



Newsletter

30 April, Volume 23, Issue 4

Dear parents and carers,

As a school we are committed to advancing Cultural Integrity and ensure that we build strong connection with all our families – understanding the diverse culture of our families ensures we respond appropriately to needs. This year the ACT Education Directorate introduced a new cultural integrity framework for ACT public schools. As a staff we have commenced engaging with this framework in a variety of ways, to acknowledge, sit, learn and listen to Indigenous perspectives

Our priority, under our cultural Integrity framework is to welcome and engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and our local community members. Last week, we welcomed our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, families and local community members to our school for afternoon tea. Ngunnawal Elder, Aunty Violet welcomed us onto Ngunnawal Country, the land of her family and ancestors. Our guests were treated to a delicious menu of kangaroo and bush tomato sausages, cheese and wattle seed damper, and rosella ripple ice cream made by our Year 9/10 Food Technology class. We also provided a range of fun activities including arts, weaving and Indigenous games.



At our BBQ we launched our school Artwork that culminates our journey as learners at Gold Creek. *The design for this piece was a collaborative effort with staff and students at Gold Creek School. This piece represents the staff and students starting off on different paths then coming together to undertake a shared path and journey that embodies Gold Creek School's Learner Profile - caring, communicator, open-minded, risk-taker, inquirer, reflective, knowledgeable, thinker, principle, well-balanced.*

The shared path is leading to a place where staff and students come together as one to learn from each other and grow together. It's a place where all staff and students feel a sense of belonging and extend this feeling of belonging and connectedness to the communities where the staff and students come from.

Sarah Richards from Murrawuy Journeys

Our second part of the framework is to meet the learning needs and aspirations of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and ensure that our teaching reflects our values of cultural integrity. Ways in which we are meeting this are:

- goal setting and conversations with families on aspirations (known as 'Placemat')

- review of curriculum units occurring in our cultural integrity team has commenced with consultation with Directorate
- opportunities for our Indigenous students to participate in a range of out of school events such as camps and carnivals and in school groups
- professional learning for staff through Grant Sara and Engoori
- student workshops through Murri Matters, and
- the final part of the cultural integrity framework is to have a school environment that demonstrates both respect and high regard for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, knowledge systems and languages. An exciting way in which we are working towards this is through our Senior Site Design. We have engaged with architects and designers to ensure our new school build reflects weaving our past with the future – I am excited about how this will come into reality as the new build completion date is February 2022.

ANZAC Day

At our annual ANZAC day ceremony we paid tribute to all our members of the Armed Services, past and present, with a particular recognition of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander soldiers who volunteered to fight for their country. Every year I am amazed at the support our defence families give to attending this event – thank you to all our VIP's who attended and particularly to Chief Petty Officer Michael Davis for your commemorative address. I wish especially this year to thank Colin for all his organisation and dedication to support our Defence families.

Mother's Day Breakfast

Next Friday our fabulous P&C will be holding their annual Mother's Day Breakfast starting at 8 .00 am. We invite all our wonderful carers to join us and celebrate the amazing work our mum's /carers do! We are so excited to welcome you all back on site as last years event did not happen! These events are so special to celebrate, connect and build community – we can't wait to see you!

Have a fabulous term!

Jacqui Chapman

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS



2022 school enrolments now open

1. Go to education.act.gov.au for information on your local school and enrol online.

2. Apply before 4 June 2021 to receive an offer from 26 July 2021. This means there is ample time to submit your application to be included in the initial round of offers.



2022 ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Online Enrolments for all 2022 ACT public school enrolments are now open for all year levels Preschool to Year 12.

PLEASE NOTE: Gold Creek is a P-10 school. This means current preschool students* do not need to apply to continue to kindergarten and year 6 students do not need to complete an application to continue to year 7. All year 10 students will need to complete an application if they intend to progress to college education. (* the only exception to this, are the preschool students, who do not currently live in the GCS enrolment area and received a 2021 offer for 'Preschool year only'. These families will need to complete an online enrolment form for 2022.)

Enrolment applications made between 27 April 2021 and 5:00pm 4 June 2021 will receive a school placement offer from 26 July 2021. Applications made after 4 June will receive their offers later in the year. Further information about the enrolment process and timeline, and access to the online enrolment form, can be found on the [Education Directorate website](https://education.act.gov.au).

Key messages for parents are that:

- your local public school has a place for your child to learn, develop and reach their potential
- K-12 students are guaranteed a place at their local school, regardless of when they apply
- all preschools offer a high-quality early childhood education and all four-year-old ACT children are guaranteed a place in a public preschool however, you are not guaranteed a place at the preschool site of your preference, due to capacity constraints at some sites.

