



Greensborough Primary School - 2062

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Borough Bulletin ~ 12 December 2024



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| Thursday 12 December 2024 | Grade 6 Graduation Celebration |
| Friday 13 December 2024 | Ice Cream Truck visit 2024 School Academic Reports to go home |
| Monday 16 December 2024 | Whole School Xmas Picnic – 05:00pm to 07:00pm |
| Wednesday 18 December 2024 | Grade 6 – Big Day Out Excursion – Bounce |
| Thursday 19 December 2024 | Last Day of 2024 School Year – Early Dismissal – 01:30 pm Final Assembly – 01:15pm |
| Friday 20 December 2024 | Curriculum Day – Pupil-Free Day |
| Tuesday 28 January 2025 | Curriculum Day – Pupil-Free Day |
| Wednesday 29 January 2025 | Prep to Grade 6 Students Commence 2025 School Year |
| Friday 31 January 2025 | 2025 Grade 6 – Big Day Out Excursion – Funfields |
| Friday 07 February 2025 | Interschool Sports Round 1 – GPS V Watsonia Nth PS – Home |
| Friday 14 February 2025 | Interschool Sports Round 2 –Watsonia V GPS – Away |
| Friday 21 February 2025 | Interschool Sports Round 3 – GPS V Norris Bank PS – Home |
| Friday 28 February 2025 | Interschool Sports Round 4 – GPS V Watsonia Heights PS – Home |
| Friday 07 March 2025 | Interschool Sports Round 5 – GPS V Bundoora PS – Home |
| Friday 14 March 2025 | Interschool Sports Round 6 – St Marys PS V GPS– Away |
| Friday 21 March 2025 | Interschool Sports Round 7 – Streeton PS V GPS – Away |



Principal's Report

We're coming to the end of a productive and successful year and it's lovely to see classes beginning to wind down and enjoy the fun and festivities of the Christmas season. Students are looking forward to their class parties and exchanging KK gifts with classmates, next Tuesday 17th December. The choir sang beautifully at the recent Greensborough Plaza Twilight Market, and they clearly enjoyed performing on stage in front of an audience. We're very proud of their willingness to rehearse every week, their persistence to learn the new songs and their confidence to try something new and perform at a community event! Thank you to everyone

who came along to enjoy and support the choir. Thankyou also to our choir masters, Jill and Alessia, for coordinating the choir and giving our students this memorable opportunity. *See the choir photo later in the newsletter.*

The festive fun continues tomorrow as Margaret has organised the annual visit of the **ice-cream van** to celebrate the end of a terrific year and reward students for working to the best of their ability in 2024.

The fun doesn't stop there as we celebrate with families on Monday night at the **Christmas Picnic**. We hope many family members will be able to join us on the night.



The evening's approximate schedule is:

- ★ 5:00pm: Picnic begins and P&F barbeque
- ★ 5:30pm: Activities organised by teachers on the oval
- ★ **6:05pm: "Special Visitor" arrives**
- ★ 6:30pm: Christmas Carols in Outdoor Learning Area
- ★ 7:00pm: Homeward Bound!

Any parents who are able to assist with the barbeque, please contact the school.

Congratulations Joan- Celebrating 80 years Young!



We're very fortunate to have many volunteers at GPS who generously give their time and expertise to support our students and school programs, and we appreciate them tremendously. Occasionally, there are volunteers who stand out and deserve special accolades and Joan, who has been volunteering in our Library for many years, is such a person.

This week we were very happy to show our appreciation to Joan and celebrate her 80th birthday. Joan has been volunteering her time in the Library each week for **17 years!!!** Joan's support for our Library is legendary and, as a token of the high esteem in which Joan is held, we are naming the Library in her honour. A plaque is currently being engraved and will be installed in the new year.

Joan's husband Wayne, for whom the multi-purpose room is named, has volunteered for 19 years at GPS, and also joined in the celebration. We look forward to Joan and Wayne supporting GPS for many more years to come!

Meet Your 2025 Teachers and Classmates

There was a buzz of excitement in classrooms on Tuesday as students met their teachers and classmates for 2025. I'm not sure if it was the teachers or the students who enjoyed the morning the most as they began to get to know each other better. Current class teachers have given a thorough handover of student information to next year's teachers, so a smooth transition is in progress. Feedback from students was that they were happy in their new grades and are looking forward to 2025.

