



Senior Site Bites



Week 7

Term 1, 17 March 2017



Dates to remember: [Calendar](#)

- 21 March - Harmony Day
- 21 March - Girls 13 & over Basketball
- 22 March - Breakfast Club 8-8:45am, Kit 2
- 22 March - Homework Centre 3-4:30, Library
- 22 March - P&C Meeting, JS 6pm
- 23 March - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander BBQ 3:30pm

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



ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

This week students have been actively completing various assessment tasks towards completing their Term 1 academic commitments. These tasks and student performance will be highlighted in the mid-semester reports that teachers are completing. These will be sent out to families in week 9, followed up by our Parent-Teacher evenings in week 10. I notice that some parents are already booking times with teachers. It's great that we are able to work together to support students in their learning. We encourage students to also come along to the interviews to participate in discussions around their progress and steps for improvement.

Next week the school will recognise Harmony Day on 21 March; the day will also formally be acknowledged in our Senior Site assembly on Friday with the theme of tolerance – one of the IB attitudes. Gold Creek School is truly a multicultural place and it is essential that we recognise that diversity with each other and demonstrate tolerance and understanding for all.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind students that mobile phones are not to be used inappropriately in classes. It has been brought to our attention that a number of students are using their phones for social purposes in class. While the school embraces the use of technology to enhance education and learning; mobile phones are not devices approved as part of our BYOD policy. In the remainder of term 1, the leadership team will be observing classes and students found using their devices inappropriately and may have their phones confiscated and parents called to collect them.

Hamish McDonald and Michelle Morthorpe

YEAR 9 NEWS

Year 9 have begun the first steps into an important time in their schooling lives –the Year 10 certificate. They have participated in preliminary information sessions, and more will become available over the course of the year to help them in this important transition.

In SEL the theme for this year is 'Purpose'. This has involved thinking of student's individual interests and skills with a special focus on goal setting for this year, with a mind to their future goals. All students should have made some goals for the 2017 school year. This will be reviewed in SEL as the year progresses.

Year 9 opens up many opportunities for students to pursue their individual interests through their elective choices. Year 9 students are encouraged to take advantage of the many extra-curricular opportunities offered around the school.

We look forward to working with year 9 on their upcoming journey as seniors in the school.

Amy Lambert, Mary-Anne Kirk and the rest of the Year 9 Team

Senior Site Bites

WARNING! Do not touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms!

Death Cap mushrooms are one of the world's deadliest mushrooms and can be found across the Canberra region, usually in late summer and autumn. There have been four deaths and many poisonings in the ACT in the past 15 years due to Death Cap mushrooms.

In Canberra, Death Cap mushrooms often grow near established oak trees in mild, moist weather. Death Cap mushrooms have been found growing on school grounds in the ACT.

Parents and teachers are asked to remind children **not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms**.

As the Death Cap mushroom can easily be confused with edible varieties, adults are also strongly advised not to touch, pick or eat any wild mushrooms. It is difficult, even for experienced collectors, to tell the difference between the Death Cap mushroom and edible wild mushrooms.

All parts of the Death Cap mushroom are poisonous and eating even a small amount of the mushroom can be fatal. Cooking the Death Cap mushroom does not make it safe.

If you suspect that you or one of your family members might have eaten Death Cap mushrooms, you should seek urgent medical attention at a hospital emergency department.

If you believe you have spotted a Death Cap mushroom, do not touch the mushroom with your bare skin. If it is in your own yard, the best option is to leave it be and make sure others stay away from the area. The mushroom will die in a few days.

If you believe you have spotted a Death Cap mushroom growing in a public area, please contact Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

For further information on Death Cap mushrooms, download the fact sheet online from ACT Health: http://www.health.act.gov.au/datapublications/fact-sheets/environmental-health#Death_Cap_Mushrooms

FREE WORKSHOP

Join Autism Spectrum Australia for a day of learning with other parents and carers of school aged children on the autism spectrum, designed to help foster productive school, family and community relationships to provide the best kind of support for children. Workshops are for parents, carers and grandparents wanting to understand more about autism and learn practical strategies using evidence based resources to help maximise their young person's learning.

Date: 2 May 2017
Where: Manuka Oval, Manuka Circle
GRIFFITH ACT

Register Online - www.positivepartnerships.com.au .

Registrations open on Tuesday 7 March 2017 and close one business day prior to the workshop. Register early as places are limited!

Free workshop for
parents & carers of
young people on the
autism spectrum!

Canberra - 2 May

Register your place:

positivepartnerships.com.au

 positive partnerships