



Greensborough Primary School - 2062

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Borough Bulletin ~ 07 February 2024

<i>Friday 23 February 2024</i>	Interschool Sports – Norris Bank PS v GPS – Away P&F Baker’s Delight Food Day Fundraiser
<i>Monday 26 February 2024</i>	School Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
<i>Wednesday 28 February 2024</i>	Parent Teachers Meet & Greet
<i>Friday 1 March 2024</i>	Interschool Sports – GPS v Watsonia Heights PS – Home
<i>Tuesday 5 March 2024</i>	Twilight Sports & P&F Barbeque Fundraiser 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
<i>Friday 8 March 2024</i>	Term 1 Curriculum Day – Pupil-Free Day Interschool Sports – GPS – Bye
<i>Monday 11 March 2024</i>	Labour Day Public Holiday
<i>Tuesday 12 March 2024</i>	Philip Island Camp – Grade 3 to Grade 6 – Day 1
<i>Wednesday 13 March 2024</i>	Philip Island Camp – Grade 3 to Grade 6 – Day 2
<i>Thursday 14 March 2024</i>	Philip Island Camp – Grade 3 to Grade 6 – Day 3
<i>Friday 15 March 2024</i>	Interschool Sports – St Marys PS v GPS – Away
<i>Monday 18 March 2024</i>	NAPLAN Writing – Grades 3 & 5 (please keep date free of appointments)
<i>Tuesday 19 March 2024</i>	NAPLAN Reading – Grades 3 & 5 (please keep date free of appointments)
<i>Wednesday 20 March 2024</i>	NAPLAN Language Conventions – Grades 3 & 5 (please keep date free of appointments)
<i>Thursday 21 March 2024</i>	NAPLAN Maths – Grades 3 & 5 (please keep date free of appointments)
<i>Friday 22 March 2024</i>	Interschool Sports – GPS v Bundoora – Home P&F Food Day Fundraiser
<i>Monday 25 March 2024</i>	School Council Meeting – 7:00 pm
<i>Thursday 28 March 2024</i>	Easter Fancy Hat Parade – 9:10 am Easter Egg Hunt Last day of Term 1 – Early Dismissal – 1:30 pm
<i>Monday 15 April 2024</i>	First Day of Term 2
<i>Tuesday 28 May 2024</i>	MSP School Photos – TBC

Principal’s Report

We were thrilled last week when our short-term international students organised a Lion Dance for our students to enjoy and celebrate the Lunar New Year. The musicians and performers were highly entertaining, and the lion dancers were extremely athletic as they mimicked the movements of a lion. The Lion Dance is performed to bring good luck and fortune and we greatly appreciate our visitors providing this wonderful experience and memories for our students and family members who attended.

At assembly on Monday, we presented our visitors with some mementoes of their time at Greensborough Primary and Australia: The History of Greensborough Primary 1878-1998, a Certificate of Enrolment, and a Friendship Band from the Koorie Heritage Trust.

We have greatly enjoyed the cross-cultural exchange and getting to know our visitors. Kaiwen's last day is tomorrow and Terrence, Tanya and Joy will depart next week. We wish them all the best as they return to their schools in China.



Happy 80th Birthday Wayne!

We are very fortunate to have many members of our community who generously donate their time and expertise to support us at GPS in a variety of capacities. Our most outstanding volunteer is Wayne who attends GPS several days a week and completes tasks ranging from maintenance to highly complex engineering tasks. Wayne is a highly valued member of our community, and his friendliness and humour is enjoyed by students and staff alike. This week we had the honour of offering Wayne a small token of our esteem by celebrating his 80th birthday with staff and Joan (also a highly valued and long-term volunteer). During Wayne's 80 years he's represented Victoria in cricket and travelled the world. We're so grateful Wayne's given us the opportunity to be part of his journey!



