 February

- Whole school newsletter

#### 1 March

- Swimming Carnival, Big  
Splash - Jamison

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

Follow us on twitter:  
@GoldCreekSchool



## ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL NEWS

I would like to introduce myself as I am the new Associate Principal on the Gold Creek Senior Site. My name is Sam Beattie and I come to Gold Creek School with 31 years of teaching experience. I am very excited to be here and look forward to working with staff, students, parents and the wider community throughout the year and into the future. I have already been made to feel very welcome by staff and have had some lovely conversations with a number of students as I have wandered the playground and visited classrooms.



I strongly believe in public education and that all children can learn when they are connected to and engaged in their learning. Building respectful relations is a key aspect of feeling connected. There needs to be respect of oneself, teachers, peers, parents, community members and school property. I will certainly be having high expectations of student's behaviour over the coming year.

As you may be aware a new mobile phone policy has been introduced this year. When students are in class their phone needs to be in their bag and turned off, or switched to silent. **'In the building in the bag.'** I am seeking your support to refrain from contacting your children during class time. If there is an emergency the best procedure is still to call the Front Office and we will get a message directly to your children. This will ensure there is minimal disruption to the learning of all members of the class. So far there has been a terrific response and a lot of feedback on the positive effect this new policy is having in the classroom.

I hope your children were excited to receive their chromebooks this week and that they will enjoy using them in class. Please remind your children to make sure they are charged each night and brought to school. It is the student's responsibility to look after their belongings at school, with lockers available if students wish to store their devices during break times.

I look forward to working together to ensure that your children get the best possible learning outcomes.

*Sam Beattie*

**Gold Creek School**

Phone: 6142 1300

Absences: 6142 1323

Kelleway Ave, Nicholls, ACT, 2913

[www.goldcreek.act.edu.au](http://www.goldcreek.act.edu.au)

Info @goldcreek.act.edu.au

# Senior Site Bites

## 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, tutor 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](mailto:info@goldcreek.act.edu.au).

**IN THE BUILDING**



**IN THE BAG**

### NEW MOBILE PHONE RULES

Don't forget our new rules for mobile phones - when students are in the buildings their phones must be off and in their bags.

If you need to contact your child in an emergency please call the school direct on 6142 1300 and we will get the message to them.

For non-urgent messages you can send an SMS and students can check their phones during break times.

For more information check our [website](#).

## GOLD CREEK SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS 2018

- We want YOU for the GCS Board!
- If you're keen to contribute to the governance of GCS, you should nominate for a position on the GCS Board. No prior experience is necessary.

### The following positions are vacant:

- 1 x staff member position ( 2 year appointment )
- 1 x P & C member position ( 2 year appointment )
- 1 x student member position ( 2 year appointment for a yr 9 student )
- **Nominations open 11am, Monday 12 February 2018 and close 14 days later on Monday 26 February 2018.**
- You can pick up a nomination form from the GCS front offices on the junior and senior sites during normal business hours (9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday), or via our [website](#).

You can submit your nomination by:

- hand delivery to the GCS front offices and place it in the secure box.
- email to [Kerry.lyttle@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Kerry.lyttle@ed.act.edu.au)
- mail to ARO, c/- GCS front office

Voting will commence on 5 March and close on 12 March 2018

For more information, contact the Assistant Returning Officer,  
Kerry Lyttle on 0427 626 507

# Senior Site Bites

## DEFENCE NEWS

### Welcome Morning Tea

There will be a Welcome Morning Tea at Gold Creek Junior Site on Thursday, 22 February 18 (Week 3) for Defence parents and other parents/carers new to Canberra.



Date: **Thursday 22 Feb 2018**

Time: **9:30am – 10:30am**

Where: The courtyard off the main staffroom at the **Gold Creek Junior Campus**

For catering purposes, please **RSVP** by Monday, 19 February 2018, [colin.wilson@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:colin.wilson@ed.act.edu.au).

*Colin Wilson, DTM/DSTA*

## SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM

### Year 10

There is a free meningococcal vaccination available for all year 10 students, the vaccine will be available when the School Health Immunisation team visits the school on **Friday, 6 April**. Completed forms are due back to school by **Wednesday, 21 February**.

Meningococcal disease is an uncommon but serious disease and adolescents are at increased risk. In recent years, cases of meningococcal W and meningococcal Y disease have increased across Australia. Help us to protect adolescents and the community from meningococcal disease by encouraging students to be vaccinated against meningococcal A, C, W and Y strains.

To learn more about meningococcal disease, the meningococcal ACWY vaccine and how you can prepare your child for vaccination, visit <http://www.health.act.gov.au/our-services/immunisation/high-school-immunisation-program>.

### Year 7

First round of immunisations for year 7's will take place on **Wednesday, 9 May**. Forms have been handed out and are due back by **Wednesday, 21 February**.

## SPORT

All students are hereby cordially invited to join the **2018 Gold Creek Senior School Sport** noticeboard on Google Classroom - use the code: **1ecnqt**.

Upcoming Sports Fixtures:

Rugby League Summer 7's Boys, Years 7-10 is on Tuesday 20 February

Rugby League Summer 7's Girls, Years 7-10 is on Tuesday 27 February

Senior School House Swimming Sports Carnival is on Thursday 1 March

ACT Buroinjin Gala Day Years 7-10 is on Wednesday 14 March

*Rob King*

# Senior Site Bites

## **IMPORTANT - DIRECT DEPOSIT PAYMENTS**

When paying for school contributions/excursions etc could you please ensure the example below is followed so we are able to distinguish the family/students that the payment is to be allocated to.

Example: Childs first initial, surname, tutor group & a brief description. **(M.BELL,7AB,SWIM)**

It is important you send in any payments with the corresponding notes.

**Choosing the Building or Library fund as your voluntary contribution option is tax deductible (you must specify which you prefer at time of payment).**

**School bank details are:**  
Gold Creek School Management Account  
**BSB: 032-777      Acc Number: 001340**

## **THINK BEFORE YOU PARK...AND KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE!**

With school now back for the year we are encouraging all parents to make parking safety a priority!

This means:

- keep clear of 'no stopping' and 'no parking' zones
- don't park in bus zones on school crossings, across footpaths or driveways;  
and
- don't double (or triple) park!

**Remember** - it's okay to park a little further away from the school and walk the rest of the way!

**Consider** - having a pre-determined meeting spot agreed with your kids. That way if you are a little late, they know where to wait.

**Think** – visibility around schools and if your car may be blocking the view of crossings for other motorists. Also be mindful when entering or leaving parking spots – look twice!

**Be kind** – to other road users and pedestrians and also if you see any parking officers in the area – they are doing their job and working to keep our kids safe!

**Note** - licence Plate Recognition (or electronic chalking) vans are now actively monitoring schools. Penalties range from \$114 upwards to \$600. Details at [www.act.gov.au/accessCBR](http://www.act.gov.au/accessCBR)

*Access Canberra*



## **NON-SMOKING POLICY REMINDER**

Please note all ACT Government grounds are **strictly** non-smoking areas. This includes school carparks and sports fields; your cooperation in adhering to this policy is greatly appreciated.