Dear Parents and Carers

Today we have had the pleasure of Emily Russell, senior site and Isabelle Evans, junior site being Principals for the Day. They have had opportunities to observe students and teachers working. Their good work and diligent effort has been commended. A series of meetings have been held, morning tea enjoyed and a working lunch carried out. Both students mentioned the busy timeframe a Principal works within as being ‘rather exhausting’. Emily and Isabelle should be congratulated on their mature, thoughtful approach to the day. Visiting executive staff from other schools commented on the professional demeanour demonstrated by the girls. Well done! A sincere thank you goes to Shannon Birch for organising such a memorable day.

We have two parent and community bodies at Gold Creek who are working in strong partnership with the school. Our Board and P&C groups are hardworking teams who support our school to action our strategic priorities. We particularly thank them for their effort in working innovatively to improve communication with those in our communities. New members or attendance at our P&C meetings is always encouraged.

Students from both junior and senior sites attended a Da Vinci challenge day at Canberra Grammar School. Our students performed well and will receive certificates at up-coming assemblies. Thank you to Dee Brown, Kate Olsen and Catherine Geraghty-Slavica for the preparation and all the behind the scenes work. We have much to be proud of at Gold Creek School.

Semester One reports will be issued early in week 10. Staff and students have been very busy completing assignments and assessments. We hope they all enjoy the break over the coming long weekend.

Kind regards
The Leadership Team
# Calendar Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>NPS Action Bus Wash Outdoor Ed Wee Jasper Caving Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>NPS Movie Night Outdoor Ed Wee Jasper Caving Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>JS Book Fair 2 -12 June</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>JS P-2 assembly JS School Banking</td>
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<tr>
<td>14/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>HS/GC joint PD 3.30 Brain Bee ANU</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 6.30pm Junior Site Library NPS Greening Australia Visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>NPS Action Bus Wash</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>JS Y3-6 assembly JS School Banking</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>NPS Fire Brigade Visit Indigenous Careers Expo</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Community GWS Cup Finals U/16 AFL</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>SS Children's theatre production</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>JS P-2 assembly Joint Facilities Disco JS School Banking NPS Fire Brigade Visit</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>28/29</td>
<td>Ramadan begins</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Jun/Jul</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>World Challenge Trivia Night SS library</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>SS assembly Yr 8 &amp; 9 Immunisations Alpha Show - Cinderella</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yr 7 Immunisations WS NAIDOC Celebrations Last Day Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
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## Whole School News

### Principal for the Day

Today was an exceptionally busy day for two of our students who had the opportunity to be Student Principal for the day. Isabelle Evans Yr. 3 and Emily Russell Yr. 9 were both selected to participate in this national initiative, gaining an insight into the role of a school Principal. Before the day both students participated in a range of activities to prepare them for their leadership role including webinars, leadership projects and planning for the big day. Isabelle and Emily had a jam packed day working between both Junior and Senior Sites supporting staff and students as Student Principal for a Day. We thank both students for the unique leadership qualities they both brought along to the role.

*Shannon Birch*
INTENTIONS FOR 2015

During Week 5 and 6, students in Preschool through to Year 6 have brought home ‘2015 Intention’ forms to indicate the school that they will be attending next year. Please ensure that you complete this form and return it to the school at your earliest convenience. During Term 3, we dedicate significant time to staffing the school for the following year based on student numbers. The information we receive from the 2015 intentions form is critical in ensuring that we are staffing adequately for the needs of the school. Enrolment for students going from Preschool into Kindergarten and from Year 6 into Year 7 rollover automatically once the form is received to indicate that you wish for your child to continue enrolment in Gold Creek School in 2015.

Kate Stuckey
Associate Principal

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)

What does it mean to be a candidate school for the PYP?

