



**Gold Creek  
School**

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# Newsletter

**17 September 2021, Volume 23 Issue 10**

Today marks the last day of Term 3 and what a term it has been. Despite the interruption, our students have continued to apply themselves to their learning, have gone out of their way to be kind to themselves and others and continually impressed all of us with their resilience. It will certainly be a well-earned break!

We learned this week that remote learning will continue for the first four weeks of next term as ACT Education works with ACT Health on establishing a plan to safely return students to school. Please be advised that the first day of Term 4 is Tuesday 5 October, after the Labour Day public holiday. At this stage, remote learning is due to run until Friday 29 October.

While on the topic of remote learning, we are seeking your feedback. We strive to continually improve in order to best meet the needs of our students and would value your opinion on what has worked well and what the challenges have been during this period of remote learning. If you have a minute or two, we would appreciate it if you could complete [this survey](#).

Earlier this week we received a message from the Children's Education and Care Assurance Team who work in the Early Childhood Education sector, they wanted to share the following with the parents of preschool students in our school community.

A variety of resources can be used to support children's understanding of COVID-19. The Australian Government Department of Health's [Help Stop the Spread](#) and [Social Distancing](#), [ABC Kids Playschool's Hello Friends \(COVID-19 Special\)](#) and [Little J and Big Cuz: Everybody Wash'em Now](#) videos can assist. The Emerging Minds [Talking to children about the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) and [Talking to children about traumatic events or worried about the future](#) and the [Australian Children's Foundation](#) resources can also assist educators and families to navigate conversations with children about COVID-19.

We hope your family is able to spend some quality time together. We understand this can be a difficulty time for families. A range of resources and services are available to support those who need them in the ACT. Information about what is available can be found on the [Community Service Directorate webpage](#).

Once again, we cannot thank you all enough for the flexibility, patience, good humour and resilience shown by all members of the school community during this time, it has been greatly appreciated. Have a really safe and restful break and we look forward to seeing everyone (virtually) in a few weeks.

Dan Breen, Janine Waters, Nicole Jagers and Cindy Condon



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

**PRINCIPAL:**  
**ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL:**  
**ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL:**  
**ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL:**  
**Board Chair:**  
**P&C President:**

Daniel Breen  
Janine Waters -SS  
Cindy Condon -JS  
Nicole Jagers - Curriculum  
Kirsten Maloney [dandkmaloney@bigpond.com](mailto:dandkmaloney@bigpond.com)  
David Pollard [goldcreekschoolpandc@gmail.com](mailto:goldcreekschoolpandc@gmail.com)



## CALENDAR DATES

For important dates please visit our calendar via the school [website](#) and click on a particular event to display more information such as times, locations etc. The calendar can also be viewed via the school App on your mobile phones if you have downloaded it.

### Remote Learning GCS Parent Site

[Remote Learning GCS Parent Site](#)



### SCHOOL INTENTIONS FOR 2022

To enable Gold Creek School to transition students effectively from their current year level in 2021 to the next school year level in 2022 we need a clear picture of prospective student movement. This includes gathering data about known school leaver intentions. If you are aware of prospective changes, and your child/children will not be returning to Gold Creek School for schooling in the **2022 school year**, could you please complete the form using the link below. This form does not replace the Student Leaver's form which will also need to be completed at the time of your child's departure from the school.

[2021 Leaver Intention Form](#)

### Update from the P&C

Today was meant to be our 2021 Colour Run. We were going to bring the whole school together for an awesome day of fun and games, mess, colour, and happiness. Unfortunately, that is not what we got. What we got instead has been many different things to many different families. Some families found it easier than others. Some students thrived while others struggled, and many were in between. Some families stuck to their suggested weekly schedules, some made up their own, and some threw that whole concept out the window.

All of those circumstances are OK. Whatever works, works. If your children are struggling with schoolwork, speak to their teachers about it and make a suggestion about what will work for your family. If you are struggling, please reach out to the many support services out there. We can point you in the right direction if you reach out to us.

During this time, the P&C has been able to bring together a parent voice and speak to Gold Creek School, ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Association, the Education Directorate, and even the Minister for Education. We were able to advocate for scheduled testing for year groups, so families didn't have to wait in line for hours. We were able to advocate for a second round of testing for our quarantine exit tests, and then a blanket quarantine release once the exit tests got... complicated. We have been able to keep in touch with families through weekly pulse-check surveys – please follow us on Facebook if you have not been seeing these and add your voice to the mix.