District Swimming



We were very proud of all our students who attended swimming trials last Thursday for the District Swimming Carnival. Students gave their best efforts and showed great sportsmanship as they cheered each other on. The times of Adam, Philippa and Anne-Sophie secured them a place in the Swim Team, and they represented us today at the District Swimming event. We congratulate all of them on this achievement, especially Philippa who came 4th and achieved a Personal Best by shaving 7 seconds off her time in Freestyle. Anne-Sophie also achieved PBs and came 1st in Backstroke and 2nd in Freestyle. Anne-Sophie will proceed to the Division Carnival in March and we're looking forward to cheering her on.

Congratulations Year 7 Ex-Students

We love to hear news from our ex-students as they continue their education in secondary school and we've been delighted to have many of our recent 2023 Graduates return and share their new experiences. We're very pleased our students have transitioned successfully and are greatly enjoying meeting new friends and participating in new programs.

A special highlight for us as educators, is that many of our students are now in Extension programs at their respective secondary schools. A special mention and congratulations to our 2023 School Captain Bella E, who was accepted into the **Year 10 Extension Maths** Program at Eltham High School. This is a magnificent achievement for Bella who has worked hard to extend her Numeracy skills and we congratulate her on her success. It's also recognition of the success of 'Magic Maths', which is a success-based program, where students work at their Zone of Proximal Development. Margaret coordinates this program and staff work

hard to ensure consistency of program delivery and that student learning is optimised. This Term our highest 'Magic Maths' students are working on Year 7 and 8 Number and Algebra concepts and will be extended further as the year progresses.

Buildings & Grounds:

We are greatly relieved that the broken fire services pipe has now been fixed and we expect the replacement of the concrete path to occur tomorrow. This Make Safe incident was lodged on the 28th January and the length of time taken to approve the repair of the pipe is unacceptable. Many hours/days have been spent contacting relevant DET departments to have the area Made Safe and then to have reinstatement approved so that GPS was not liable for the approximately \$35,000 cost of repairs. We appreciate the support of Regional DET staff and also School Council members who wrote letters of support and for the patience of our community members. We can now return to our core business of student achievement and wellbeing.

Margaret is our Buildings and Grounds Coordinator and organised for the artworks on the footpaths to be repainted. Our students are greatly enjoying playing on these revitalised surfaces.

Thank you, Wayne and Geoff, for laying synthetic grass on the platform of our Mud Kitchen. Thank you also to the parents who lifted the mud kitchen back into position after assembly on Monday. Our students are enthusiastically cooking and baking in this updated space.

Pre-loved Summer Uniform at Twilight Sports

We are in the fortunate position to have an abundance of pre-loved uniforms donated by families when their children have grown out of them. These items are available for families to purchase for a gold coin donation to the school, which is used to pay for food for our rabbits and chickens. The extra uniform items come in very handy as back-ups.

There will be a selection of summer uniform items available at Twilight Sports for viewing. If parents would like to request items on the night, please record your request and Emilia will check to see if we have sizes requested and send items home.

We're looking forward to Twilight Sports on Tuesday March 5th. Alison Gibson has included information later in this newsletter and if any parents are able to assist on the night with marshalling or helping P&F on the Barbeque, please contact the office.

Angela Morritt
Principal

2024 Curriculum Days

I know many families like advance notice of our Curriculum Days, so 2024 dates are listed below:

- First day of Term One, Monday 29th January
- Friday before Labour Day, 8th March
- Monday before Cup Day, 4th November
- Fourth Day: TBC



Twilight Sports

Parent name: Yes, I can help at Twilight Sports

Phone:

Cooperation **A**chievement **R**espect **E**mpathy

Parent/Teacher 'Meet and Greet' Sessions – Wednesday 28th February.

Thank you to parents and carers who have booked Parent/Teacher 'Meet and Greet' Sessions for next Wednesday 28th February. Information was sent home via COMPASS for parents/carers of children in Grades 1 - 6 to book a time for last Monday and the bookings remain open for families. If any parents/carers experience difficulty with the COMPASS booking process, please contact the office for assistance.

So as not to inconvenience families, meetings will run on time and adhere to the ten-minute time allowance. If any parents require additional time, a further meeting can be arranged on another date. The 'Meet and Greet' sessions provide an opportunity for parents to meet with your child's new class teacher to share information about your child and discuss any relevant issues. Information about class programs, organisation and learning goals will also be provided to parents at this meeting.