Gold Creek School School was awarded candidate status to deliver the IB Primary Years Program in March this year. It is expected from the IBO (International Baccalaureate Organisation) that during its candidate phase a school will put in place all the necessary processes and resources to deliver the program. This includes extensive teacher training, curriculum development and opportunities for teachers to plan and reflect on learning collaboratively. All candidate schools should undergo a trial implementation period of at least one academic year, most schools often taking up to three years of a trial implementation before submitting an application for authorisation. During the trial implementation a candidate school is required to liaise with an assigned consultant from the IBO to ensure the programme is being implemented correctly and to the high standards as set out by the IBO. This consultancy also includes a school visit in which the consultant will provide written feedback and recommendation on the schools position in applying for Authorisation. The candidate school, following a favourable report from the consultant, then submits a comprehensive application for Authorisation. This application is supported with relevant documentation and evidence of the schools commitment to delivering the PYP to the standards and practices set by the IBO. On reviewing the documentation the IBO Asia Pacific regional office arranges a verification visit by an assigned visiting team. The verification visit is intended to ensure that the candidate school is genuinely committed to the pursuit of excellence in international education. A tentative date for Gold Creek School’s PYP consultancy visit has been set for June 2015. An application for authorisation may then be submitted in October 2015.

Angela Spence
PYP Coordinator

DA VINCI DECATHLON

Very big congratulations to the 24 Year 5 & Year 6 students that I accompanied to da Vinci Decathlon today. I was extremely proud to say I belonged to Gold Creek School - the student’s behaviour and team work was outstanding.

Forty-eight teams competed from a range of schools across ACT (Public & Private). Gold Creek came 1st in Code breaking and 3rd in Creative producers - certificates that can be displayed proudly for all to see.

In addition to the above, from the 48 teams that competed, Gold Creek School ranked:

8th in Engineering
4th in Art & Poetry
4th in Maths
9th in English.

What an achievement!

A huge thank you to Mark McLennan for transporting the students on the bus, Mick Graham (Will’s dad) for also transporting us, and to Madi Smith (my pre service teacher) for taking on a marking role at the decathlon.

Dee Brown

SPORT
The Junior Site has been very busy with sport, the following students have, or will be representing in the following sports:

ACT Tennis Team - Annerly P, Nth Gungahlin Basketball - Rebekah W, Nth Gungahlin Softball - Nick D, Nth Gungahlin Soccer - Dale S, Nth Gungahlin Cross Country - Charlie T, Theo S, Kaiyah S, Rashmi M, Pace M, Jesse H, Noah S, Malachi W, Abdul W, Skye A, Gabby J, Emma C, Tully M, Jessica S, Emily D and we also had 2 representatives from the Senior Site join us on the day, Estelle W and Emily P. Unfortunately none of our runners made it to the ACT carnival (even though Mr Mac thought we should have had at least 3 runners make it, he just can’t count). Congratulations to all of our representative students.

On Tuesday 4 June the Junior Site had 12 boys playing in the Sullivan Shield Rugby League competition which will continue on Tuesday 17 June. The boys played 5 gruelling games without any substitutions in very muddy conditions. The boys gave it all they had, and most pleasing to Mr Mac was that they worked as a team, and supported each other throughout the day. The school should be proud of these boys as they received praise from other schools teachers and parents for their behaviour and their excellent attitudes.

The students are still competing in our lunch time sports competitions with the years 5 and 6 midway through their Basketball round robin competition, and the years 3 and 4 are in their semi-finals for the indoor soccer competition. The winners of these sports competitions will earn for themselves the right to play the teachers on Friday of week 10 (should be a real big game).

Active after school Communities sport (AASC) is still happening on Tuesdays (soccer) and Thursdays (Taekwondo) and the school will be seeking further government grants this term to continue this very worthwhile event in semester 2. Parents will be notified of the sports chosen when the AASC grant is approved.

Last Thursday we had the pleasure of hosting 3 of the Canberra Gunners Basketball team, who coached all of our PE classes that day in the skills of Basketball. The kids were very happy to see these (very big) men and take part in some excellent coaching. We also got to ask questions about why the men sounded different to us when they spoke (2 of the coaches were from Texas).

