

# Junior Site Bites



**Term 1**  
**Week 1**  
8 February 2019

**Dates to remember:**  
**Calendar**

- **18 Feb – 1 Mar** – Kindergarten PIPS Testing
- **11 Feb** – Visit from Gongju Elementary School
- **21 Feb** – Swimming Carnival

Check out the P&C website:  
<http://goldcreekschoolpandc.org.au/>  
Follow us on twitter:  
@GoldCreekSchool



Welcome to 2019! What a fantastic first week of learning! We welcome back all our students and particularly those new to Gold Creek School. It has been a privilege watching your children settle into the new academic year, and I thank you for all the preparation prior to school that has occurred to allow for such a smooth transition. I loved entering classrooms during this week and watching all those routines being set up and practiced to allow learning to be at the forefront! I particularly enjoyed watching our littlest students as they began either preschool or Kindy and applaud them on how quickly they have adjusted to school life! Our Kindies this week have already begun learning about what it means to be part of a community – and have celebrated their family as part of their community!



This week also saw the opening of our newest building – as our 5/6 cohort were the inaugural students to enter and begin their learning in this wonderful new space! Our staff also had an opportunity to learn in the building, as we held our professional learning days during last week in the new classrooms. The students are also loving our new basketball courts! We look forward to continued building works this year, including the re-grassing of our oval, and are excited about the new spaces!



### Communication

As always, we value a strong home/school link and encourage regular communication with staff. Remember, as always, the first point of contact is your classroom teacher. Our teachers value regular discussion to ensure that we meet the needs of your child. We will be holding our 'Meet and Greet' in Week 3 which will give you an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and understand the year's curriculum for 2019. **Save the Date: Wednesday 20 February - more information next week**

This year we welcome Kratai Visityuthasart to join our Executive Team. Kratai will be our Director of Technology and Innovation and will support the Year K/1 Team. Cindy Condon will be the Executive for Preschool and Julie Pickering will support Years 2 and 3. Brendan Carswell will support Years 4 and 5/6.

Finally, thank you as always to all our parents for your continued support during drop-off and pick-up. We recognise that the carpark and entry into Kelleway Ave is sometimes challenging and encourage all families to walk to school where possible. To support this, we are lucky to have Glenn as our crossing supervisor. Please make sure you say hello to him – he is such a valuable asset to our school!

Finally, can I remind all parents that smoking is prohibited on school grounds and in the carpark. Similarly, dogs are not permitted.

Have a great weekend, Jacqui

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## PIPS TESTING FOR KINDERGARTEN

Each year, students in Kindergarten across Australia undertake an on-entry baseline assessment test of their early reading, phonics and numeracy skills using the Performance Indicators in Primary School (PIPS) program. This on-line test will be administered during Week 3 and 4 of Term 1 by classroom teachers, with families receiving their child's results later in the term. The assessment will then be repeated during Term 4, with the end of year results being used to gauge individual, class and school growth. If your Kindergarten child is going to be absent during the testing period, please speak to your child's classroom teacher.

*Kratai Visityuthasart*  
*Executive Teacher*

## LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to the library for 2019!

- We have some exciting events planned already this year so stay tuned to the Calendar, Bites and Newsletter for more information.
- Student borrowing starts next week. Please read your child's Community Connections to find out library times and borrowing procedures and expectations.

### February 14 is 'Library Lovers Day'.

- Students will have an opportunity at lunch time on Thursday to borrow a 'mystery' book in a brown paper cover. This was a popular activity last year, so it will be first in first served.



**This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday** of Eric Carle's much-loved book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

- We will be celebrating this achievement during library classes early in the year. I wonder how many of us remember reading or having this read to us as we were growing up?

### Library Volunteers

- If anyone can spare some of their time to volunteer in our library this year it would be greatly appreciated. Either ring me on 6142 1355 or pop in and have a chat. Even if it's just half an hour, there is always something to do from shelving to covering books, etc.

*Keryn Hoeschle*  
*Gold Creek Teacher/Librarian*