Prep parents are not required to attend the 'Meet and Greet' sessions as we have shared information during transition sessions. Parents of students who participate in Student Support Group meetings have been sent an invitation to arrange an SSG with their child's class teacher or attend the 'Meet and Greet'.

Medication and Management Plans

We are required to update student action management plans for asthma, allergy and anaphylaxis each year, so many families may have received a letter recently requesting they visit their GP and return an updated copy to school. Similarly, if your child has medication kept at school that is due to expire soon, you will have received a letter advising you of this. We thank families in advance for responding to these requests in a timely manner, so that we can work together to keep your children safe at school. Class teachers will follow this up at the Parent/teacher meetings next week. We also ask families to ensure we have up to date contact details at the office.

Mobile Phone Policy

A reminder that the Department of Education has in place a mobile phone ban that requires students who bring mobile phones to school to have them switched off and securely put away during school hours. The ban applies equally to all government schools right across the state. This helps ensure that school is a learning environment free from unnecessary distractions and disruptions. By ensuring mobile phones are kept away at recess and lunch times, students can interact with each other face-to-face, without the distractions and social pressures that mobile phones can cause.

I ask for the support of all our families, staff and students in continuing to support the implementation of this policy in our school.

Further information:

Exceptions: For a small number of students with particular health needs, an exception to the policy may be granted. Please contact Angela or Margaret if you would like to discuss this.

Emergencies: In the event of an emergency or if you need to immediately contact your child, I ask that families contact the school office who will pass on a message as required.

School mobile phone policy: A copy of our school's local mobile phone policy, which implements the government's mobile policy in line with our local context, is available on our website.

Parent support: The [Mobile phones in schools webpage](#) provides links to resources for families to help them balance their children's time using mobile phones.

If you have further questions, please contact the office.



Active Banyule – Survey – Sport and Recreation Plan

Sport and Recreation play a key role in the health and wellbeing of our community!

Whether it's playing competitive sport, walking in the park or being part of a dance group, research shows that being active, connecting with others and spending time in nature positively impacts our physical, mental and emotional health. To support Banyule community members to participate more often in sport and recreation activities, we are developing Active Banyule, a new Sports and Recreation Plan.

So that we can get this right, we're keen to understand what's important via an online survey. Please share, and have your say up until April 5, via the survey on this link <https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/ActiveBanyule>



On **Tuesday the 5th of March** is Greensborough Primary School's annual Twilight Sports Night. Parents and students are invited to have a picnic on the oval and enjoy some novelty races and sporting events. A B.B.Q dinner will start at 5:00pm and the races and activities will begin at 5:30pm.

Please come in House Colours and there will be a prize for best dressed person in each house!

Assistance from parents on the night at the finish line and the scoring table is needed and appreciated. If you are available to help, can you please email Leo Derrick, leave a message with Meghan at the office for Mr Leo Derrick or return the form below.

Leo.Derrick@education.vic.gov.au

Ph: (03) 9435 1496

Kind regards,

GPS Twilight Sports Team



Parent name: Yes, I can help at Twilight Sports

Phone:

STUDENT WELLBEING

Hi Everyone,

"Where did my baby go? What is happening to my 10-year-old?"



Now that my children are adults, I keep asking where have the years gone after watching them grow up – don't tell them, but they are still my 'BABIES'!



I receive newsletters from an Australian organisation called 'Superpower Kids'. It is full of parenting advice and great ideas – check it out at <https://www.superpowerkids.net/> I use some of their material in my student wellbeing work with students.

Recently they had the following article, which I have paraphrased/shortened for the newsletter, about 'TWEENS' (8 - 12year olds) which has some great insights into these years and very helpful advice – ('Parenting in the Tween Zone' – Superpower Kids, February 2024).

"We are often preoccupied with the challenges that teenagers may face. Concerns about reckless driving, risky behaviour. We often overlook critical period before adolescence - The Tween Zone - amid these urgent concerns.

