Dear Parents and Carers

At the end of last term, the Children’s Policy and Regulation Unit visited our preschool at Hall and undertook a comprehensive assessment of the quality of our service against the National Quality Standards for Early Childhood Education and Care and School Age Care and Education and Care Services National Regulations.

We have just received the final report of their assessment and rating. The National Regulations prescribe rating levels within the assessment and rating process and I am delighted to announce that our staff and preschool achieved the highest possible rating. This is an outstanding achievement. Very few preschools attain this level of proficiency and therefore our success is really worth acknowledging. I would like to congratulate Cindy Condon, the preschool teacher, Wendy Crowley, the preschool assistant, Belinda Brown the educational leader and Shannon Birch, Director of Students for their outstanding work in ensuring that once again Gold Creek School has ‘come out on top’!

This is the time of year when we as a staff scrutinise the improvement work we have completed in relation to our Annual Operating Plan. I am confident that we are continually improving our school and this has been highlighted in the number of new enrolments we have had. I will report our achievements in a strategic update attached to our next whole school newsletter.

Next week, Gold Creek School will be hosting a contingent of students and teachers from the English Language School in Hanzhou, China. I would like to acknowledge and thank the families who have kindly agreed to offer accommodation and a genuine Australian ‘homestay’ experience to these children. I firmly believe that as we move to a more global perspective on education, much will be learned about both Chinese culture and language. A comprehensive programme of events has been most ably organised by Ms Kaarina Hill from our language faculty to enable the students to gain as much as possible from time they are here.

A large part of our school improvement is to instil a sense of pride and belonging in the students and to build a positive school culture. Unfortunately there are a number of students on the senior campus who are not wearing appropriate uniform to school. Whilst I understand that it is cold in the mornings, and that we are phasing in the new winter outer layers, I would urge you to work in partnership with us to ensure that your children look smart and are appropriately dressed in the old or new sweatshirts, and not hoodies with inappropriate advertising slogans. The school uniform does not include jeans or brightly coloured “Vans or Converse” shoes.

Kind Regards,

Linda Baird
Principal

PRINCIPAL: Linda Baird
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Glenda Websdale
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Brenda Ryan
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Kate Stuckey
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL: Priscilla Wray
info@goldcreek.act.edu.au

Board Chair: David Vernon dybooks@mac.com
Parent Representatives: Leona Anton leona.anton@ed.act.edu.au
Fiona Nicholls fiona.nicholls8@gmail.com
P&C President: Michael Rush mikentan@netspeed.com.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>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3 Aug</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Community ACT Yr 9/10 Table Tennis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Community ACT Yr 7/8 Table Tennis HPS Judoroo</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>ICAS Maths competition IB Parent Workshop MYP 5:45-6:30 PYP 6:45-7:30 Yr 1 Gungahlin Town Centre Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 Aug</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>ACT Netball 13 Yrs. +</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>HPS Judoroo Board Meeting</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting 6:30pm Junior Site Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 Aug Pre-school community event – day to be confirmed</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Yr 7/8 Boys &amp; Girls Soccer Gungahlin College Course Interview Week 18-22 Aug</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Regional track and field HPS Judoroo National Simultaneous Reading Time 6:30-7:30pm</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Yr 10 War Memorial Excursion TBC Japanese Fun Day Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6 Aug Literacy and Numeracy week</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30/31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NPS Judoroo Program – Group 1</td>
<td>HPS Judoroo</td>
<td>Yr 9/10 Boys &amp; Girls Soccer</td>
<td>NPS Kenny Koala 12:30pm</td>
<td>3-6 assembly JS School Banking ICAS English NPS Judoroo Program – Group 2 ACT Regional Maths and Science Challenge TBC</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

### STUDENT SUCCESS

Congratulations to Kathryn Zatschler who along with Ms Shannon Birch will be attending the World Parks International Congress as the ACT Representative.

We would also like to congratulate our three representatives at AFL Nationals last week. Well done to Renee Friend, Ben Jamieson and especially Jack Powell who made the All Australian Team.
SPORTS NEWS

The Junior Site had its annual Athletics carnival on Friday 18\textsuperscript{th} July. The weather was very kind to us and the students had a great day of athletic endeavour. It was great to see so many of our students participating in friendly competition as well as so many parents helping out as officials on the day. This really helps the carnival run smoothly. As they say in the classics, there can be only one winner, and on the day Wattle house proved too strong. Congratulations to all of the participants, a huge thank you to those students from the Senior Site who gave up their time to help out with our carnival and all of the teaching staff at the Junior Site for great day.