Mr McLennan

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK FAIR – JOINT FACILITIES LIBRARY 10-12 JUNE

Our Carnival Book Fair starts next week at the Jr Site library, 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 thankyou in advance!
K – 6 students would have bought home their ‘wishlists’ this week. Please do not send them to classrooms as an order form. Purchases are only available during the following sale times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 10 June</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 June</th>
<th>Thursday 12 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 – 9:30 am</td>
<td>7:30 – 8:30 am</td>
<td>3 – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
</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.

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

SENIOR CAMPUS NEWS

What a busy but productive semester. Last week students were involved in a number of excursions providing rich learning activities and life skills for students within the community outside the school environment. Thank you to the staff that organised and attended these activities.

Students have the opportunity to complete their elective selections for next semester now. Go to our school website and click on the appropriate year level link if this hasn’t already been completed at school.

Student studies consist of a number of core curriculum areas these include; English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and Health, Humanities and Languages. Each semester students have 8 lines or classes.

In years 7 and 8 the study of languages is compulsory and of growing importance as the global context of the world our children will ultimately enter is ever increasing. Students will maintain the study of languages throughout their education at Gold Creek School.

In years 9 and 10 the study of languages is offered as an elective option in 2014 but will ultimately be a compulsory unit for year 9 and 10 students from 2015.

In addition to this Gold Creek School follows the Australian Curriculum standards and this requires year 7 and 8 students to complete one semester of Economics and Geography over the two years and one semester of IT. In years 9 and 10 students are required to complete one semester of Economics and Geography over the two years. These courses are offered on the elective lines.

Gold Creek School offers an extensive selection in its elective programme for students and students are strongly encouraged to study one semester of a unit from within the The Arts (Music, Visual Arts, Drama) and one unit from within the area of Technology (Wood Technology, Food Technology, Digital Projects, Metal Technology) to ensure a balanced package throughout their schooling. In addition to this we offer a wide variety of electives taught by expert teaching staff in the areas of Humanities, English (Psychology), Mathematics and PE (eg. Bootcamp, Outdoor Education) allowing for students to extend their skills in these areas and pursue their interests.
It is an important time in the semester when students are required to complete and submit tasks (tests, assignments, projects, productions, presentations, etc) for assessment purposes as teachers prepare to complete student reports. Please check with your child, encourages and support them in managing their time and submitting the required assessment pieces.

Priscilla Wray  
Associate Principal Senior Site

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME (MYP)

Last newsletter we looked at three of the attributes of the IB Learner Profile: inquirers; knowledgeable and thinkers. In this newsletter we will look at three more. If you have some good ideas of how you as a parent could act on the Learner Profile attributes or even examples of when your children have demonstrated the attributes, please email me on: michelle.morthorpe@ed.act.edu.au

As IB learners we strive to be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>IB learner profile statement</th>
<th>What this means for us</th>
<th>Students said:</th>
<th>Teachers said:</th>
<th>So what does this mean for you as a parent?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Communicators: | We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.                                  | Students said:  
• earn each other’s respect, try to be good and act responsibly  
• try understanding the differences in people by talking to others  
Teachers said:  
• communicate clearly and respectfully whilst being an active listener  
• work collaboratively and effectively with others  
So what does this mean for you as a parent? |                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                      |
| Principled:     | We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.                                         | Students said:  
• be honest and take responsibility for our actions and their consequences  
• take responsibility as students to be honourable and proud of our school  
Teachers said:  
• show respect, fairness, integrity, and honest in my behaviour and how I treat others  
• be a role model for social justice and educate students about boundaries and rules  
So what does this mean for you as a parent? |                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                      |
| Open-Minded:    | We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.                  | Students said:  
• think outside the box and never be afraid of thinking of all the possibilities  
• be prepared to accept your mistakes and learn from them  
Teachers said:  
• embed and value different perspectives into my daily practise  
So what does this mean for you as a parent? |                                                                                       |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                      |
On Thursday 29 May we held a parent information evening on the MYP. In the session I outlined the key elements of the programme and the impact on teaching and learning at Gold Creek School. The PDF of the Prezi will be uploaded to the school’s website if you would like further information about the session.