The pre-adolescent years, also known as 'tween years' (usually between eight and twelve), are when your child undergoes a profound change in their physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development. Even though it is natural for this age group of children to want to be independent and seek their friends' advice, they still depend heavily on the support and guidance from parents, even if it doesn't come across as such. It's essential to understand the changes occurring in your pre-teens or tweens.

Physical Changes

Puberty starts earlier in today's society, especially for girls. It can begin as early as 9, 10 or 11 years of age, and boys are usually a little later. Parents are often surprised to see their children transform overnight. These changes can cause awkwardness, clumsiness, and even growing pains because of sudden growth spurts. They can also make children feel self-conscious about their changing bodies. What's going on inside is more important than the external changes.

Cognitive Shifts

The most significant shift is how tweens perceive and think. This is where children move from a literal, self-absorbed mindset they have used for their first eight years to now becoming aware of both their own and others' thoughts. Sudden change in tween's behaviour from being carefree and uninhibited to becoming more concerned about other people's opinions, wanting to fit in, feeling excluded, or comparing themselves to others is common. At this stage they start to understand that other people have different opinions, values and viewpoints.

Changes in Social Landscape

Your tween's social landscape will undergo profound positive and negative changes.

- 1. Independence** – focus more on friends than family. Parents are often surprised by the changes in their children's behaviour. However, it can be challenging because children may begin isolating themselves from their parents.
- 2. Cliques and Social Hierarchy** – As pre-teens rely more on their peers for guidance and advice, they also undergo significant cognitive and physical changes.
- 3. The Gender Code** – Cultural messages bombard pre-teens and influence their thoughts, feelings, behaviours, and appearance. Girls may start to struggle with body image, while boys face harmful stereotypes regarding emotions and vulnerability.

4. Self-Identification – Pre-teens experiment with various personalities to try and find their place within the social landscape. They may switch between leader, follower or rebel roles as they attempt to define their interests and themselves.

Emotional development

Tweens also experience significant changes in their emotional development. They may become more aware of their own emotions and the emotions of others, but they might struggle to regulate their emotions. Parents may face challenges during this phase, characterized by mood swings or changes in interpersonal dynamics.

Pre-adolescence is a period of profound change in your child's worldview. The child is no longer the person they were just a few months ago. They may want more independence but still need your guidance and support. Adjusting your parenting style to reflect the changes in their lives as they grow into adolescence is essential. *Start meaningful conversations with your tween to strengthen the bond between you and your child.*

Here are some open-ended questions to start engaging with your tween:

- ★ What was the best part of your day? *A simple, open-ended question to encourage your child's participation.*
- ★ Do you have anything that's on your mind? *Let your child lead the discussion and discuss whatever is on their mind.*
- ★ Encourage discussion about the book or movie they've been watching.
- ★ What are your feelings about [insert current event or topic]? *Discuss topics or events that are important to them.*
- ★ What would you like to explore or learn more about in the future? *Encourage your child's curiosity.*
- ★ Show an interest in their social life and friendships.
- ★ Do you have a recent challenge or issue that you would like to discuss with others?
- ★ Encourage them to share their memories.
- ★ How can I make our time more enjoyable or better support you? *Show that you are willing to adapt and meet their needs.*

No judgement is the key!

Remember, the key to creating a stronger bond and connection with your tween involves asking questions and actively listening without judgement, offering support and empathy, and making a safe environment that allows them to express themselves. These conversations will help you build trust over time and strengthen your relationship.

In addition to addressing the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional changes that tweens undergo, it's crucial to recognise and support their mental well-being, particularly in managing anxiety. “

This has been a lengthy article, but I hope it has helped you to gain an insight into your 'changing' child. Also remember *HOW MUCH SOCIAL MEDIA* is also influencing our TWEENS. Be involved and create an atmosphere of *BEING THERE*. **REMEMBER YOU ARE STILL THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON/S IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT AT TIMES!**

Recently I was tidying up my study and I came across a card my daughter gave me a few years ago – it brought a tear to my eye as I read 'thank you for giving me confidence' – sometimes we think what we say goes in one ear and out the other, hmmm... So, parents **DON'T DESPAIR, KEEP LOVING!**

Stay safe and well!!!

