



Gosnells PRIMARY SCHOOL

173 Hicks Street Gosnells WA 6110
School Office: 9234 6350

Principal: MR SCOTT TAPPER
Deputy Principals: MRS MICHELLE MARSHALL,
MR MICHAEL EVERETT, MS CRYSTAL DICKSON
Program Coordinator (Autism):
MRS JO KENCHINGTON

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School: www.facebook.com/GosnellsPS
P&C: www.facebook.com/gpspandcassociation



www.gosnellsp.s.wa.edu.au

Newsletter

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Dear Gosnells Primary School Community

A very warm welcome back to school for the 2024 year. We are very excited for another year of innovation and change with the school continuing to streamline and upgrade all aspects of school life. Enhancements to the school are ongoing and will continue to be a feature of the school for years to come as we create the school our community deserves. We are dedicated to ensuring that your child has everything they need to be successful and are looking forward to a great year of learning.

I would like to extend a special welcome to our new students, staff and families joining us at Gosnells PS this year. You've joined a school which values its community, embraces inclusivity and always looks for better ways to improve, refine and innovate.

Our staff are committed to high quality teaching and learning and will do their utmost to support you and your child throughout the year. We are very big advocates for active and regular communication here at GPS and urge all parents and carers to keep checking their emails, our SeeSaw app and our school Facebook page for any updates throughout the year.

Attendance: In order for your child to make the most of their learning opportunities it is essential that they maintain positive attendance (more than 90%) throughout the year. Students who attend regularly have made significant progress at our school and are the best equipped for future life challenges. Every day matters so please support us to support you and your children by attending every day.

Gates: We highly recommend that students are collected from specific gates during pick and drop-offs each day to aid in supervision and to make it easier for your child to remember where to go each day.

The junior gate is located on the Clara Street side of the school (usually Kindy to Year 2 students). The senior gate is located on the May Street side of the school (usually Year 3 and above students).

New Faces: We have a number of new faces around our school in 2024! I trust, in time, you will all get to meet and make them feel welcome at our school. We also have some staff moving into new roles:

Denise Supramaniam: joins us as our new Manager Corporate Services.

Jesse Weinert: joins us in Room 6 as our new Year 4 teacher.

Kate Sedon: rejoins us in semester one to cover Performing Arts.

Katherine Cheek: joins us in Room 22 as our new Year 3-6 Specialist Learning Program (SLP) for Autism teacher.

Premila (Prem) Vijayakanathan: joins Grace Munnee as one of our two Chaplains working Monday and Tuesday most weeks.



Coming Events

Tuesday 6 February

Safer Internet Day

Emergency Drills

Wednesday 7 February

P&C Annual General Meeting - 5:30pm

Tuesday 13 February

8:40am - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Parent Meeting

Wednesday 14 February

The Smith Family Learning Club Commences

Friday 16 February

Kindy Yellow Parent Meetings

Monday 19 February

Kindy Blue & Pre-Primary Parent Meetings

Tuesday 20 February

Years 1 & 2 Parent Meetings

Wednesday 21 February

Years 3 & 4 Parent Meetings

Thursday 22 February

8:50am - Leaders Assembly
Years 5 & 6 Parent Meetings

Wednesday 28 February

Student Council Meeting

Friday 1 March

GPS Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

We are also fortunate to have secured a massive Musica Viva Grant for us to have our very own Resident Artist onsite for three days a week over three years. **Aria Scarlett** joins us this Term to fulfill this exciting new role with will support the implementation of music at our school.

2024 Class Formations: A lot of time and consideration is given to the placing of students into classrooms where we believe their educational and social needs will best be met. Changing classes once they are formed is a long and difficult process, which is why we give parents the opportunity to provide us with additional information to assist this process at the end of each year. With changing student enrolments, there may be a minor shuffle of some students in the first 4 weeks of school. Parents of children involved will be advised if this is the case. Thank you for your understanding.

School Behaviour Code: Moving into another year with a positive behaviour support focus, it is important that all parents and students are aware that our whole school expectations will not change but we will continue to refine the strategies we employ to reward those students who consistently meet and exceed these expectations in order to adequately acknowledge individual student behaviour. Class teachers will have discussed their classroom code of conduct with their students, likewise, the expectations for playground behaviour have been discussed in detail with students. In short, our expectations are that everybody involved at Gosnells Primary School – Staff, Students and Parents will:

- **Be Responsible;**
- **Be Respectful;**
- **Be Safe;** and
- **Be Better** in everything they do, every day.

