

# GWABEGAR PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Email: [gwabegar-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gwabegar-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Web: [www.gwabegar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.gwabegar-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**Ward**

Week 4 Term 1

17th February 2021

## *From the Principal's desk...*

Wow! Who can believe that we are nearly at the mid-point of the first term! It certainly is going fast!

Congratulations to all students who competed in the swimming carnival last Wednesday, it was wonderful to watch all students have a go and try their hardest! Unfortunately, Pilliga were far too strong for us on the day! There is always next year!!

### **Classroom organisation**

This year, we are able to once again split students into Infants and primary for 4 days a week. Year 1 and 2 students will be with me and 3-6 students will be with Mrs Knight until lunchtimes. On Monday and Thursday afternoons students will be combined with me and on Tuesday and Wednesdays they will be combined with Mrs Knight. On Fridays all students will be together with Mrs McGlashan. It is hoped that by having such small groups we will be able to have more targeted teaching and achievement growth. There will be days however, that students will be altogether due to teacher absences.

### **Breakfast club**

The school has recently been successful in receiving funding to run a daily breakfast club for all students. It will run from 8:30 until around 8:50am. Students will be able to choose from cereal and toast most days and occasionally they will be offered pancakes, bacon and eggs. As a result of this, morning play will now occur down under the Infants COLA. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day and it is vital that all students have it, as this will assist their learning and concentration in class.

### **Attendance Matters**

Please be aware that it is important that students are at school every day. Obviously if your children are sick, please keep them at home, however reasons such as couldn't find shoes, sleeping in and if it is raining are not justifiable. Students who fall under 85% attendance will be referred to the Home School Liaison Officer for follow up. It is anticipated that students should be at school 95% of the time. Please find attached more information about why attendance is important. Students who display exemplary attendance will be rewarded at the end of the year.

### **Canberra Excursion**

The Canberra excursion is planned for Week 7 of Term 4 this year, 15th-19th November. As this will be an extremely busy time in Canberra as many schools will be on excursion at the same time, it is important that we lock in final numbers now. Students will be travelling in the school bus and will be staying in 2 bedroom apartments in Manuka. There will be a staff member in each room with each family of children. The cost will be \$330 per student., the school is heavily subsidising the excursion as well. All money must be paid by Friday November 5 2021. Payment plans are available. By paying as little as \$15 per student a week, the excursion will be paid for by 5/11. A draft itinerary is attached.

### **Radio show return**



The school radio show has returned fortnightly on Thursdays. Our next show will take place on Thursday 25th February.

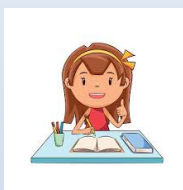
### **Sport on Thursdays**

We will be continuing sport on Thursdays at Pilliga for the next 3 weeks. A permission note was sent home yesterday. Please ensure that it is filled in and sent back to school. Students must be wearing their full sports uniform on Thursdays-no football shorts.

### **School money envelopes**

Please find attached money envelopes that are to be used when sending money in with students. Please place money inside and seal the envelope. Ensure that child's name is written on the front, what the money is for and how much money is in the envelope. If you need more, please contact the front office. Correct change is preferred.

### **Homework**



Students in Years 1-6 have been given spelling homework which must be completed and handed in on a Friday. Kindergarten students have sounds work to complete. Students will be allowed to keep the iPads at home that they used throughout the Learning from Home time. They are required to read a PM book every night and record it. They are also required to complete either 1 map in Reading eggs/ Reading eggspress or 1 map in Maths seeds every night. It is important that students complete this as it supports what they are learning at school. This should take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

### **Variety Bash**

Mark Wednesday the 19th May in your diaries as the day the Variety bash are coming to town! We will be in need of volunteers to help prepare and cook lunch for approximately 300 people! We will be looking for slow cookers, fridges, coolrooms and serving utensils to help make the day run smooth. The school P&C will also receive a donation from the Variety bash on the day! Your help would be appreciated!



## **Gwabegar Public School-Canberra Excursion**

☐

Yes my children will be attending the Canberra Excursion. I am aware the cost will be \$330 per student and will have this paid by Friday 5/11.

☐

No, my children will not be attending the excursion and will be coming to school.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## School Recycling

The school is once again participating in the return and earn recycling program. Please drop any washed out cans and bottles at the school in bags of 10-20. Money raised will go towards school excursions that will occur during the year.