Graduation

Congratulations to our graduating class of 2024! Our graduation ceremony is this evening, and students are excited for the event to begin. This evening is always a joyful event as we celebrate our students' primary school years. They have been diligently preparing for tonight, rehearsing dances and speeches and we're sure the evening will proceed without a hitch due to their efforts. Our graduating class of '24 have been excellent role models for our students and have built important memories with their Prep Buddies. Whilst we celebrate our students' achievements at primary school and are confident they are well prepared to embark on the next stage of their education, the night is always tinged with a hint of sadness as our students end their time with us. It's also the end of an era for some of our families, many of whom have had several

children attend Greensborough Primary. Our families make a strong positive impact on our community in a variety of ways and will be sadly missed.

Whilst we are sorry to see our 2024 graduates leave us, we are confident they are more than ready to begin the next stage of their education at secondary school, and we wish them much happiness and success in the years ahead.

I'd like to thank class teachers Jacinta and Jesse, and ES Lynette, Claire, Emilia and Sarah, who worked extremely hard in the planning and rehearsal stages to ensure the night provides a great memory for families and runs smoothly. They couldn't have achieved this without the support of parents and staff who generously gave their time to make this night a success. I'd especially like to thank parents, Belinda and Tammy and their band of helpers, who took on the huge responsibility for setting up the magnificent decorations and making the hall look very festive, and then packing them away carefully tomorrow.

Martial Arts Therapy and Wellbeing Programs

A huge thankyou to Robyn, our Wellbeing Worker, for coordinating external providers for wellbeing programs for our students as well as providing individual and small group programs. Our Grade 5 students were highly engaged in the Martial Arts Therapy Program which is an active modality that combines the principles of mental wellbeing and emotional regulation with those of therapeutic martial art training techniques, games, metaphors and stories. Its format engages and empowers young people to learn life skills, and to better manage the challenges in their lives. Jesse and Jacinta were high in their praise of the program and benefits for students.



Christmas Tree Competition - Help Win \$1000 For Our School

Don't forget to take your receipts for \$20 or more to the Customer Service Desk on level 2 at Greensborough Plaza and exchange for a token to vote for our Christmas tree! The Plaza is displaying Christmas trees decorated by nine local primary schools on Level 2, near Toyworld. The school with the most tokens at the end of the campaign will receive a \$1000 gift card, Runners up (second and third place) will be rewarded with a \$500 gift card. So, encourage your friends and family members to vote for GPS or simply go along and enjoy the wonderful display.



Location: Level 2, Near Toyworld. **Entries close this Monday 16th Dec.**

Semester Two Reports

A reminder that student reports will be sent home via COMPASS tomorrow, Friday 16th December, at 4:00pm. Parents who would like a hard copy of student reports, should contact your child's class teacher.

Parents and Carers are also reminded to save student reports from COMPASS on to your computer hard drive, so that you will always have access to them. As our Grade 6 students are nearing the end of their primary school journey, and teachers are preparing their final reports, we're mindful that once students are exited from our school, they will no longer have access to their COMPASS accounts and their semester reports. If any family members have difficulty completing this task, please contact your child's teacher for assistance.

Last Day of Term

Families are reminded that the last day for students will be next Thursday 19th December and school will finish at 1.30pm. We will have our final assembly for the year at 1:15pm

Teachers will be in attendance on Friday 20th, as this is our final Professional Practice Day for the year and is also a student free day. Teachers will be planning for 2025 classes on this day. Our day will finish earlier than usual, as we are mandated to give teachers Time In Lieu for attending the Christmas Picnic.

2025 Curriculum Days

I know many families like advance notice of our Curriculum Days, so 2025 dates are listed below:

- First day of Term One, Tuesday 28th January
- Friday before Labour Day, 7th March
- Monday before Cup Day, 3rd November
- Fourth Day: TBC

Thank you!