And now, we face a school holidays like no other before. We are all under lockdown orders, so school holidays will be much more quiet than usual. Many of us will be working from home while our children grow ever restless. We have prepared a [Holiday Survival Matrix](#) with some suggested activities for you and your families to consider. We won't be marking attendance, and there is no need to upload anything on Google Classrooms or Seesaw. There are a few time-limited activities in there, so check it out early. If you have any ideas to add, let us know!

Please have a safe and happy holiday, and we will see you all again soon!

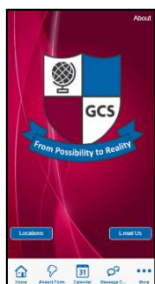
Kindest regards,

David Pollard and the Gold Creek School Parents & Citizens Association

[www.goldcreekschoolpandc.org.au](http://www.goldcreekschoolpandc.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/goldcreekpandc](https://www.facebook.com/goldcreekpandc)

## SCHOOL APP & REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES



### Option 1

Using the school App allows you to report student absences, check the school calendar, read newsletters and receive important information via sms on your mobile phones (provided you allow push notifications). All this is available through our school App!

**Download the school App NOW, to help us keep in touch!**

(Download from Apple Store or Google Play).

### Option 2

email **junior site** [GoldCreek.StudentJuniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:GoldCreek.StudentJuniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au)

email **senior site** [GoldCreek.StudentSeniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:GoldCreek.StudentSeniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au)

### Option 3

The other option is by leaving a short message via our dedicated absence number:

**Junior Site: 6142 1344**

**Senior Site: 6142 1323**

**If using the number above, please leave a short message stating student name, year, PC class and reason for absence eg. Late/Sick or Leave.**

## School website and social media links



## INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILE & WORDS OF WISDOM

### IB LEARNERS ARE:

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

*We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak. - Epictetus*

*Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom. - Albert Einstein*



### **JUNIOR/SENIOR SITE**

**Nicole Jagers**

**Associate Principal P-10 Academic**



#### **Why did you become a teacher?**

My mother would say from a very young age I wanted to be a vet to 'make sick animals better'. However, during my high school years my interests moved to being involved in a range of sports coaching and tutoring opportunities with young children that led me to go down the path of teaching.

#### **What is your greatest challenge as a teacher?**

As a parent myself of three adult children (who all had totally different experiences going through school) I am motivated to support students who have low self-esteem or a lack engagement in learning. I am passionate about supporting these students to believe in themselves, see their potential and have optimism for their future.

#### **What is something you couldn't live without?**

Chocolate

#### **If you could meet anyone in the world dead or alive, who would it be and why?**

I achieved this goal a few years ago when my daughter and I met Taylor Swift. Dressed in costumes, and dancing in the pouring rain, we were handpicked from the audience by Taylor's mother and invited to 'The Rep Room' to meet her after the show! As I gave her a hug I told her what an inspiration and great role model she is to young people like my daughter.

#### **Do you have a hidden talent/hobby/interest out of work?**

In my spare time I love to snow ski in winter and spend my days at the beach in summer with my family and two very over excited dogs.

#### **What are your hopes for your students?**

To follow their interests and dream big- do what you love, and you will find your way in life.

#### **What is the most valuable thing you've learnt to date?**

To be kind to everyone – you never know who might just need someone to say hello or stop and ask if they are ok, it could make their day.

#### **What would you do for a career if you weren't teaching?**

Something in the medical field- paramedic, nurse, psychologist (keeping with my theme of wanting to help people!)

### Junior Site Library News

#### JOIN OUR ONLINE BOOK FAIR!

The link will become active, and the Book Fair will **open on Saturday 9th October, closing on Sunday 17th October**.

All profits go to our library budget for student interest books!

Stay tuned for other flyers and information in the newsletter and on your child's Seesaw page.



The flyer is for 'The Book Warehouse' Online Book Fair. It features a cartoon girl on the left and a cartoon boy on the right. The text is arranged in a clear, inviting layout with various colors and fonts. At the bottom, there is a row of book covers.