Our Pride Point System has commenced for 2024 whereby students will receive certificates on achieving set milestones throughout the year. At the middle of each term a "Top 100" activity will acknowledge those students who receive the most Pride Points across the term and a good standing reward event will be held for all students at the end of term who maintain our behaviour expectations. Maali (our school mascot) will again be a regular visitor at our assemblies to draw the Pride Point Raffle!

Student Leaders 2024: As with 2023, all student leadership responsibility, including faction leadership, will be carried out by the elected Councillors. All positions were voted on by staff and students at the end of 2023 and we congratulate the following students on their selection to leadership positions:



Head Girl and Boy
Ella Grace and **Charlie Mitchell**

Councillors

Charlotte Carthew, Tiana Nilo, John Bron, Sarvesh Siva Subramanian, Ana Bosnjak and **Viraaj Mahajan**

Change of Address/Telephone Number/Email Address: To ensure our records are current, please notify the school of all changes to your contact and emergency contact details.

School Newsletter: Newsletters will be published and distributed by email Wednesdays on a fortnightly basis in 2024. Families who have already supplied an email address to the school will automatically receive the newsletter electronically. You can also subscribe to the newsletter by visiting our website www.gosnellsp.s.wa.edu.au. Please contact the school office if you require a printed copy of each edition.

Absences: Parents are required to notify the school in advance of any planned, extended leave (i.e. vacations). It is also a requirement that any unplanned leave (illness/emergency) is explained as soon as is practical. This can be done in a number of ways, including:

1. Letter/Diary Entry to the teacher
2. E-mail to: gosnellsp.s@education.wa.edu.au
3. SMS to: 0418 938 510
4. Phone call to the school office on 9234 6350

Staff from the school will be making contact with families when students have missed two or more consecutive days without explanation to ensure your child is not slipping unnecessarily into the academic risk categories associated with poor attendance.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

Parent Contributions: The 2024 parent contribution for Kindergarten to Year 6 is set at \$60 per student. Contributions collected as approved by the School Board will go towards:

- Photocopying;
- Text/Work books;
- Student consumable materials;
- Science materials; and
- Sports Equipment.

Voluntary Contributions can be made utilising our Qkr App or at the office by cash only. Thank you for your anticipated support.

Class Welcome Meetings: By the end of Week 2, each class teacher will have sent home to parents an invitation to attend a welcome meeting in week 4, informing you of classroom organisational matters, teaching and learning programs, assessment procedures, policies - including homework and behaviour management and other areas deemed to be important to your child's particular phase of schooling. If you have any queries or wish to discuss your child with the teacher and cannot make the meeting date, please arrange an interview via the SeeSaw App or calling the school office on 9234 6350.

Toys/Jewellery: Children are reminded not to bring their personal items such as toys, sporting equipment, collector cards, iPods to school unless requested by the class teacher. This is really important as schools are not responsible for their care when lost or damaged (we really want to ensure that no child is ever upset unnecessarily when something goes wrong). Costume jewellery, necklaces, wrist chains, bracelets and dangling earrings are also to be left at home. Ear studs/sleepers are permitted. No makeup, including nail polish, is to be worn to school.

Mobile Phone Contracts: All Primary School children across W.A. are prohibited from carrying a mobile phone on them, or in their bag, during school hours. Under our school policy on Student Mobile Phones at School, parents who require their child to carry a mobile phone to/from school must complete an "Application for Student Use of Mobile Phone". If you require your child to carry a mobile phone, and you have not already received a copy of the form, please collect one from the school office. New forms are required for each year.