This is the last newsletter of the year and any further notices will be sent via COMPASS. I'd like to thank everyone in our community for your contribution and support this year. Special thanks to our volunteers who generously offered their time and expertise in many different capacities, especially Joan and Wayne who have been tireless supporters of GPS for over two decades. Thank you also to Geoff, who has provided invaluable assistance with buildings and grounds work with Wayne for many years and to Adrian who commits a day a week to work in our gardens. Thank you also to Annie A for her work as P&F President this year and her band of helpers who have spent many hours raising funds for our students.

Our community spirit at Greensborough Primary is evidenced by the support we receive from both family members of our students and volunteers in the wider community, including our Kids Hope mentors and Breakfast Club providers and we are very appreciative of their support. Thank you also to our staff for going above and beyond for our students so they achieve optimal academic and wellbeing outcomes.

On behalf of all of the staff I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and peaceful holiday break. We are looking forward to catching up with everyone after the holidays for the 2025 school year.

Regards,

Angela Morritt

Principal



Vacation Care

OSHClub will begin Vacation Care on Monday 6th January next year. If any families would like to use this service and haven't already registered they can go to www.oshclub.com.au to register. For queries about Vacation Care please contact OSHClub directly or speak to the coordinator, Ruby, before or after school.

Water Safety: VICSWIM program

VICSWIM is a 5-day intensive learn to swim and water safety program for children aged 4 to 12 years. The Victorian Government subsidises the program. Aquatics and Recreation Victoria runs it.

Program details:

Dates:

- Monday 6 January to Friday 10 January 2025
- Monday 13 January to Friday 17 January 2025
- Monday 20 January to Friday 24 January 2025

Time:

- 5 lessons, 30 minutes each

Location:

- more than 170 pools, beaches and waterways across the state.
- To find your nearest location, refer to [VICSWIM 2025 venues](#)

Cost:

- \$35 per child for the week.

For more information and to book, refer to the [VICSWIM website](#). You will need to create an account to book.

Swim City is a free online game-based experience where children can learn about water safety from animated characters, Fin, Pod and Splash.

Swim City is designed to complement swimming lessons. It now includes a module about water safety at farms. You can also share [Swim City resources and promotional material](#).

New webpage to help families and students prepare for a new school year

A new school year is an exciting time for students and families, but it can be a big step – particularly for those starting Prep or moving to secondary school. The Department of Education has published a webpage with resources and information to help you prepare for the new school year.

During the school holidays, please consider reading through the resources, which include:

- tips to help transition between kinder and Prep and primary to secondary school
- what to expect at school
- help with school costs and fees
- health and wellbeing guidance to support children's mental health.

Please refer to the [New year of learning](#) webpage.

Parents & Friends Association

Well our school year is coming to a speedy end. We encourage all our families to attend the School Christmas Picnic Barbeque this Monday night 16 December 2024. Come and enjoy the company of old and new friends.

P&F are running their last event for the year, the Christmas Picnic BBQ! We are after some helpers to help set up, run & pack up. A compass link has been sent out, if you can help out at all please sign up.

<https://signup.com/go/pNJeVLn>

If you would like to be involved with P&F next year we would love to have you on board. Without volunteers we are unable to run our events.

A big thank-you to everyone who has helped out in 2024, it's very much appreciated.

Thank you,

Yvette & Annie

for Greensborough Primary School Parents & Friends Association



2024 Grade 5 Secondary School Experience

Last Wednesday, our Year 5 students had the opportunity to attend Greensborough Secondary College for an experience day. Students participated in cooking, science and woodwork lessons. I was extremely proud of how our students conducted themselves on the day. A big thank you to Emilia and Annabelle for their support on the day too!

Jacinta Simpson

5/6A teacher





CHRISTMAS CHOIR



Congratulations to our choir who performed at the Greensborough Christmas Twilight Market. It was a hot but wonderful night and everyone performed brilliantly. Thank you to all the parents and friends who attended and supported our choir.



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

STUDENT WELLBEING



Hi Everyone,

Well, it's that time of year when we see our young people of grade 6 graduate, ready to move on to the next phase in their schooling and their lives. It is always tinged with a sense of pride but also a sense of sadness as we say GOOD-BYE. I wish them all the best for their future. They take with them an increased resilience and perseverance, as well as (hopefully) new organisational skills and independence.