Michelle Morthorpe
MYP Coordinator

DA VINCI DECATHLON

On Tuesday the 3rd of June, 7 students from Year 7 and 7 students from Year 8 participated as teams in the da Vinci Decathlon hosted by Canberra Grammar School. It was a challenging day with 10 tasks to complete over a range of disciplines. Our teams represented Gold Creek School with enthusiasm, pride and excellent team work. The Year 8 team did particularly well in the Philosophy section and the Year 7 team enjoyed the Engineering Challenge as well as the Art and Poetry activity. Below is a poetic rap by Shams Mehry (Yr 8) about the day.

‘We started off the day with Philosophy
English, don’t forget the apostrophe!
Science was long and really tough.
It was challenging, but oddly enough
We made it through to recess time.
Muffins and juice, but when we heard the chime
We headed back inside to Engineering,
Mathematics, Art and a lot of map reading.
Lunch came around with boxes of pizza.
Then went inside to general knowledge, wish I had my Visa
Questions asked about around the Earth
And Code Breaking, even questions ‘bout Perth
But overall it was a really good day,
Look forward to next year, come what may…’

MELBOURNE EXCURSION

The 2014 Melbourne excursion was a great success. Thirty Year 10 students and three teachers travelled down to Melbourne for four days and followed a packed itinerary. Our first day was spent travelling down to Melbourne by bus but the compensation was as much pizza as you could eat in a Lygon street restaurant and a visit to Brunettis amazing cake shop that evening.

During our first full day in Melbourne we visited the Jewish Holocaust Centre where we got to meet up with Holocaust survivor Irma Hanner. The group sat transfixed as Irma told her horrific yet inspiring story. Following this we visited the Holocaust centre museum where very knowledgeable guides explained the exhibits. In the afternoon we visited the Melbourne Aquarium and marvelled at the amazing collection of everything which swims, crawls and lurks beneath the waves. That night we travelled up to the top of Mount Dandenong for a panoramic view of Melbourne at night time.
Our second full day in Melbourne started with two hours exploring the Queen Victoria Markets where the students indulged their shopping and eating passions. We then travelled to the Eureka Tower and ascended to the 88th floor for an amazing sky high view of Melbourne. Some of the braver souls went out onto The Edge, a glass bottomed room that moves out from the building and hangs for a time out in the void. Then we went shopping in Melbourne – a truly exciting time for some of the students who explored as many shops as they could and almost literally shopped until they dropped! That evening we went to the Old Melbourne Gaol where we experienced the Hangman’s Tour. It was a great experience to be escorted through the old prison by candlelight and be told the many stories of that grim place. We then went across the Westgate Bridge to Williamstown for an ice cream.

Our final day saw us back on the bus and stopping at Glenrowan to say hello to Ned Kelly en-route. It was a great experience for all concerned.

Greg Blake

MATHS NEWS

Textbooks

It is important that every student have a textbook to assist them with independent and individualised study. If you are unsure what book your child requires please ask their teacher.

Calculators

All students from 7-10 require a scientific calculator, preferably Casio. These are available at stationery stores as well as supermarkets. Most retail for approximately $20. Students will use these throughout their high school years.

Year 7

Year 7 are currently working on Area and Perimeter of shapes and will have a test next week.

Year 8

Year 8 are currently working on Rates and Ratios. They have an assignment on this which is due by next Thursday.

Year 9

Students in the standard class are working on linear relationships in order to improve their algebra skills. Students in the advanced class are working on algebra and have a factorisation test coming up soon.

Year 10

Students in the standard class are currently working on measurement, converting units, perimeter, area and volume of various shapes. The advanced class is starting on consumer mathematics and surds.

Zac Hain

SCIENCE NEWS

Year 7 classes have been looking at mixtures and how to separate them. A popular experiment was separating sand, iron filings and salt from each other.