VOCAL GROUP

Vocal Group have been working very hard this year, with many new members who have been developing their skills and experienced ones who have been both extending themselves and supporting our learning. Last week we went along to the Functions@Federation and performed for the V.I.E.W. Day Club Fundraising lunch. Although there was a great deal of excitement about going on the bus and performing outside of school, the students conducted themselves in an outstanding manner and their singing was a great success. The students had selected the songs so that the audience members would want to sing along and this proved to be the case. Well done to those students who learnt extra solo parts and special thank you to those parents who gave up their time to assist us with this performance!

Bev Job
Music Teacher

GOLD CREEK ASPRING LEADERS

This week our Student Leadership Councils successfully completed an Aspiring Leaders Program. Through our partnership with the Salvation Army our junior school leaders spent 10 weeks learning about the qualities of successful leaders and leadership, the culmination of which resulted in an outstanding presentation to parents and staff outlining their growth as leaders. Our school community has already seen the benefits of this program with our SLC involvement in leading many successful whole school initiatives.
GIRLS GROUP

This week we celebrated the successful completion of our second Girls Group with a morning tea and awards ceremony. With the support of the Salvation Army, our students worked together for 10 weeks focusing on all things girls! Students gained skills and developed strategies relevant to building and maintaining successful relationships, improved self-image and self-confidence.

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Week 2014
Saturday 16 August - Friday 22 August

Book Week is celebrated each year to highlight the importance of reading and the joy of stories created by Australian authors and illustrators. By encouraging students to read and share new books and old favourites, this year’s theme of ‘Connect to Reading – Reading to Connect’ suggests that reading helps to create bonds with each other.

In keeping with this year’s theme we invite you to join us in the Joint Facilities Library on Tuesday 19th August, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, to participate in the National Simultaneous Reading Time. Bring your own beanbags or cushions, choose a book or two from our shelves and get settled with your family for an hour of ‘connecting’ with each other and a good book. Shortlisted books will be available for reading on the night for those arriving early, as well as the wonderful collection we have on our shelves. Doors will open at 6pm.

Classes will be celebrating Book Week in a variety of ways throughout the week including a Book Dress-up Parade on Friday 22 August at 9am. Students are encouraged to ‘connect to’ and dress up as a book character for the day.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us in the library if you have any questions about the ‘Simultaneous Reading Time’ or Book Week Dress-up Day.

Overdue Notices will be sent home with this newsletter. Please don’t hesitate to contact the library staff if you have any concerns about these notices.

Keryn Hoeschle
Gold Creek School Junior Site Teacher/Librarian

Megan Taylor and Melinda Brown
Holy Spirit Primary School teacher/Librarians

HELP PLEASE

The Junior Site Sick Bay is looking for donations of outgrown tracksuit pants and socks suitable for ages 5-8 years. These items can be handed to Hilary or Margaret in the Front Office. Thank you.
MATHS NEWS

Welcome back to another semester of mathematics! We’ve already celebrated ‘Pi Day’ (22/7) and are well into our first units of work.

A reminder that students are expected to arrive to class with appropriate equipment. For Mathematics this means their workbook, appropriate textbook, pens/pencils and a scientific calculator. Without a textbook it is harder for a student to put time into individual areas of weakness or extend areas of strength. The Maths department make their best efforts in keeping this affordable by running a second hand book sale at the end of the year where parents have the opportunity to sell their child’s books and purchase texts for next year at a reduced cost. Students use the same calculator throughout years 7 to 10 so this is a one off purchase provided they look after it.

Students across years 7-10 will soon have access to their Maths classes online through the Schoology program (replacing the school’s use of Edmodo). This will enable their teachers to develop digital resources and support for students specific to their classes.

Maths help is provided for students needing additional support or time to catch up during Tuesday lunchtime and Thursday recess in room S1057. This is staffed by maths teachers and is provided to enable students to receive additional help, catch up on work missed through absence or for a supported place to complete work.

