Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to congratulate Mr David Vernon and Mr Paul Singer who have been appointed as the new parent representatives on the Gold Creek School Board for 2014-2015. Ms Angela Spence has been appointed as the new staff member. Lucas Duncan and Beth Dingwall, our school captains will represent the views of students for the coming year. The first Board meeting will be held in week 1 of term 2.

I have recently returned from an International Baccalaureate Heads of School training workshop held in Singapore. I was accompanied by Ms Angela Spence, our Primary Years Programme Coordinator and Ms Michelle Morthope, our Middle Years Programme Coordinator. The training provided was extensive, and has given us a clear direction as to how we as a whole school, will work towards becoming fully accredited as an International Baccalaureate World School. It is envisaged that the process will take until the end of 2015 to complete. This year we will work closely with the whole school community to elicit a thorough understanding of both programmes, and of course we will continue to promote this in the wider community.

Representatives from our parent body have recently formed a Communications Committee to enhance and progress our home/school partnership. The aim of the working group is to explore all possible avenues of communication and to enhance our current system. A staff committee has also been formed to address internal communication channels and streamline processes. New parents are welcome to join at any time.

As with every school, staff changes take place throughout the school year. There are many reasons for this including maternity and paternity leave, leave being granted to teachers moving interstate, temporary contracts, retirement and promotion to name but a few. I would like to thank Nicole Moore, Adrian Wong, Chris Harding and Sam Burgess for their outstanding contribution to the Junior campus this term. Mr Aaron Kingma, a science teacher and member of our Pastoral Care team has won a promotion and will move to central office over the break. He has provided outstanding support to our teachers and students. Ms Katie Ley left us at the end of last week to take up temporary position at the University of Canberra, but will most probably return to us at the end of this year. I know that you will join with me in thanking them for a job well done! We are currently in the process of drawing up contracts for a number of new teachers beginning with us after the holiday.

Next term, I would like to begin sharing some of our work and the evidence we have gathered to measure our improvement progress. Meanwhile, I am delighted with the work we have completed and am lucky to have such a dedicated staff and wonderful student population.

Have a restful Easter break!

Kind Regards,

Linda Baird
Principal

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PRINCIPAL: Linda Baird
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Glenda Websdale
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Brenda Ryan
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Kate Stuckey
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Priscilla Wray