Year 8 students have completed an introduction to Chemistry, comparing physical and chemical changes. They have investigated physical and chemical change by making and testing a thermometer and using chemistry to inflate a balloon.

In Year 9 classes they are looking at atomic structure and Chemistry. Students used coloured lollies to model radioactive decay and came up with some great graphs showing their findings.
Year 10 classes are studying Newtonian Physics. This is useful for all sorts of applications, from throwing boomerangs (like we did last week for reconciliation week) to driving a car (the Road Ready course will be next term with Mr Hain!)

Quotable Quote: “I love Science, Miss. Science is fun.” – Year 7 student after completing the separation experiment.

*The Science Faculty*

---

**DSTA/DTM NEWS**

The following events are available to Defence families in June:

- The Royal Military College, Duntroon celebrates the Queen’s birthday in presenting 'Trooping the Colour' in Commonwealth Park from 10.15 on Saturday 7 June. This event is for everyone, not just those with affiliations to Defence.

- DCO Canberra’s *Cook’s Night Off!* is an opportunity for spouses and partners of Defence members and their support networks to meet informally over a meal. This month dinner will be on Thursday 19 June at The George Harcourt Inn, Gold Creek Village, Nicholls, ACT. RSVP to dco.canberra@defence.gov.au or 6265 8777 by 12 June.

- The DCO Floating Coffee Clubs are an excellent opportunity to meet and develop friendships with other defence spouses and their friends. Children are always welcome. DCO Canberra Coffee Clubs meet monthly in two locations - National Museum of Australia and Gungahlin. Each coffee club is attended by a DCO FLO and on occasions, representatives from a community group or organisation are invited to speak to defence families. The coffee clubs for this month will be held at National Museum of Australia on 25 June at 10am and at Gungahlin Library Café on 1 July, 10am.

- The Military Wives choir is now well established in Canberra but welcomes new members who wish to share in a love of singing with the view to performing in the community. The choir are becoming well known throughout Canberra and have enjoyed performing at recent events including Anzac Day at the Australian War Memorial. If you wish to make contact with the choir please email militarywiveschoircaneberra@gmail.com.

DCO E News is an excellent source of information about what is happening in and around Canberra each month for Defence families. If you do not already receive DCO E news emails contact susan.moran@defence.gov.au to be included on the mailing list.

Regards
*Hilary Kinraid*
*DTM/DSTA*
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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Footprints
Koori Playgroup

When? 11:30am-1pm
Every Wednesday during the school term.

Where? Ngunnawal Primary School
Near the sandpit

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their parents and carers

For more information will turn on the Geographe Child and Family Centre on 6205 2090 or 0409 391 912

Koori Playgroup

WHEN | Thursday 10 – 11:30am*

WHERE | the playground next to Holt Community Hub on Bearepare Crescent

For more information | Call the West Belconnen Child and Family Centre on 6205 2904

Keep saving to win a family underwater adventure holiday.

For more information, visit www.roughguides.com

OSHClub News

Before School / After School Care Program

Program Update
During the last week in May and the beginning of June staff and children at OSHClub have been focusing on booking after ourselves and others. We have emphasized this to remind children of the importance of respect and our positive behaviour support at OSH. Known as the four R’s these responsibilities help us provide a happy and safe environment for your children. We encourage children to be respectful by following instructions, using manners and speaking nicely, the safe by walking inside, staying in boundaries and wearing a hat outside. We care for every child, if using a correctly and packing it up. Lastly, children need to be fair by taking turns, cooperating and including others. Inappropriate language and behaviour will not be tolerated.

We have been trying something new on Fridays. Last Friday was Fitness Friday where all children could choose an active activity in the afternoon. We offered Soccer, handball and skipping, Aerobics and Yoga. This encouraged children to choose an area of interest and mix with different children in the program. Below is a sample of the activities offered May and June. See you at OSHClub soon Kathleen and team.