The Year 10 Mathematics Challenge Day will be on September 25. Gold Creek will be sending two teams of students to compete against other schools in a range of logic and problem solving puzzles. Those interested in participating should see Ms Gogia. A Maths day at Dickson College for students in years 8 and 9 is currently being planned for the end of term 3, more information to follow!

Unit outlines will be given to students in week 3 describing the topics and expected work habits of students in Mathematics.

Year 7 are working on understanding the core concepts of algebra for the first five weeks. Homework will continue in the same pattern as last semester with it being set every even week, and due every odd week.

Year 8 have just finished their unit on measurement and time, and will begin their investigations into linear graphs and equations from next week. Homework will be set on even weeks, and due on the odd weeks.

Year 9 standard are working on their measurement unit, building their understanding of the key concepts of area and volume. They will have their assessment for this unit in week 4.

Year 9 advanced have completed their study on similarity and will begin working on coordinate geometry from next week with their first assessment in week 4. They are beginning to work through the 9 ICE-EM Book 2 text so they will need this for the remainder of the semester.

Year 10 standard are developing their use of Pythagoras’ theorem and have an assignment to improve their understanding of its applications. They will move on to further trigonometry and have a written test in week 5.

Year 10 advanced are investigating exponential functions and are being introduced to Logarithms and their applications in growth and decay. Their week 7 test will cover all of this and statistics. They are beginning to work through the 10 ICE-EM Book 2 text so they will need this for the remainder of the semester.
SCIENCE NEWS

Year 7 are classifying living things into groups. Some classes have looked at the life in pond water and had a visit from two members of the class Reptilia.

Year 8 are looking at geology and made basalt and pumice rocks out of toffee. Year 9 are reshaping the world with Plate Tectonics.

In year 10 chemistry we're looking at atomic structure and bonding. We're also doing a spectroscopy experiment that tells us how fireworks function and allows us to analyse the composition of the stars themselves! Thanks Tony and Phil :-)

Year 10 Advanced Science Egg Drop competition winners: Beth and Meg Dingwall demonstrated their ability to engineer a structurally sound egg carrier with their egg surviving a fall from a distance of 6m.

Year 10 Advanced Science paddlepop stick bridge competition winners: Sawitta Risbey and Mackenzie Coppin's bridge, consisting of 100 paddle-pop sticks and PVA glue and weighing 100grams, has held a weight of 45kg and continues to keep structurally integrity. Teacher has run out of weights twice and is seeking more weights!

SPORTS NEWS

Last week I represented the ACT in the u16 Girls National AFL Championships. We got to play 5 different states; Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales. We had our opening ceremony at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG). Then we got to play on that field where all the professional players have! We played at 3 different ovals across Sydney. We also got to climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge for our excursion, so every team from every age group got to climb the bridge that day! All of our games were played in 7 days. Then on Saturday we had our closing ceremony at Giants Stadium where they announced the best players and All Australians. Then we headed home.

Renee Friend

Last week Gold Creek School also had two boys, Jack Powell and Ben Jamieson, representing the ACT in the u15 Boys National AFL Championships. At the conclusion of the championships Jack was named in the u15 All Australian Team for 2014. Jack was the only boy from the ACT selected in this team.
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY (ADFA) EXCURSION

On Friday 25 July, Sara Hillier and I took 16 Year 10 students on an excursion to ADFA. We all had a fabulous day. The students started the day with the Over-Water-Obstacle-Course. All of the students can be congratulated for attempting the course which took most of them out of their comfort zone, challenging them both physically and mentally. Two students, Billy B and Joshua S, completed the course twice and Lauren N made it to the last hurdle. Well done everybody. We were told very few students are able to complete the course in under 5 minutes so Joshua must be congratulated on his 4.40 minute achievement. After this we were shown around the university campus and the cadet facilities and had lunch in the Cadet’s Mess. We also had the opportunity to have our questions answered about life as a cadet at ADFA which was very informative.

Feedback from the students confirmed it was a great excursion. Thanks to Mrs Hillier for driving the school bus and for accompanying us on this excursion.