Board Chair: TBC
P&C President: Michaemikentan@netspeed.com.au
info@goldcreek.act.edu.au
### CALENDAR DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thur</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat/Sun</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 Apr/May</td>
<td>28 HPS Action Bus Wash</td>
<td>29 NPS Kenny Koala</td>
<td>30 Gungahlin College Applications for Yr 11 2015 Open</td>
<td>1 JS Kenny Koala Visit SS Parent/Teacher interviews 4-6pm</td>
<td>2 Preschool Photos JS Kenny Koala Visit Yr 6 GCKS + Ngunnawal Visit JS assembly JS School Banking</td>
<td>3/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2 May</td>
<td>5 Yr 6 GCKS + Palmerston Visit Preschool Photos</td>
<td>6 Community Clyde/Router Rugby League shield finals GCKS Open Night 6.30-8.00pm</td>
<td>7 North Side Touch 13 Yrs. + Yr 10 meeting with Gungahlin College</td>
<td>8 North Side Touch 13 Yrs. + Yr 10 meeting with Gungahlin College</td>
<td>9 JS Y3-6 assembly Mothers’ day Morning Tea JS School Banking SS Cross Country Carnival ACT Swim Championships WS Newsletter</td>
<td>10/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3 May</td>
<td>12 NAPLAN Board Meeting</td>
<td>13 NAPLAN SS Disco</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 JS P-2 assembly JS School Banking NAPLAN catch up Outdoor Ed White Rocks Rock Climbing/Abseiling</td>
<td>17/18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5 May/Jun</td>
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<td>Eisteddfod</td>
<td>Yr. 10 Visit Gungahlin College 8.30 – 10.30</td>
<td>Community GWS Cup boys U/16 North side AFL Gala Day</td>
<td>Yr. 10 Melbourne Camp</td>
<td>Yr. 10 Melbourne Camp</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 7 Group A History excursion Local TBC</td>
<td>Year 7 Group B History excursion Local TBC</td>
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<td>JS YP-2 assembly</td>
<td>JS School Banking</td>
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<td>Gungahlin College Applications for Yr 11 2015 Close</td>
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<td>Week 6 Jun 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ACT cross country JS Book Fair 2 - 12 June starts</td>
<td>HPS Kenny Koala</td>
<td>2015 Kindergarten Open Day tours ICAS Science Comp Yrs. 3-10</td>
<td>SS assembly</td>
<td>JS Y3-6 assembly JS School Banking</td>
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<td>NPS Kenny Koala WS Newsletter</td>
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<td>Week 7 Jun 9</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>14/15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday holiday</td>
<td>ICAS Informatics [to be confirmed] NPS Action Bus Wash Board Meeting</td>
<td>JS Book Fair 2 - 12 June finishes</td>
<td>JS P-2 assembly JS School Banking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8 Jun 16</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>ICAS Writing Comp Yrs.3-10</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 6.30pm Junior Site Library</td>
<td>SS assembly NPS Action Bus Wash</td>
<td>JS Y3-6 assembly JS School Banking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9 Jun 23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NPS Fire Brigade Visit</td>
<td>Community GWS Cup Finals U/16 AFL</td>
<td>SC Children’s Theatre Production</td>
<td>JS P-2 assembly Joint Facilities Disco JS School Banking NPS Fire Brigade Visit</td>
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<td>Week 10 Jun/Jul</td>
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<td></td>
<td>EALD excursion, day and date to be confirmed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Last Day Term 2</td>
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<td><strong>Gungahlin College Open night:</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 22nd May 2014 – 6pm to 8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Applications for year 11 (2015)Open:</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday 30th April 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Applications for year 11 (2015)Close:</strong></td>
<td>Friday 30th May 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 11 (2015) Course Information evening:</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday 30th July 2014 – 6pm to 8pm</td>
<td>This is a really important evening to find out about all the courses available before students need to select.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IMPORTANT WEEK:</strong></td>
<td>Course selection interviews week – Monday 18th August – Friday 22nd August 2014. During this week students and their parents will meet with a Connect teacher from Gungahlin College to select their courses of study for 2015. Information will be provided about the booking process. It is essential for the students’ best chances of getting the courses they want to be available during this week.</td>
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P & C NEWS

Congratulations to the following winners of the Easter Raffle...

1st prize: Brett Purvor

2nd prizes: Karrinn Downes, Robyn (from the preschool), D. Pont, Steve Oliver

3rd prizes: Pat Minogue, Bernadett HLYWA, Sarah Nguyen 6MR, G Savage, Bernice Ashworth, Di Turner

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

This week the Preschool classes brought their teddy bears to school for a visit. We made fairy bread in the morning, practising to spread the butter evenly. We danced and sang with our teddies. We listened to the story 'Going on a bear hunt' and went on our own bear hunt through long grass, a deep river, mud and caves. When we arrived we ate our fairy bread, we had a running race through the long grass. We had a hunt for colourful pom poms to see how many we could find. We then played pass the parcel and then chased bubbles. What a wonderful day!

Preschool enrolments for 2015 open online on MONDAY 28 APRIL. For enrolment information go to: http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school

Please note: Original birth certificate, proof of residency and immunisation records must be provided to Gold Creek School following the enrolment process.

JUNIOR CAMPUS NEWS

International Baccalaureate – Primary Years Programme (IB PYP)

As the first term comes to an end and I reflect on our journey thus far:

“I was a risk taker when I tried to do my own laces.”
“I need to get better at managing my time.”
“We have been more reflective.”