Should a family have difficulty accessing a computer in order to submit an online enrolment form, please let them know that they can call their enrolled school and arrange a time to use a computer to access the online enrolment form.

NAPLAN 2021

NAPLAN is a nationwide measure through which parents, teachers, schools, education authorities, governments and the broader community can determine whether young Australians are developing the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community.

NAPLAN is a point-in-time assessment that allows parents to see how their child is progressing against national standards in literacy and numeracy over time.

The test provides an important contribution to monitoring and evaluating the performance of schools and school systems in these fundamental capabilities. They also provide schools, states, and territories with information about how education approaches are working, the areas to be prioritized for improvement, and those schools requiring support in the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy.

Dates for Gold Creek Senior Site – Years 7 & 9

Wednesday 12 May – Writing Test, 8:50am – 9:50am

Friday 14 May – Reading Test, 8:50am – 9:50am

Monday 17 May – Conventions of Language Test, 8:50am – 9:50am

Tuesday 18 May – Numeracy Test, 8:50am – 10:05am

Wednesday 19 & Thursday 20 May – Catch-up Tests as required

Things to Remember

- Students will complete the test in their normally scheduled class on a locked down browser that has already been installed on their Chromebooks
- It is essential that students make sure their device is fully charged before each test
- Students who have their own device such as a Tablet PC, Laptop or Chromebook that is not managed by the Education Directorate will need to install the locked down browser to be able to complete the tests. The browser can be downloaded from here:
<https://www.assessform.edu.au/layouts/Technology/LockedDownBrowser.aspx>
- The school computer lab will be available to those students without Chromebooks – please make sure your child has communicated this information to the PC teacher ahead of the test dates
- Students with adjustments for extra time or learning support assistance will complete their test in the library
- Students should bring a pair of headphones to be able to clearly hear audio instructions
- The Student Services Team will be providing healthy snacks for Years 7 & 9 students on the testing dates
- If you wish to withdraw your child from NAPLAN, forms are available at the front office.
- Your child will have the chance to practice the test conditions here: <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

Dates for Junior Site

NAPLAN will be held during Monday 11 May and Friday 21 May. The bulk of the testing will be held during Monday 11 May and Friday 14 May, with catchups allocated for the following week.

ICAS COMPETITIONS

The two electronic permission notes for the ICAS Competitions can be found on our website under '[General School Notes](#)'.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILES & WORDS OF WISDOM

IB LEARNERS ARE:

INQUIRERS KNOWLEDGEABLE THINKERS COMMUNICATORS,
PRINCIPLED OPEN-MINDED CARING REFLECTIVE BALANCED
and RISK-TAKERS.

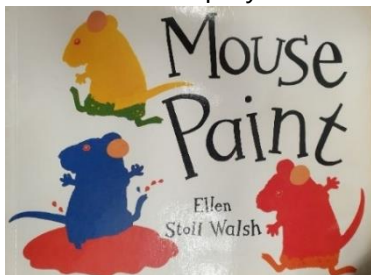
I have no special talent; I am only passionately curious. – Albert Einstein

PRESCHOOL NEWS

How we Express Ourselves

This term Preschool have been delving into the concept of expression with our Unit of Inquiry – How we Express Ourselves. The central idea being – people can express their imagination and emotions through a variety of mediums. The children are amazing us with their knowledge and critical thinking skills as already in week 2 of our investigations, they are providing fruitful conversations and questions.

We have begun our inquiry by learning the primary colours and what we can do with just those three colours. Colour mixing has been so much fun, and we even started a colour wheel collaboration! Our creativity and expression have been guided by a multitude of quality literature which the children have fully engaged with. Dancing, puppet play, and music are also being explored. We look forward to seeing their learning journey as we continue our inquiry.



JUNIOR SITE NEWS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

It has been great to welcome back so many smiling faces for term 2. PE for this term has started in earnest with preparation underway for the school cross country carnival on Friday 7 May (week 3). Students have been busy in PE by running cross country courses, having their times recorded, setting goals, and identifying strategies to improve their performance. The top five places (8 years and above) in the cross country carnival will have the opportunity to represent Gold Creek Junior School at the ACT Regional Championships on Friday 4 June at Stromlo Forrest.

After the cross country carnival students across all years will participate in a range of PE activities. Kindergarten to Year 2 will participate in gymnastics in which students will explore different ways to move and control their bodies. In addition, students will complete a module on dance which will culminate in students performing their own dance routine.