Hilary Kinraid  
Defence Transition Mentor

WORLD PARKS CONGRESS 2014

Congratulations to Kathryn Zatschler who has been selected to attend the ‘World Parks International Congress 2014’ on behalf of all students in the ACT. The theme for the congress is ‘Parks, People, and Planet – Inspiring Solutions’. Kathryn will engage with delegates from around the globe and participate in a variety of specialised forums, excursions and workshops centered on the most pressing environmental issues facing our world today. Kathryn will also join Gold Creek Schools Sustainability Committee as our student representative.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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.

Adventure + Life Skills = SCOUTS!

Scouting is for boys and girls aged 6-25. Scouts participate in programs that encourage them to grow through adventure by experiencing new challenges, making new friends, building confidence, taking responsibility for themselves, and being provided with opportunities to explore their own abilities and interests. Come and try Scouts today, and take advantage of our 3 week FREE trial.

Visit scoutsact.com.au to find your closest Scout Group or call 1800 SCOUTS.
**IB Parent Workshop**

- Do you want to know more about how your children learn at school?
- How do we know what they have learned?

Join us for a parent information session on:

**Thursday 7 August 2014**

5.45pm—6.30pm MYP  
6.45pm—7.30pm PYP

Junior Campus Library

Light refreshments will be provided between sessions

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**Norths Basketball Club**

Supporting North Canberra Suburbs and the Gungahlin Region

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**Junior Summer Season Trials**

Norths Basketball Club is one of the major basketball clubs in the ACT and we have a large number of teams competing in Basketball competitions in Canberra. Our junior teams train locally at either the Gold Creek School Senior site or Gungahlin College gyms.

We are now taking registrations for the 2014-2015 (Term 4 and Term 1) Summer Season.

Interested players are invited to attend our trials at Gold Creek School Senior Site gym in Nicholls.

Junior trials will be held on the following dates  
**Mondays 4th and 11th August**  
**Tuesdays 5th and 12th August**

For further information contact our junior coordinator, Jodie Kerec via email at northsbasketball@yahoo.com.au or phone 0410 654688.

We look forward to seeing you in Norths colours.
# Program Update

A big welcome back to all our families after the school holidays. We had a busy time here at OSHClub offering our fantastic holiday program. This included a trip to Flip Out and teddy bear and music video making. For the first few weeks of Term 3 your children will be engaged in activities based around the Commonwealth Games, Australia, Magic Science and friendship. Our themed Fridays are very popular, the children have become inspired and are suggesting ideas for upcoming weeks. For example, Friendship, French and fairy-tale Friday will be used next month. See below for a snapshot of the activities we will be offering.

We would like to welcome Jayne to OSHClub, she will be working with various children, especially in the Rockets room to integrate individualised programs if needed. We are looking forward to an enjoyable and busy term with your children. Please don’t hesitate to speak to myself or the coordinators about any issues or concerns. Thanks Kathleen and team.

## Next Week’s Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before Care Activities</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cork hats</td>
<td>Cooking damper</td>
<td>Backyard cricket</td>
<td>Magic painting</td>
<td>AFL football</td>
<td>Making pavlovas and lamingtons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magic Crystal garden</td>
<td>Magic mud</td>
<td>Magic tricks</td>
<td>Commonwealth medals and mascot craft</td>
<td>Commonwealth Games trivia and crossword</td>
<td>The human knot friendship bracelets</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Parent Information

OSHClub News
In the After School Care Program

OSHClub program phone: 0402 611 484
Program Manager: Kathleen Rigby
Coordinators: Sophie, Azar and Lia
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au) all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

## SCHOOL BANKING REWARDS FOR TERM 3

Welcome to Term 3, this Term we introduce the SWIMMING BAG and the DOLLARMITE MONEYBOXES, ALSO WHALE SHARK PENCIL CASE, PENGUIN and SHARK KEYRINGS which are all available to redeem once you have reached 10 tokens.

For mums and dad’s that do not know about the program.

Children learn to save their money by bringing it to school every week, no matter the amount of the deposit the children receive a token, once they have saved 10 they get to choose a fantastic reward!

Do you know that for every new child that joins the program the school receives $5.00 and 5% commission with all the children’s deposits throughout the term!

You can go to any Commonwealth Bank Branch and open a youth saver, don’t forget to take child’s ID and your own ID.

Come and join in the fun and learn to save with the School Banking Program and help your school in fundraising!!

THIS YEAR WE ARE DEEP SEA SAVERS SO COME AND JOIN IN ON THE FUN!!