**The Book Warehouse**  
AFFORDABLE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES AND CHILDCARE CENTRES

# Online Book Fair Invite

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE**  
**Nicholls Joint Facilities Library**  
**ONLINE BOOK FAIR!**

There are so many books to look at, it's like having a book shop at your finger tips

**Online from 9th to the 17th October!**

**Fantastic Books at Fantastic Prices!**  
Jump online at [www.thebookwarehouse.com.au](http://www.thebookwarehouse.com.au)  
(No need to log in or register)

**And start shopping.**  
A \$6 home delivery shipping fee will apply, simply add the following details at the bottom of the checkout page:

1. Book Fair ID **17431**
2. Students Name
3. Students Class

**Every book sold during the Book Fair will earn our school up to 30% in commission**

**Home delivery fee of \$6.00 per order**

All titles shown are subject to availability

#### CHIEF MINISTER'S READING CHALLENGE

Thank you and well done to those students who participated in and completed this year's challenge. Participation certificates will be handed when we return to school in Term 4!

Happy Reading

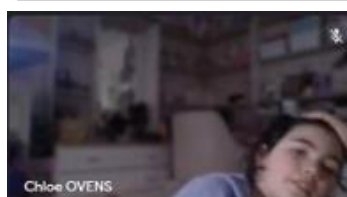
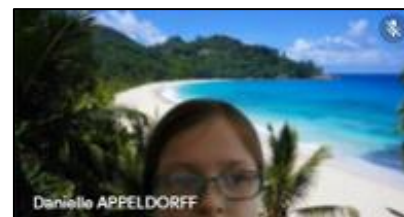
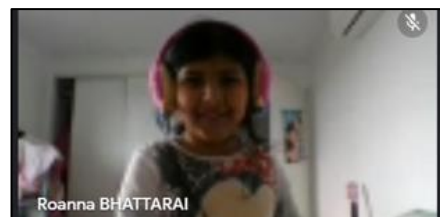
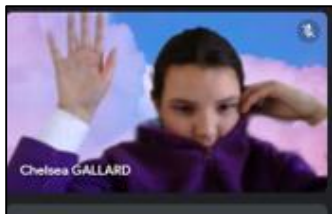
Keryn Hoeschle  
Junior Site Teacher/Librarian



## EXCLUSIVE LIVE PERFORMER - HARRY LAING ENTERTAINS OUR YEAR 3 STUDENTS

On Thursday 16 September Year 3 students were treated with a very special guest performer! [Harry Laing](#) is a poet, comic performer and creative writing teacher who visited us remotely for an exclusive Gold Creek School LIVE virtual performance of some of his latest poems.

Students had such a ball, bopping up and down to some of Harry's new 'RapperBee' poems and some of his other favourites from [Shoctopus](#) including this one called [Acrobat Rat](#) and many more hilarious and also moving poems about our natural Australian landscapes. The Year 3 students found him very entertaining and were even lucky enough to ask Harry questions on the spot about his life as a poet, writer, and performer! Here are some snapshots of this exclusive performance with Harry this week:



**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BUYING HARRY LAING'S LATEST BOOK OR ANY OTHERS BY HIM, VISIT <https://bookcow.circlesoft.net/p/14566894>**






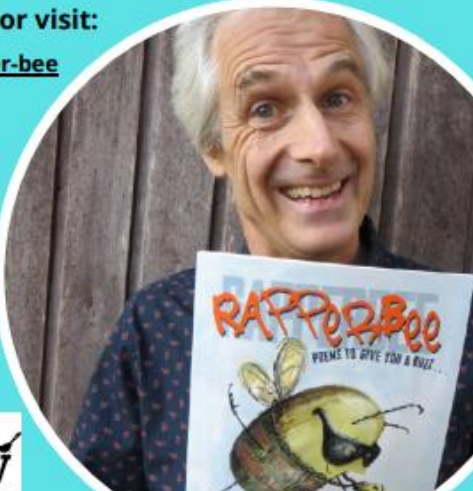
Get ready to buzzzz...  
**Harry Laing and RapperBee are coming to class!**

Poet, kids' author and performer  
**Harry Laing** will join us online this Thursday (details sent separately) to read from his latest book *RapperBee* and share his passion for kids' poetry and creative writing.

Meet Harry ~ Listen to his poems ~ Ask questions

**As a special offer for our school community, you can buy a copy of Harry's book from The Book Cow Bookshop in Kingston - and they will deliver it to your home for free.**

Scan the QR code below or visit:  
[www.bookcow.com.au/rapper-bee](http://www.bookcow.com.au/rapper-bee)

## SENIOR SITE NEWS

### Performing Arts Activities This Week

**Band** - Band did a recap this week of all the pieces we have been working on during remotelearning. They voted on a piece that we're going to do something fun with to celebrate their effort/enthusiasm!