The IB Learner Profile: Thinkers, Inquirers, Communicators, Balanced, Reflective, Caring, Knowledgeable, Risk-Takers, Principled, Open-Minded, is becoming a part of our common language. Students are recognised through ‘caught you’ and ‘class’ awards for their efforts and success in displaying the attributes of the IB Learner Profile. We look forward to recognising more students in the future.

Most classes have now completed at least one Unit of Inquiry. For an overview of learning for your child please refer to the Community Connections available on the school website. Term 2 Community Connections will be issued during Week 1 of Term 2.
Teachers have now become more familiar with and using the documentation used to support the implementation of the PYP. During the course of the Term 2, teachers will engage in Professional Learning to further enhance the inquiry learning process in their classrooms. Staff will also further develop the students’ skills in taking responsibility for their learning. This will build on the successful Three Way Interviews held during the middle of the term.

Please be reminded that a Parent Information Session will be held during Term 2 that will focus on the essence of the PYP and how it is implemented at Gold Creek School. Should you require further information regarding the PYP please email me or phone the office to make an appointment.

Angela Spence
Director of Learning

BOOK FAIR – JOINT FACILITIES LIBRARY
10 – 12 June

Reading with your child can have a significant and positive impact on their literacy development. Our library is holding a Carnival Book Fair soon and we would like to invite you to join in the fun! Carnival Book Fairs provide quality books for us to display at discounted prices. Every book you purchase helps us build resources for the children in our schools. This is our main fund raising event for 2014 with all proceeds going to the Joint Facilities Library to purchase student books and games. If you are able to participate in this fundraising venture we appreciate your support and thank you in advance!

Students will view the books during their class library time from 2 – 6 June and will fill out a ‘wish list’ to take home. Please do not send wish lists to classrooms as an order form. Purchases are only available during sale times.

Book Fair Sales days and times are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 10 June</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 June</th>
<th>Thursday 12 June</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 – 4 pm</td>
<td>7:30 – 8:30 am</td>
<td>7:30 – 8:30 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 – 4 pm</td>
<td>3 – 6 pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Purchases can be paid by cash, cheque or credit card (VISA and MASTERCARD ONLY). Please make cheques payable to Carnival Fairs. If you cannot attend the Book Fair you can make a secure online credit card payment at http://parentpayments.carnivalfairs.com.au. You or your child must bring receipt of this payment to the sale to make your purchase! Not all purchases can be completed on sales day. Reorders are usually filled within 2 weeks and delivered to classrooms, unless instructed otherwise.

Teacher wish lists will be on display during sales times. If you would like to donate a book to your child’s classroom for the rest of the year please look for the display and follow the instructions. At the end of the year all donated books will be placed in the general collection in the library.

This event is a busy time for library staff! If you can help out before or during sales times please either come in and see us or ring the library on 62052957.

Megan Taylor, Melinda Brown and Keryn Hoeschle
Joint Facilities Teacher/Librarians

SWIMMING SUCCESS – North Gungahlin Junior Swimming Carnival

A number of students represented Gold Creek School at the North Gungahlin Junior Swimming Carnival at the Australian Institute of Sport last Tuesday. It was an extremely successful day with four of our students Casey Abel, Jackson Hippit, Jasmin Hippit and Theo Saunders gaining places in the North Gungahlin Team who will compete at the ACT Swimming Championships next term. All students swam with determination, improving their times for most events entered, some students smashing their times by ten seconds. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all Gold Creek Swimmers and wish Casey, Jackson, Jasmin and Theo the best of like at the ACT Swimming Championships.
CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

This Wednesday we finally completed our Cross Country carnival, and with the help of the Senior Site Sports Leadership students and Primary School parents the day was a roaring success. All students, Preschool to year 6 ran our various courses and earnt their Houses valuable point for the House Cup. It was great to see so many of the students and teachers dressed in their house colours and cheering on their house mates as they ran their races. We are all waiting with baited breath for Mrs Browne to add up all of the points and let us know which house won the carnival. Mrs Browne assured me that she will have the results ready for our assembly in week one’s assembly next term.