Robyn Mulholland

Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays – 9:00am to 3:30pm

robyn.mulholland@education.vic.gov.au



Pupil of the Week



2024 ~ Term 1 ~ Week 2

Prep	Amelie	For being an enthusiastic learner and showing kindness to her peers. Well done, Amelie!
Grade 1/2 A	Prisha	For a wonderful start at Greensborough Primary School.
Grade 1/2 B	Lee May	For having a great transition to Grade 1. Keep it up!
Grade 3/4 A	Atri	For assisting his Grade 3 classmates when using the computers this week. You are a Superstar!
Grade 3/4 B	Uriah	For showing a great level of maturity and focus toward his learning. So proud!
Grade 5/6 A	Inaaya	For always being such a positive member of 5/6A! You're always so helpful and kind. 😊
Grade 5/6 B	Anjali	For giving everything a go with such a positive attitude! Keep up the great work.
Art	Sansa W 3/4A	For putting in a terrific effort with learning to draw block writing. Well done!
Library Grades 3 – 6	Jasper A 3/4A	For his insight and discussion regarding a blue dot book. Looking forward to more rich discussion!
PE	Elsie S 1/2B	For your wonderful listening and being a great role model of our school values.
STEM Prep – Grade 2	Harvey W Prep	For sharing your great observations of the Sun in the sky. Awesome!
STEM Grades 3 – 6	Uriah R 3/4B	For his great attention to detail in his diagram of Earth's Rotation. Awesome session, Uriah!

2024 ~ Term 1 ~ Week 3

Prep	Ryan	For his exceptional positivity and excitement towards his learning.
Grade 1/2 A	Max	For his effort and hard work during Literacy tasks. You're a Superstar!
Grade 1/2 B	Gabbie	For having such an enthusiastic start at Greensborough Primary School! Well done!
Grade 3/4 A	Shyamala	For her wonderful reading responses identifying 'Facts and Opinions'. Keep up the great work!
Grade 3/4 B	Matilda	For such a wonderful start to school at Greensborough Primary School! We are lucky to have you in 3/4B.
Grade 5/6 A	Thomas H	For showing the school value, Empathy in the classroom and assisting your peers when needed. Well done!
Grade 5/6 B	Ivy	For a fantastic and hones Junior School Council speech! You spoke so well!
Art	Fatima C 3/4B	For creating an amazing Zentangle name plate. You used terrific pattern, contrast and balance. Well done!
Library Prep – Grade 2	Elsie S 1/2B	Brilliant Library helpers! Thank you for your help and time.
PE	Carter A 5/6A	Great start to the year, you are an excellent teammate!
STEM Prep – Grade 2	Garrus S 1/2A	For his enthusiasm during our STEM session! Keep up the positive energy!
STEM Grades 3 – 6	Carter A 5/6A	For the great research and concentration he showed today when finding facts about the Solar system! Awesome.

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What's been happening at OSHClub.....

It's wonderful to be able to share with you what has been happening at OSHClub the last couple of weeks.

Sadly we said farewell to Rita. After being with us for 12 months, Rita secured a position closer to home with another provider and we wish her all the very best in her new role. A bank of regular casuals will be helping out in the interim as we look to employ a full time Educator and rest assured that this is being given priority to ensure that the continuity for families is maintained.

Some of our adventures have included story writing/book making, self portraits, cooking club and imaginative play.

Our room is in the process of a little revamp designed to maximise the space that we have to ensure the children are comfortable and engaged.

Our displays have been updated and the decluttering is allowing us to utilise the space much better.

Photo Gallery



Special Announcements

Parents please be reminded that it is a legal requirement that all children be signed in by an adult into the morning care program. Especially at the moment whilst there are repair works happening around the school.

Hats and sunscreen **MUST** be worn when playing outside during this Term. No Hat, No Play – no fun today.

