



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4-the busiest of them all! We have so many activities coming up that will make this term fly by (it'll be Christmas before we know it!!). Some of the key events include the P & C Hat Launch (Friday Week 2), Year 6 camp (Wed – Fri Week 2), Tronox Excursion Year 5 (Wednesday Week 2), Book Fair (Week 4), Year 6 Graduation (Monday Week 10), Year 6 Transition Day, the Primary School End of Year Concert (Thursday Week 9) and our End of Year Awards' Assembly (Thursday Week 10). With these big events in mind, we appreciate your diligence in asking your children if they have any important notes or information to pass on to you, as we have some key deadlines to meet for these special occasions.

Literacy Blocks:

Both classes will continue to hold Literacy Blocks (uninterrupted 2 hour blocks of literacy instruction). Below is an outline of what topics we will be covering during Term 4.

Writing:

- Biographies
- Advertising/Newspaper Articles
- Poetry

Reading:

- Comprehension (literal, inferential, evaluative)
- Figurative Language
- Summarising

Viewing:

- Advertising

Mathematics:

This term we will be covering the following topics;

- Number and Algebra – Money & Financial Maths,
- Measurement and Geometry – Volume and Capacity, Location & Transformations, Angles
- Working Mathematically – Solving real life word problems.

History and Social Science (HASS):

Both classes will continue to follow the Geography Curriculum this term. We will be looking at Asia and Australia's connection with other countries.

Science (Ms Charlton):

Mrs Anderson has taken long service leave this term and will be replaced by Ms Charlton, who has been involved in the school since Term 2. Ms Charlton will continue to teach the Science Enquiry Skills strand. Miss Harris will teach the Science Understanding strand to both Year 5/6 classes. This term the focus is on Chemical Science. We will be looking at Matter and Solids, Liquids and Gases.

Health (School Chaplain, Helena)

Helena, in the presence of the classroom teacher, will be running the 'Protective behaviours' program. It intends to provide preventative strategies that the students can use to keep themselves safe from potential physical and emotional situations.

Technology and Enterprise (Mr Beard):

This term we will be focusing on Digital Technologies. The students will be using both computers and iPads to create simple computer programmes to create flexible solutions to problems. By the end of this course, students will create interactive stories and games that they can share with anyone.

Physical Education:

As the weather starts to warm up it is important that your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear on the days they are participating in sport, as well as bringing a hat and water bottle. Our Phys Ed days are Thursday and Friday. Please note that if your child is unable to participate in sport a **signed note** needs to be provided.

Hat Policy:

GDHS has a year-round policy where each student must wear a hat in order to participate in Physical Education, Big Sport, plus activities at recess and lunch. Please ensure your child wears the hat, provided by the P&C, throughout the term. Please ensure your child's name is on all their clothing, as well as their hat. Our Lost Property bin overflows!

Library:

Our library session will continue this term on Wednesday. These sessions are important as this is one of the only times the students have the opportunity to borrow books. Please make sure your child brings a library bag. Library bags can be purchased from the school P&C Uniform shop in faction colours.

Homework Requirements:

Homework will commence again end of week 3 and will be given out every Friday, to be returned the following Friday. It will consist of:

- **Weekly homework sheet – Includes fortnightly spelling words, Maths and English activities.** The students are required to practise their spelling every night using the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check (LSCWC) strategy and choose 10 words to write sentences on the paper provided. The other 10 words are to be completed in the next week's homework. Students should be writing complex sentences, using a variety of punctuation.
- **Read for at least 10 mins a night, every night.** Sometimes this should be out loud so students can practise fluency, pronunciation and expression while they can hear themselves reading. Reading to siblings is a great way to practise this. Consistent nightly reading will be rewarded with 'greenies'. Students can write their reading (Title and number of pages read) in their diary and have an adult sign it to say it has been done.
- **Practice times tables -** By Year 5 and 6, students should be able to instantly recall all the times tables and number facts up to the 12 times table. Students should be practising these on a regular basis so that they can rapidly recall them.

Any work not completed in the class time given, will be sent home to be finished and returned the following day.

Students, who have extra roles in the school such as Faction Captains or Councillors, will be expected to catch up on any missed lessons in their own time.

All assessments or research assignments given to the students throughout the term will be given ample class time to complete and would rarely require extra work at home unless your child has been absent or off task. If the assignment requires extra work at home, no extra homework will be given.

We are encouraging all students to complete their homework each week to support their learning and ensure they do not miss out on any other extra curricula activities, such as 'End of Term Rewards Day' and appreciate your support with this also.

Classroom Management:

Our class is following the school's CRTR ('critter') values of CARE, RESPONSIBILITY, TRY and RESPECT. All students are expected to adhere to these expectations. Positive reinforcement and the use of the whole primary school reward program of greenies and pinkies for positive behaviour choices is being used. Students will be awarded 'greenies' for good behaviour choices, excellent work ethic, completing homework, handing in diaries and reading each night. Merit assemblies are held throughout the term to reward students' success in these areas.

6 x greenies = 1 pinkie.

6 x pinkies = merit certificate at appropriate level.

School Diaries

School diaries form an easy mode of communication between parents and teachers. Please ensure your child brings their diary to school every day and that you check and sign it daily.

Teacher Contact Details:

In an effort to ensure we are working together regarding your child's learning, we are available for meetings with you. To organise a meeting or for any general concerns or queries please contact us on the school phone number 9575 5300.

Many thanks for the continued support of your student and their Teachers,

Miss Harris, Mr Beard