Mark McLennan  
PE Teacher

SENIOR CAMPUS NEWS

Congratulations on the hard work and achievements over this term. Students have been working hard in their classes and engaging in many extra-curricular activities.

Students have received their mid-semester reports. This gives students and parents/carers valuable feedback regarding their achievement, attitude and effort to date in each of their subject areas. This is an important point in the semester with time remaining to work closely with teachers, students and parent/carers to implement strategies to ensure improvements are made before the end of semester assessment.

Parent teacher night is Thursday 1 May from 4:00pm to 6:00pm in the Gymnasium. Parents and carers will note that we are implementing PTO (Parent Teacher On-line) booking system this year. This allows parents and carers to log-in online and make bookings with appropriate teachers. Instructions and log-in details have been included with mid-semester reports of the eldest child in the family, a link to this PTO is also available on our school website.

We look forward to a busy start to Term 2 with Year 6 visits to the Senior Site on Friday 2 May and Monday 5 May. Students will experience a mini timetable involving rich and engaging classes with expert teachers across the learning areas.

All Year 6 students along with their parents/carers are then invited to our Open Night on the Senior Site on Wednesday 7 May 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Come along and meet our teaching team in classrooms and collect a “show bag” of valuable information.

We wish everyone a safe and relaxed break and look forward to next term.

Leadership Team

International Baccalaureate – Middle Years Programme (IB MYP)

In March this year Gold Creek School was officially recognised as a Candidate School for the IB MYP. So what exactly does that mean?

It means that staff, students and parents on the senior site will participate in learning opportunities to develop our understanding of the IB programme in general and the MYP specifically. During the next two years staff will undertake formal training with the IB as well as aligning the excellent work already
undertaken on the Australian Curriculum with the MYP in preparation for full authorisation as an MYP School.

The MYP provides a framework for the delivery of the Australian Curriculum. Units of work delivered using the MYP have an inquiry based approach, which means that students, teachers and parents will look at key content within subject groups by asking big questions about the importance of the content and how it can help students to become active and lifelong learners.

What does it mean to be a lifelong learner? Basically, through the teaching and learning with the MYP, students will develop skills, attitudes and strategies to develop their knowledge and engagement with the world throughout their lives. This is reflected in the Learner Profile of the IB. The Learner Profile outlines ten attributes that students at Gold Creek will develop in their time at the school that will serve them throughout their lives.

As IB Learners, we strive to be:
- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-taker
- Balanced
- Reflective

Since the beginning of the year teachers and students have undertaken work to more fully understand the Learner Profile and how they can demonstrate the attributes in all facets of their lives.

The Learner Profile is not just relevant to students. Our whole community are encouraged to think about the attributes and how they can demonstrate them. On 27 February we held a successful parent information session looking at the philosophy of the IB and the Learner Profile. Parents looked at the attributes of the Learner Profile and thought about ways they could model the attributes for their children as well as supporting their children to develop the attributes within themselves.

Throughout the remainder of the year updates will be provided on the work being undertaken on the IB across the school in the newsletter. We will also have further parent information sessions each term to develop our community of learners. I look forward to continuing our journey in the IB and working with staff, students and parents to create an excellent programme of learning at our school.

Michelle Morthorpe
MYP Coordinator

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The Student Council, over the last term have organised the selection of the senior school SRC. The SRC members sat through an interview process with the school council members. It was as a result of these interviews that the members of the SRC were selected. The Student Council ran a similar process to appoint five more members of the Student Council. The Student Council has been working with the Primary School Student Council to assist the primary school student leaders and to discuss how the Primary and Senior schools can work together. The Student Council hosts assemblies and the School Captains have attended meetings of the School Board as well as addressed the staff of the senior school at a staff meeting. The Student Council is currently working on a peer support program which will be of assistance to students within the senior school. All the members of the Student Council know that we have an important role to play and that we have a special responsibility to act as role models and student leaders in the school.