## Absence explanations



It is a requirement of the Department of Education, that all absences are explained within 7 days of any absence. You may contact the school directly by phone or email, or send a note in explaining the absence. We are not able to accept verbal absences from students, it must come from a parent or carer. Continued absences may be referred to the Home School Liaison Officer, who will develop an attendance plan and in worse case scenarios end up with legal prosecution. An advice of absence slip is provided in this newsletter.

## Visitors to school



Please remember to sign in at the office any time you visit our school. This includes when coming in for the canteen and meetings during school hours. The book is kept on the bench in the school office.

Your assistance will help Gwabegar Public School evaluate parental involvement.

## Playgroup and Preschool

Is held every Tuesday from 9:30am. All parents and children are welcome to attend. Remember to bring a hat, enclosed shoes, some fruit and water. If the children wish to ride the school bikes, they must have enclosed shoes on (not thongs).

## School Fees

School fees for Term 1 are now due. Fees go towards purchasing resources and books for students in the classroom and are \$20 per family.

Katie

Katie Sullivan  
Principal



## Gwabegar Public School-Advice of absence

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Sick \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Leave \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Attendance matters every day!!

## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight  
 = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week  
 = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)

When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

Parents and carers can help foster positive attendance habits by:

- helping their child learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- ensuring their child arrives on time from the start of the school day, ready to participate in learning
- reducing disruption to learning where possible, by planning any necessary appointments outside of school time
- promptly communicating any absence to the school (within 7 days of the first day of any absence)
- working with the school to encourage and support regular attendance.



# WHY READING EVERY NIGHT MATTERS!!

## STUDENT A

- **20 minutes** per day
- **1,800,000 words** per year
- Scores in the **90th percentile** on standardized tests



CORWIN Visible Learning<sup>plus</sup>

## STUDENT B

- **5 minutes** per day
- **282,000 words** per year
- Scores in the **50th percentile** on standardized tests



Image: Josh Applegate on Unsplash

CORWIN Visible Learning<sup>plus</sup>

Learning how to be a good reader is what makes you a writer.

Zadie Smith

Instagram

## STUDENT C

- **1 minute** per day
- **8,000 words** per year
- Scores in the **10th percentile** on standardized tests



CORWIN Visible Learning<sup>plus</sup>

10 ways to become a better reader...

1. Read
2. READ
3. Read
4. read
5. READ
6. Read
7. Read
8. read
9. Read 😊
10. READ



## **P&C News**

### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

A reminder to families that this levy is now payable to the school for this term at a cost of \$20 per family per term.

### **Uniforms**

Uniforms are available for purchase at the school.

**Adult sizes are available for purchase as well :)**

Supervision is provided for students from 8:30 am (30 minutes before school commences).

Staff are not required to be at school before 8.30 am and for their own safety, children should not be arriving at school any earlier. Children who can not sit quietly on the verandah until 8:30am, may have to wait at the school gate until this time.

**ALL visitors to the school, must sign in at the office!**

## **For your diary!**

- 18/2: Sport at Pilliga
- 25/2 Sport at Pilliga and radio show
- 4/3: Sport at Pilliga
- 22/3: Indigenous Painting workshop 1:30–3pm
- 1/4: Easter hat parade and last day of school
- 19/4: Term 2 begins for teachers
- 20/4: Term 2 begins for students.
- 25/4: ANZAC Day dawn service (SUNDAY)
- 19/5: School photos and Variety bash
- 15–19 November: Canberra Excursion

### **Canberra Excursion**

Send money in sealed envelopes with students names on the front!

**Sport will be on Thursdays this term**

Playgroup is on Tuesdays from 9:30am



## **School attendance**

**Regular attendance at school is important!**

Being 10 minutes late to school everyday may not seem like much but it adds up to losing over 1 hour of learning every week!

Which over a year is over 1 and half weeks and over 13 years of schooling is nearly half a term!

*Make sure you are on time all the time!*

If your child is absent from school for any reason, parents and carers MUST provide an explanation within 7 days. This can be provided in person, telephone, written note or email.

**Gwabegar Public School Canteen**

**Price List**

**Term 1 2020**

Pizza	\$4
Lasagne	\$4
Mac Cheese	\$4
Pie	\$3
Sausage Roll	\$2
Chicken Tenders	\$2.50
Chicken Wings	\$2
Drinks	\$2
Ice cream	\$2
Zooper Dooper	50c

**P&C Canteen will operate on Tuesdays.**

**Nicky will be in touch with all families for the  
duty roster**

**You MUST sign in and out of the office on your rostered day.**