



Please note the school has a new telephone number - 9234 6350

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to what is turning out to be a slightly less than normal, Term Two! We have a number of families who have availed themselves of the opportunity to continue their children's learning at home during the current pandemic that is sweeping the globe. For the overwhelming majority of our students (over 70%) who have returned to school to engage in Face to Face Learning, staff are working really hard to ensure the school experience is as close to 'normal' as possible during these challenging times.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our families and carers for their understanding and support of the conditions placed upon our return to school, in particular the arrangements for pick up and drop off of students at the school gate. As Principal, I could not be prouder of our children, parents and staff for the manner in which you have all adapted to this change, with a minimum of fuss – despite the less than perfect weather of late!

While we await the next round of community based restrictions to be eased, I would like to reassure all families that Gosnells Primary School is a low risk of transmission environment for all our staff and students. A large reason for this can be directly attributed to our fantastic band of school cleaners. We are extremely fortunate to have received additional funding from the state government to support cleaning in our school. As a result of this funding we have employed two day time cleaners, **Marline Hand** and **Karen Hodgson**, who are doing a fantastic job cleaning all high touch surfaces including toilets, playgrounds, door handles, light switches, handrails, drink troughs, shared resources, classroom desks and chairs on a regular basis throughout the day. As well as the increased cleaning regime, students and staff are doing a fantastic job maintaining good hand hygiene, using both the soap and sanitiser available across our school.

You may have heard in the media recently, and should have received a letter from me earlier in the week, regarding 'COVID Spot Testing' in a small number of WA Government Schools in the coming weeks. Gosnells Primary School is one of the 80 schools identified, from which 40 schools will be chosen for testing of up to 150 staff and students over a 3 month period. I will be able to confirm our involvement in testing, as well as provide more details regarding the wider community survey, to parents and carers once the Telethon Kids Institute commence their work with schools in the coming days. In the meantime, I would just like to encourage all parents to participate in the survey when it is made available as results will be invaluable in helping to better understand the extent of COVID-19 in Western Australia and what measures are required to keep our communities safe moving forward.

Coming Events

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions the Uniform Shop and Canteen are Closed. School Banking and Breakfast Club are also cancelled until further notice

Monday, 11 May and
Monday, 18 May
Start Smart Banking

(please note, this is not the CBA Student School Banking; it is an in-class CBA educational program for students)

Wednesday, 20 May
Newsletter

Friday, 29 May
School Development Day
(students do not attend school today)

Monday, 1 June
Public Holiday - WA Day
(students do not attend school today)

Wednesday, 3 June
Newsletter

Wednesday, 17 June
Newsletter

Wednesday, 1 July
Newsletter

Friday, 3 July
Final Day of Term Two



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As you would be aware, it is this time of the year our Year 3 and 5 students would ordinarily be sitting their NAPLAN tests online. In light of the disrupted start to the school year caused by COVID-19, the state and federal government agreed to cancel these tests in 2020. While important, these tests have never been able to assess all of what makes each Gosnells Primary School student exceptional and unique. The computer that marks these tests does not have any way of knowing that your child may love to sing, or is good at drawing or are often called upon to teach others how to use a particular computer program or app. They have not had the opportunity to see the way your child is able to dance with grace or speak confidently to large audiences. They don't know that they are the one person all their friends count on to be there for them when they are sad. They don't know about the hours many of our students spend participating in sports, helping mum and dad with younger brothers, sisters and cousins. There is no way that a series of online tests could possibly show that your children are caring, thoughtful and that every day they try and do their very best. That is because these attributes cannot be tested.

So don't despair not receiving a NAPLAN Report for your child this year, it will have only told you how they did on that test, but will not have told you everything their teacher could. It wouldn't tell you how much your child has improved on something they once found difficult, it wouldn't have told you how your child brightens their teacher's day and it definitely wouldn't have told you how amazingly special your child is. We are extremely proud of the effort all our students put into their studies, as well as the attitude and behaviour they bring to class each and every day – we don't need NAPLAN this year to validate that.

I am looking forward to seeing even more of our wonderful students back in class in the coming weeks.

Stay Strong, Keep Safe, See you Soon.

Regards

Craig

Year 6 Graduation Shirts Have Arrived

If you have an outstanding balance you can finalise payment directly to the P&C Bank Account:

A/C Name: GPS Uniforms BSB: 633000 ACC: 139644751

When payment is confirmed the shirt/s will be given to your child.

PRIDE CERTIFICATES

BRONZE PRIDE CERTIFICATE - 75 POINTS

*Congratulations to the following students who achieved their **Bronze Pride Award Certificate** on 3 April 2020:*

Huzaifah, Mare, Katie-Laine and Phenyx

*Congratulations to the following students who achieved their **Bronze Pride Award Certificate** on 1 May 2020:*

Theodore, Cristal, Hamish, Thanya and George

KINDY & PRE-PRIMARY 2021 ENROLMENTS

If you have a child due to start Kindergarten in 2021 (born 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2017) or Pre-Primary (born 1 July 2015 - 30 June 2016) you will need to complete an application form by **Friday, 24 July 2020**. Kindergarten places are limited so we encourage you to apply now.

As parents and carers cannot access school grounds (except for extenuating circumstances) due to Covid-19 restrictions you can obtain an application form in any of the following ways:

- **Visit our website: gosnellsp.s.wa.edu.au** - go to the **Enrolment tab** and click on **Enrolling your child** - scroll down the page and you can download a copy of Enrolment Pack Part A.
- Telephone the school on our new phone number **9234 6350** to request an enrolment application and we can email or post the document to you.

Completed forms and documentation can be sent back to the school by:

- scanning and emailing documents to gosnells.ps@education.wa.edu.au
- posting to **Gosnells Primary School, 173 Hicks Street, Gosnells WA 6110**
- if you live close-by you can hand deliver the documents to our letterbox on Hicks Street