Emily Russell
For the Student Council
HISTORY NEWS

The year 8 History students worked steadily in classes to create Viking Longships using recyclable materials. Mr Blake surprised the students in full Viking regalia as he entered the room to be the guest judge! Students Isobel Davie (winner) and Matthew Atkins (runner-up) display their personalised Viking Longships. Well done to all the students who participated in the challenge!

Tamara Tomczyk
Humanities/VET Teacher

SPORTS NEWS

Outdoor Education Surf Camp and UCSSC Lake Ginninderra Rock-Climbing and Abseiling Excursion

Over the past two weeks in Outdoor Education some of the students have participated in a Surfing camp to Broulee, as well as a Rock-Climbing and Abseiling excursion to UCSSC Lake Ginninderra.

The surfing camp at the end of week 8 was a fantastic chance for the students to apply the practical skills that we have learnt in class, as well as have loads of fun. We departed school in the rain at 8.30am on the Thursday morning, not having much hope that the weather would improve. However, as we drove out of Canberra and down the Clyde Mountain the rain began to ease and eventually stop. This made it much more enjoyable to set up tents, as well as go for a swim in the caravan park pool.

Throughout the two days we all participated in two surfing sessions as well as one stand up paddle boarding session. For some of the students it was their first time either surfing or paddle boarding and regardless they all put in lots of effort and improved immensely. The rain held off for the duration of the trip and we all came back to Canberra tired, but having had a great time!

On Friday of week 9 a group of 19 students went on an excursion to UCSSC Lake Ginninderra to go rock-climbing at abseiling. The students all got to have a go at abseiling off UCSSC Lake Ginninderra’s balcony, as well as climbing both sides of their rock wall. The students acted as ‘clients’ for the UCSSC Lake Ginninderra year 12 students, and got taught how to safely belay, hook onto an abseil and climbing system as well as correct climbing and abseiling techniques. Some students faced their fear of heights on the day and overall we all had a great afternoon.

Piper Quick - SHAPE Facility

Congratulations to Aiden Tremethick and Lionel Saddler for making the ACT Under 15 Rugby League Squad. We wish them all the best in future games. Well done boys
We invite all prospective parents of Preschool, Kindergarten and Year 7 to attend our 2014 open night across both campuses.

## Whole School Open Night

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preschool &amp; Kindergarten</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To be held at the Junior Campus</td>
<td>7 May 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact: Kate Stuckey</td>
<td>6.30 — 8pm</td>
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<td>Tel: 6205 2955</td>
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**Gold Creek School**

Kelleway Ave
Nicholls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Email:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To be held at the Senior Campus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@goldcreek.act.edu.au">info@goldcreek.act.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Priscilla Wray</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tel: 62051814</td>
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</table>
Thank you to all the families and friends that signed up to the World Challenge Photo Fundraiser on Sunday 30 March. You will be pleased to read that with a few last minute bookings, the day turned out to be a success. A total of $740 was raised. Congratulations to Mrs Sandra Elliott who won the raffle Prize that was donated by Laura Jean photography for a full portrait package valued at $290.
McDONALD’S GUNGAHLIN IS DONATING 20% OF ALLOCATED FRONT COUNTER REGISTER SALES TO GOLD CREEK SCHOOL’S WORLD CHALLENGE!!

Students from Gold Creek School will be taking part in a World Challenge expedition to Vietnam & Cambodia. They have the opportunity to assist at a Local orphanage,

Funds raised from this night will help provide the orphanage with beds, sheets, and any other equipment they might need.

Help them make the lives of others better.

WHEN : Monday 5th May, 2014 between 5pm & 8pm