Students in Year 3 and 4 will participate in an array of striking and fielding games which are designed to foster teamwork, strategy, skill acquisition and safe play. Students in Year 5 and 6 will engage with a variety of cultural games aimed at broadening the cultural perspective. Students will also develop self-direction by grouping themselves into teams and organising themselves with equipment to play games.

Students are encouraged to check the PE noticeboard regularly and listen to the daily announcements as a number of other participation opportunities will be available throughout the term. These opportunities include the chance to represent the school in regional events or to participate in structured lunch time sporting activities.

LIBRARY – SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Boxes have arrived with orders of the last issue of the Scholastic Book Club. They will be delivered by the end of next week.

If you haven't received your order by the end of the week, please ring the junior site library on 6142 1355.

Keryn Hoeschle

MUSIC

After a slow start to finalise numbers, the Year 5 band has now begun sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays, and I can see that we're going to sound completely awesome! Families, please remind your band students (and that goes for the Year 6 band as well) to bring in their instruments and music every Wednesday and Friday, and to practice, practice, practice every day! Year 6 students have their band sessions at lunch time Wednesdays, and Year 5s will start their third session on Friday lunch times around week 5 this term.

Students in music classes are continuing to develop their aural skills through songs, rhymes, movement and games and it's pleasing to see the progress being made and enthusiastic participation every day.

Jaki Fraser

CHESS

Many of our students from both sites enjoyed studying and competing in the ACT Junior Chess League's 'Boot Camp' during the school holidays. Congratulations to Phong H (year 8) placed 3rd overall in the camp's Junior Allegro tournament. Phong and Chloe M (Year 6) also earned Coach's awards on the camp's study day for their strong learning engagement across the three one-hour lessons.

Steven Sengstock



SENIOR SITE NEWS

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

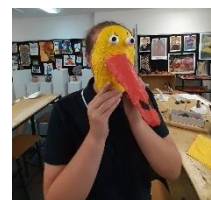
A reminder to all families that the athletics carnival is happening Thursday 13 May (week 4). Notes are due in on Thursday 6 May (week 3). The link to the electronic note for the carnival can be found [here](#).

VISUAL ARTS



Last term the year 7 and 8 students made 'inner creature' masks in Visual Arts. In class they used plaster strips to make a mold of each other's faces. They then added features to their mask using modelling clay, wire and cardboard. A final layer of plaster stripes was then added before painting. This was a fun and messy project to finish up the term where the students could really express their creativity.

Jen Goodwin



INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

Year 7 is learning about Ancient Civilisations in I&S, and during some of the lessons on Ancient Egypt we had a go at making our own mummies. I used a volunteer to demonstrate to the class and explain the process, then students had a go themselves on toys. They had to make the stomach, liver, lungs, and intestines out of playdough and place them in canopic jars (cups), then they needed to wrap their 'mummy' up neatly in toilet paper. Finally, they designed their own death mask and placed it on top.



Some students got very excited and decided to make a mummy out of Kohen Steff!
Hopefully they learned something too!

Holly Wright, I&S Teacher



SCIENCE

This term in the sciences, Year 8 are learning about cells! Students created their own plant and animal cells to compare their similarities and differences. In the coming weeks, students will inquire into how cells become more specialised to suit their functions and into the way they interact as part of larger organs and body systems. Lots more learning fun to come!

Elouyze Nucifora-Ryan



PERFORMING ARTS

Into the Woods Rehearsals

Students have been working hard on their singing, dancing, and acting rehearsals for 'Into the Woods'. We're so excited to have rehearsals underway and to have so much enthusiasm from the cast!



Acting



Dancing



Singing

Concert on the Concourse



We had two pianists performing at Concert on the Concourse during week 1. Radhiska and Tom provided some beautiful music to entertain students on their lunch break.



Jazz Band

Jazz Band have started learning some even trickier music this term – 'Fever' and 'I heard it through the grapevine'. We're looking forward to some more students being risk-takers and some solos soon!

Band

Band is going really well at the moment, and we've had all our Beginner Band students (who started playing their instruments at the start of this year) playing with the main band for some or all pieces. Students are showing great commitment and doing awesome performances in assemblies!

Vocal Group

Vocal Group were wonderful in the ANZAC Day Assembly at the end of Week 1. They sang 'Spirit of the ANZACs', accompanied by Lillian J (Year 8) on the piano. Their harmonies were beautiful, and they are projecting more when they are singing which is sounding lovely!