**Jazz Band** - Again, we did a recap of everything they have learnt during remote learning. They will have some new repertoire to share with the community once they are playing in public again! We also played some Christmas music this week!

**Vocal Group** - We worked a bit more on singing parts in harmony this week - really looking forward to being able to sing together again - it's hard not being able to hear others properly tosing with! We'll learn some new music at the start of next term.





**Into the Woods** - We had some more singing, dancing, and acting rehearsals this week. The ensemble has been working on singing the correct lyrics this week - lots of parts repeat but with different words, so we're making sure everyone knows all the lyrics! Some of the lead characters had individual singing rehearsals to work on their entries and timing, whilst mastering some dance steps to help them get into their characters more.

**DanceFest** - The students have been working on their routine throughout the week to make sure they don't forget it over the holidays. We practised all together as a group and used the rehearsal videos that our dance leaders created to help. We also chatted about some amazing feedback that our dancefest mentor sent through to help us keep our spirits up.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Community Services



The guide at this [link](#) has been prepared by Volunteering ACT. Our Community Info Hub services provide emergency relief, meal services, short stay accommodation, and are accessible via phone and email.

**Info Line 02 6248 7988 (9am-5pm, Monday-Friday)**

**Email [info@volunteeringact.org.au](mailto:info@volunteeringact.org.au)**

**Visit [www.communityinfohub.org.au](http://www.communityinfohub.org.au)** to find more community services in the Canberra Region.

You can contact Eva or Macca should you like more information: [Eva.B.Gasiewicz@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Eva.B.Gasiewicz@ed.act.edu.au) or [Hamish.mcdonald@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Hamish.mcdonald@ed.act.edu.au)

### Other useful links

[Community Service Directorate](#)

[Talking to children about the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

# OSHC AT HOME

Powered by OSHClub

## WEEKLY PLANNER



Activity Sheet



Video Activity



Reading Corner



Challenge



Live Stream



STEM



Art & Craft



Mindfulness



Physical Activity



Cooking

**OSHClub**  
Outside School Hours Care



All Ages



Ages 5-7



Ages 8-12



Hands on



Hands off

### MONDAY

#### GOOD VIBRATIONS DANCE CLASS BY CDI

Join Creative Dance Industries for a fantastic new jazz dance routine to the tune of "Good Vibrations". Slip into some comfy clothes and stretch your limbs, it's time to get funky.



### TUESDAY

#### KIDS KITCHEN:NICE CREAM

Feeling a little hungry? Join Christine in the kitchen to make this easyand yummy Banana Chocolate Nice Cream.  
Mmmm who doesn't love 'Nice Cream'.



### WEDNESDAY

#### BLOTTED PAINT BUTTERFLIES

Grab your paints and paper! We're making beautiful, blotted paint butterflies with Educator Lynette. This activity can get a little messy, so we recommend wearing a smock or an old shirt!



### THURSDAY

#### DANCE YOGA FUN

Educators Hannah and Clare are going to teach you a dance yoga routine. For this one, you can grab a partner or do it by yourself. Shake out your limbs and let's get moving.



### FRIDAY

#### AT-HOME CELERY EXPERIMENT

Have you ever wondered how plants get water from their roots all the way up to their leaves? This simple celery experiment shows how coloured water travels up a celery stalk.



#### PAINTED GLASS JARS

Paints out and smocks on. Today we're going to make decorated glass jars.  
How will you use your new painted jar? You could use it to keep your pencils in or maybe even as a vase.



#### PEG TIGGY MOOVOSITY

A fresh twist on a classic game. Time to stretch your legs and get moving? Why not try Peg Tiggy from Moovosity. You can play with a sibling or get the whole family involved in the fun.



#### KIDS KITCHEN: RICE PAPER ROLLS

Rolling for a yummy lunch time break? Well then this is the one for you. Join Educator Danielle in the Kids Kitchen to make some rice paper rolls with your favourite fillings.



#### BEE ROCKART

Let's get painting and create little rock bees to go around your garden. All you need are some stones or pebbles, paint, brushes, and your creativity.



#### LOOSE PARTSPLAY

Gather up a range of household objects for some loose parts play with Educator Chantelle - make sure you bring your creativity and imagination! What will you create?