While saying GOODBYE does mean accepting that a part of our life is now over, it also provides us with a chance to realize just how blessed our lives have been. To look back and reflect on the journeys we've shared with some wonderful people, while being exposed to amazing and invaluable experiences. Regardless of how long someone has been a part of our lives, whether it's five minutes, five years, or five decades, their impact will always remain with us – even after we utter that simple, yet hard to say, two-syllable word.

This quote from Walt Disney, may provide comfort: *'Goodbye may seem forever. Farewell is like the end, but in my heart is the memory and there you will always be'.*

That also goes to the students who will be leaving GPS for other family reasons – thanks for the memories, and all the best in your new schools!



I would sincerely like to thank the school community for entrusting me with your children.

Thanks also to our community helpers: Foodbank for allowing us to be part of the Breakfast Program, our community helpers in Breakfast Club from Living Faith Church and our community Kids Hope mentors, also from Living Faith Church and Grace from Agape Christian Chinese Church... IT CERTAINLY TAKES A VILLAGE!

I would like to wish you all, regardless of culture/faith, a very happy time together of joy and sharing over Christmas! May you all have a safe and relaxing holiday, full of special family times.

TAKE CARE

Robyn Mulholland
Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
robyn.mulholland@education.vic.gov.au



Kindness Crusaders

The Kindness Crusaders are proud to donate 8 beautiful books to the library. Two books were received from The Cat Protection Society in thanks for the blanket drives we held in 2023 and 2024. The other 6 books were purchased using monies raised by the Kindness Crusaders when they sold cookies in term 3. These books all feature kindness and were handpicked by the Kindness Crusaders. These books will be on the shelves next year and we really hope they are enjoyed by the entire school community.





Pupil of the Week



2024 ~ Term 4 ~ Week 8

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| Prep | Ishaan | For slowing down his handwriting and improving work presentation. |
| Grade 1/2 A | Tiarna | For always working with effort and care. Amazing! |
| Grade 1/2 B | Indie | For always showing a positive attitude to learning! |
| Grade 3/4 A | Drew | For his participation and engagement during the B-Cyberwise incursion. |
| Grade 3/4 B | Billee R | For her effort and persistence during reading groups. Awesome work, Billee! |
| Grade 5/6 A | Connor | For working hard on his Passion Project. Keep up the great work! |
| Grade 5/6 B | Malachai | For your spirit and determination during Martial Arts. You broke the file!! |
| Art Grades Prep – 2 | Ned L 5/6A | For always being willing to try new things and new techniques in the Artroom. Your background looks fantastic! |
| Library Grades Prep – 2 | Garrus S 1/2A | For showing enthusiasm toward his Spooky Story! |
| Library Grades 3 – 6 | Philippa A 3/4A | For consistently showing our school values at Library each week. You're a great role model! |
| PE | Billy J 5/6B | For your selfless nature in PE. You are an amazing teammate in ANY sport. |
| STEM Grades Prep – 2 | William G 1/2B | For his great positive attitude when he approaches all STEM tasks. Well done, Will. |
| STEM Grades 3 – 6 | Ella M 3/4A Evelyn H 3/4A | For their teamwork and persistence shown when making their DASH Robot 'runway' costume. |

2024 ~ Term 4 ~ Week 9

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| Prep | Eddie | For his brilliant handwriting during our lesson on how to write lists. |
| Grade 1/2 A | Sofia | For her excellent attitude to all areas of her schoolwork. |
| Grade 1/2 B | William | For continuing to practise putting his hand up in class. |
| Grade 3/4 A | Tien | For using a Venn Diagram to compare and contrast two fiction texts. |
| Grade 3/4 B | Matilda | For her effort and persistence in reading groups. Great reading, Matilda! |
| Grade 5/6 A | Elvy-Li | For having a positive, can do attitude at our recent excursion. |
| Grade 5/6 B | Lizzie | What a fantastic Passion Project about World War I! Great work!! |
| PE | Arad M 5/6A | For your bravery and team spirit in PE. |
| STEM Prep – Grade 2 | Ishaan W Prep | For always giving everything a great go when participating in STEM activities. |
| STEM Grades 3 – 6 | Hugo S 5/6B | For his STEM enthusiasm he shows each lesson. Keep up the great work, Hugo. |