Buglers

Emma M and Freya S did their debut bugling at our ANZAC assembly last week – they played perfectly and we're so proud of them! They both went to perform at Nugunnawal Primary School's assembly this week too – such a great opportunity for them to perform in the local community.

Philippa Simpson

WHITE CARD AND ASBESTOS AWARENESS CERTIFICATES

Students who participated in the course in term 1 should have received 2 emails from CIT. If this has not occurred, please let Jacqui Bennett in student services know asap. There is a time limit to register with Access Canberra.

CERTIFICATE 1 – FINANCIAL LITERACY COURSE

Students have been sent an email to their school email with a link to finalise registration for this course. Please ensure your young person has completed this asap. There are still a few places left for anyone wishing to attend. For any queries, please contact Jacqui Bennett.

MASTER BUILDERS ACT

Apprenticeship applications are now open. Full details are in the careers google classroom. The access code is jqktgeb.

COMMUNITY NEWS

GUNGAHLIN COLLEGE ENROLEMENTS & INFORMATION

Enrollments for Gungahlin College for 2022 are now open. Gungahlin College is one of Australia's most dynamic Senior Secondary schools, offering an educational experience in Years 10*, 11 and 12 designed to inspire individual achievement and confidence for life. The college's extensive curriculum, supported by an inclusive pastoral care program and a wide range of student leadership opportunities, gives students the flexibility to develop their own individual pathway to academic success. Gungahlin College is a dynamic, inspiring and nurturing learning community dedicated to supporting all students to achieve their individual potential. A rigorous academic curriculum is offered to meet the needs of students seeking to excel at the highest level. *The selective Year 10 SMART program is a specialist program for students with an interest in science, mathematics and related technologies.

Facilities: Gungahlin College has been purpose-built for teaching and learning in the third millennium. The college features the latest in sustainable design and includes flexible learning hubs for collaborative learning, a media centre with TV and photography studios, a performing arts theatre with dance and drama studios, high-standard music and arts facilities, a full commercial kitchen and computer networking laboratory. Teaching and learning incorporates extensive use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in a wireless networking environment. Gungahlin College students have extended library access as the college library is a joint-use facility with the Gungahlin public library and CIT flexible learning centre, all on the college campus.

Click here to view our [virtual tour](#)

REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

Option 1: Report an absence using the school app. The school app allows you to check the calendar, read newsletters, report absences, and receive important information via sms on your mobile phone (provided you allow push notifications).

Option 2: Email (junior site) GoldCreek.StudentJuniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au

Email (senior site) GoldCreek.StudentSeniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au

Option 3: Leave a short message via our dedicated absences number **JS:** 6142 1344 **SS:** 6142 1323

When using the number above please leave a message stating student name, year, pc class, and reason for absence. Eg. sick, leave or late.



Download the School App the Apple Store or Google Play

SCHOOL WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS





2 DAY VIP EVENT – 6th & 7th MAY
ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS

20%^{*} OFF
SCHOOLWEAR
& EVERYTHING ELSE!



**DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR
ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS**

*Offer available Instore & Online ends midnight (AEST) 7th May 2021. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.
Excludes Gift Cards and Schoolwear lay-bys. Savings of original prices. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, no rainchecks.

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You can change a child's life.

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We offer:

- Extensive training
- Generous allowance
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ACT Together is a consortium of:

- Barnardos Australia
- Australian Childhood Foundation • Oz Child

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A Step Up for Our Kids -
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funded initiative.



Contact us today:

1300 WEFOSTER
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Hi there!

We've settled back into term quite nicely & everyone has been having a blast!

Just a reminder that we need you to check all bookings and make yourself aware of our cancellation policy. We also ask that you advise us if your child/ren are going to be absent from a session. If we need to chase it up with a phone call it will incur a \$5 fee per child. You can advise us of any absences via our phone number listed below.

We have our dance incursion starting in week 4, it will be running each Monday from week 4 until the end of the term. We look forward to seeing the dances that the children choreograph!

We have been trying to come up with some creative recipes for breakfast and would love your input! If you have any great ideas for healthy breakfast menu items, please let us know!

Here is a brief look at what we had happening in week 1:



Making passports in the comets



Playing charades in the comets



Getting ready for our yarning circle in the rockets room



Lego creations in the rockets room

Parent Information

OSHClub Nicholls Phone: 0402 611 484

Program coordinator: Emma Wink

OSHClub accounts: 1300 395 375

Program email: nicholls@oshclub.com.au

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember enrolment is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au. All bookings and cancellations can be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinators directly on the above number.