Student Drop Off / Parking / Student Pick Up: Parents are reminded, wherever possible to park/pick their children up on the school side of the road. Avoid asking your child to cross the road unattended, especially between parked cars. We ask all students, and their parents, entering the school from May Street, to do so via the double gates behind Room 7 (NOT through the Staff Car Park). Parking on private property or a verge opposite the private property is unlawful unless the property owner has given permission. Don't risk getting a fine and we ask all our parents to be considerate of the residents who live around our school. Rangers at the City of Gosnells use the City's Parking Local Law 2012 to ensure parking around schools remains safe, lawful and allows traffic to flow. Don't risk a fine for parking illegally – many parking infringements are \$100. If you can't find anywhere around the school, consider parking further away and walk the rest of the distance. Better still, if it's possible, leave the car at home and walk or cycle to school to improve your health and reduce congestion on the roads.

School Hours - 8:30am to 2:40pm: Parents are requested not to send their child to school prior to 8:15am, as 15 minutes prior to instruction commencing is ample time for students to prepare themselves for class. The gates on May Street (Years 3 – 6) and Clara Street (Kindy – Year 2) are open between 8:15am and 8:35am. After this time, late arrivals need to enter through the main entrance on Hicks Street and report to the front office for a Late Pass. It is expected that children are collected from school as close to 2:40pm as possible. We are not equipped to look after children who are regularly late being picked up. If you are going to be late for whatever reason, please contact the school so arrangements for the supervision of your child can be made. Staff are rostered on duty at the exit gates to ensure all children are collected safely.

Hats: For the safety of all students, there is a requirement to wear a sun safe hat (broad brim, bucket or legionnaire style) for breaks and outdoor activities whenever the UV Index is forecast to reach 3 or above. Students without hats will be restricted to playing in the undercover area, muster area or on play equipment under a permanent shade structure. Signage around the school is in place to advise of the UV Index and whether or not a hat is required to be worn.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (continued)

P&C Committee: The P&C is a partnership between the school and community, led by volunteers who are invested in supporting the school and its commitment to its students. The following positions become vacant for nominations each year on the P&C Committee: **President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Uniform Shop Coordinator** and **General Executive**.

With all office bearer positions vacant at the start of each year, the P&C will not be able to continue if these positions are not filled. It is a great place to meet new people and volunteer your time to your child's school. Please email gosnellsp.pandc@gmail.com if you are interested in filling any of these positions or would like to have some more information on what the different positions entail and time commitments. The first P&C Meeting where positions will be filled is on **Wednesday 7 February** at **5:30pm**. All meetings are family friendly events with activities provided for students whilst their parents attend the meeting.

Student Medications: Parents of students requesting medication to be administered during school hours must complete an "Administration of Medication" form which is available at the school office. This ensures that we have your permission to provide the medication you have requested at the correct dosage. Under no circumstances are students permitted to 'self-medicate' during the school day. We do also have some students who are highly allergic to nuts, eggs and other food products. It would be appreciated if you could speak to your children about the importance of not sharing food and washing hands both before and after eating. The children concerned would be most grateful.

Parent, Staff and Student Feedback: At GPS, we greatly appreciate your contributions and feedback to create a leading community focused school. GPS certainly goes above and beyond to take the feedback of its stakeholders seriously with many of the changes and initiatives coming directly from the feedback received throughout the year. As part of our commitment to reflective practices, please find a survey link which provide us with an invaluable opportunity to assess whether the work we are completing as a school is being reflected in the community: <https://forms.office.com/r/SQimd78BkQ>.

This will be used in the formulation of our 2024-2026 Business Plan and contains 11 questions. The link will remain open for the first 3 weeks of the term. We appreciate any contribution you can make as we prepare for the next phase of our school's journey together.

In collaboration with our student councillors, I'm also planning to continue our termly student forums. These student led events will be an opportunity for students to share their own thoughts on the school, particularly to improve the GPS student experience as a whole. Being a student focussed school is always a priority of mine and enabling student voice is just one of the many ways we can demonstrate our commitment to a school which is highly reflective of its community and the changing needs and interests of its students.

I am greatly looking forward to working with you to build upon the schools many successes for the 2024 year and beyond.

Regards

Scott Tapper | Principal

Voluntary Contributions 2024 - Kindergarten to Year 6 - \$60 per year per child

Payments can be made in cash at the School Administration office or online via Qkr!



Download the app for free from Apple's app store for iPhones (for iPads download the iPhone app) or from Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

After downloading the app and registering, select **Gosnells Primary School** from 'Nearby Location' on Qkr or type **Gosnells** after tapping the magnifying glass in the top right of the home screen on Qkr.