Coming Up

26th
Feb

Monday madness - shaving foam artwork

29th
Feb

Leap year antics - it only happens every 4th year.

1st
Mar

Friday Fun Day - Message in a Bottle

Student Leadership News

This year we welcome Ivy to our Leadership Team. Ivy will bring a great balance to our Rise then Shine program and be a voice for the children who attend Before School. Thank you for agreeing to join the team Ivy, we are so pleased to have you on board.



Two great things to keep an eye out for are our special breakfasts in the morning (which is in addition to our normal breakfast range of cereal and toast) and our incredible Friday Fun Day activities.

We offer a new Idea each week to supplement the other activities on offer in the program.

Quality Area Reflection

QUALITY AREAS WE ARE FOCUSING ON:

Building Relationships with Families and Children.

NORTHERN MELBOURNE MUSIC

www.NorthernMelbourneMusic.com.au

043 455-5602

NorthernMelbourneMusic@gmail.com

We provide one-to-one, paired, and group, 30 Minute music lessons to students of all ages and abilities.

ENROL TODAY
NMM

NORTHERN MELBOURNE MUSIC

No need to bring instruments to school!

We provide the guitars, keyboards, and ukuleles needed for lessons.



One-to-one lessons are charged \$35 per lesson, Paired lessons are charged \$25 per lesson, and Group lessons are charged \$15 per lesson. Lessons are invoiced for the entire term.

Students require a practice diary, and method book suitable for their experience and age. These will be provided by Northern Melbourne Music and included in the first invoice.

Instrument availability can vary depending on schools. Please contact us to see what is available to you!

NORTHERN MELBOURNE MUSIC

providing music lessons to students of all ages and abilities in schools, in homes and online

Enrol online

NorthernMelbourneMusic.com.au

or contact us at

NorthernMelbourneMusic@gmail.com

043 455-5602

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Chess Tournaments for Schools
Equipment Sale and Hire
Group and individual coaching
Special Chess Events
School Chess Club Assistance

Enquiries: info@northernstarchess.com

Northern Star Chess - Interschool Zonal Chess tournament 07 March

Northern Star Chess is proud to be conducting a full program of face to face zonal tournaments this year for Primary and Secondary School students. We would like to invite your school to participate in the tournament detailed below. Many of our tournaments do fill up, and we recommend early bookings for all events.

Our Chess tournaments are individual-based events, so there is no restriction on the number of students attending from a school. You may have just 1 student interested, or you can bring a bus load. Emphasis is on participation and improvement and the opportunity to experience tournament conditions.

The top 30% of all students at this tournament qualify to represent your school at the NSC Victorian Schools State Final series, which is conducted by Northern Star Chess in term 4.

Thursday 07 March at Kangaroo Ground Primary School – Primary Open Zonal

Address: Graham Road, Kangaroo Ground

Time: 9:30 am – 2:15 pm (approx)

Cost: The cost per student is \$25.

(Generally collected by the school and we invoice the school after the tournament)

Format:

- Individual based tournament
- Every student plays 7 games against players of similar skill, regardless of how many games they win or lose (Swiss pairing method)
- Students experience proper tournament rules
- Gold/Silver/Bronze medals awarded to various grade/year level categories
- "Star of the tournament" trophy for top scorer of the day
- Table prizes/giveaways.
- Northern Star Chess State Final or Semi-final qualifications announced at the end of tournament based on results for the day.

Registration procedure for school teams:

Make a reservation - To avoid disappointment, please make contact as soon as possible to indicate your interest and approx. numbers

When you have more definite information, please send an email with

- Tournament (venue & date)
- Student list: including name, gender and year level
- Name of responsible adult accompanying the group
- Details of an official contact person
to: register@NorthernStarChess.com

Prefer parents register directly with us?

If your school is happy to offer this activity to your students, but prefers that parents organise attendance directly with us, they can register directly via Trybooking.

Please let us know and we can send you a flyer to forward to parents.

Enquiries: info@NorthernStarChess.com

Further information and calendar: www.NorthernStarChess.com/Tourney_Zonal.html