Next Week’s Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Human rights</td>
<td>Cancer council</td>
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Parent Information
OSHClub phone: 0402 611 404
Program Manager: Kathleen Rigby
Coordinators: Sophie, Alisa and Lia

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 any day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

OSHClub Head Office: 03 80649500

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OSHClub Head Office: 03 80649500

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 any day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
VOLUNTEER SCHOOL MENTORS WANTED

- Are you patient, a good listener, do you have a good sense of humour and a genuine interest in the welfare of young people?
- Would you like to mentor a student on a 1-to-1 basis for one hour each week in school in school hours?
- Through your role as a mature role model, would you like to help a student achieve his/her potential?
- Activities with your student can include basic literacy and numeracy tasks, word and number games, craft, and other activities that help you build a rapport with your student.
- We particularly welcome expressions of interest from mature adults who would like to join our team of volunteers using Meccano building as a mentoring activity.

For more information, contact:
Mal Ferguson
Secretary
SVTACT Inc.
secretary@svtact.org.au; Tel: 0465713817; www.svtact.org.au
Information for Parents/Carers

Schools across Australia are taking part in a new national data collection on school students with disability.

The data collection is being introduced in stages over three years, and started in 2013. From 2015, this information will be collected in every school across Australia, every year.

All Australian governments have agreed to this.

**WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?**

All Australian governments agree that every child in an Australian school should have a high quality education. It shouldn’t matter what the individual child’s circumstances are – every child should have the same opportunity to succeed at school.

The aim of this new data collection is to have better information about school students with disability in Australia. Better information about school students with disability will help teachers, principals and education authorities to support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

**WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?**

There is nothing new about schools collecting information about students with disability – in fact, schools have had to do this by law for some time. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory.

With the new data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect this information – that is, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through this new national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. It will help to put the right supports in place for students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without a disability.

**WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO?**

Every school in Australia is likely to have a student with disability at some point. Schools need to be able to support students with disability by removing any obstacles for them to participate in their education.

By law, schools are required to make reasonable adjustments where needed to assist students with disability. These responsibilities are outlined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. This means that schools need to talk to the student and/or their parent/carer about reasonable adjustments. These are things the schools do now and this won’t change.

The new data collection will record students who have been identified by a school team as meeting the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and provided with an adjustment.

**WHAT IS AN ADJUSTMENT?**

An adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability participate in education on the same basis as other students. Adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (like ramps into classrooms), in the classroom and at an individual student level (like extra tuition for a student with a learning difficulty).
WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Your child’s school will collect and report information every year about:

- the level of adjustment provided
- the number of students who receive each level of adjustment
- where known, the student’s broad type of disability. Some students who are not provided with an adjustment at the time of the collection will meet the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and will be eligible to be included in the data collection.

WHO WILL COLLECT MY CHILD’S INFORMATION?

Teachers and other school staff from your child’s school will collect the above information based on:

- consultation with parents/carers
- the school team’s observations and professional judgements
- any medical diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for making sure that the information collected about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all children and their families is very important. With the new data collection, this will be done in the following ways:

- Personal or confidential information will not be given to anyone not authorised to see it.
- When the information is sent by your child’s school to the local or federal education authority for combination with information from other schools, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.
- When the information is reported from 2016 onwards, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.

WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE DATA BE AVAILABLE?

When all Australian schools are taking part in the new data collection, the information will be reported on the My School website from 2016 onwards. It will be by school only – no student names are recorded as part of the data collection.

CAN I DECIDE WHETHER MY CHILD’S INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

It’s your decision about whether you want your child’s information to be included in the national reporting or not.

Including every school child who is being provided with an adjustment because of disability in this new national data collection each year will help schools, education authorities and governments to better meet students’ needs.

Your school will tell you what you need to do if you don’t want to have your child’s information included in the national data collection.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, your school is still required to provide support to your child with disability and any adjustments that may be needed to help him/her participate at school.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may affect your child.

You can also visit www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability