A view to the future

Students kicking up their heels and swinging their partners at the Blackberry Jam Bush Band Incursion

Wednesday 20 March 2013

Diary Dates Term 1 & 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>FAMILY BUSH DANCE $20 per family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 March</td>
<td>Ride to school day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>Rock Ed Production 6.15pm at EPAC $5 per ticket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1 Early dismissal 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 April</td>
<td>FIRST DAY OF TERM 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 April</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>ADIDAS Fun Run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10 May</td>
<td>Stringybark Lodge Camp (grade 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24 May</td>
<td>Camp Woorabinda (grades 5/6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-24 May</td>
<td>Camp Manyung (grades 3/4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-31 May</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 June</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes that have gone home:

- Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser Order Form
- Bush dance family evening
- Stringybark Lodge Camp (grade 2)
- Camp Manyung (grade 3-4)

All notes that have gone home are available on the school website: http://www.gembrookps.vic.edu.au/

IT’S COOL TO BE AT SCHOOL!
A VIEW TO THE FUTURE

EDUCATION REPORT

A CLASSROOM SNAPSHOT

As you walk around the classrooms at Gembrook Primary School you will see many things taking place, at first it may seem that students are just having a bit of fun or chatting to others in groups. Some students will be working alone while others may be working in groups of 2, 3 or sometimes 4. Students may be working at tables, on the floor or even outside. We try to provide as many different types of learning experiences in order to cater for all students’ abilities. We give students choice and develop learning activities that are open-ended and rich in engaging students.

The nature of learning has changed significantly over the years and continues to develop as we learn more about how students learn through research on different learning styles as well as neuroscience and how the brain works. At Gembrook we ensure that we are staying current with how students learn and with what makes quality teaching. Our teachers have professional learning sessions where they learn about current practice and share ideas for planning and assessment. This professional learning is what has led to the introduction of CAFÉ and the Writer’s Notebook.

This term at Gembrook we have started a journey into the Writer’s Notebook. The Writer’s notebook allows students to express their thoughts and ideas in order to give them an opportunity to develop as writers. Students will participate in sessions where they can choose their own topics to write about as well as sessions where they learn the craft of writing and the technical aspects. We still teach handwriting, spelling, grammar and paragraphs. The difference is that students choose the vehicle for that delivery; this makes it meaningful for them and increases their engagement in writing. It was a huge success in the MLC last year and it will be fantastic to watch the students develop throughout the year.

CAFÉ (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding Vocabulary) reading provides students with explicit strategies that support their reading. These strategies may be targeted at reading the words or at the comprehension of the text. Teachers’ conference with individuals and students set personal goals for their stage of learning. All students are encouraged to read for extended periods of time and to use sticky notes to make tracks about their strategies.

Maths in the classroom has evolved in many different ways over the years. We no longer use worksheets and work books. Students usually start out with a 10 to 15 minute focus on quick number facts whether it is timetables or number facts to 20. Automatic recall is very important. Neuroscience tells us that by being able to recall simple number facts we have more working memory available in our brain to solve the more challenging problems. Students then move onto learning a concept and then applying that concept to an open-ended problem. Open-ended problems allow all students to tackle the task at their level and because there is no one answer they can show where they need to be taken next.

Inquiry learning is an integral part of our classroom planning. It provides the opportunity for students to use the skills that they are developing in reading, writing and maths. Inquiry units a planned for a term, teachers develop a concept based on the current state or national curriculum. They then plan a unit of work starting with the assessment task. The weeks leading up to the assessment task scaffold the skills that students need to complete the task. Inquiry learning provides students with different tools for researching, organising information and putting it all together to share with others. Students are often giving the choice of their topic and how they will present.

Throughout all of these learning experience students are assessed in a variety of ways. Pre-tests tell us what the students already know so that we can group them according to their needs for that topic, assessment as they are learning helps us to understand what they know and what strategies they are using these may include notes or conferencing with students. A final test may demonstrate to us what they have learned and if further learning in particular areas is needed. All of this assessment assists in monitoring student learning, reporting and with planning our curriculum.

Tabitha O’Brien
Teaching and Learning Leader
**Star of the Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>You always try your best and are a great friend to everyone in the classroom. Well done Jack!</td>
<td>Prep 1/B</td>
<td>Miss Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan</td>
<td>You are always respectful and are a great friend to all your classmates. You are a star Nathan!</td>
<td>Prep 1/H</td>
<td>Miss Hutcherson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarena</td>
<td>For being so organised and ready to learn. Thank you for being respectful and a great class mate! :)</td>
<td>1/2S</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam W</td>
<td>You showed skill as a manager of your group and shared your great ideas about why you were successful.</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Mrs Bigwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollie K</td>
<td>You made great decisions about your writing this week and produced a terrific recount. What a star!</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Mrs Bigwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLC</td>
<td>What marvellous Mathematicians you all are! Your graphs informed us about our personal qualities in an easy to read format. Well done!!</td>
<td>3/4S</td>
<td>Miss Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLC</td>
<td>What marvellous Mathematicians you all are! Your graphs informed us about our personal qualities in an easy to read format. Well done!!</td>
<td>3/4E</td>
<td>Mrs Everett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe</td>
<td>For her fantastic commitment and perserverance to all her school work. Top Job Chloe</td>
<td>5/6A</td>
<td>Mrs Alsop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaun</td>
<td>A very respectful young man willing to help out whenever needed. Thanks Shaun.</td>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Mr Fraser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keilah (P1H)</td>
<td>For being well mannered and showing a positive attitude in learning. You are terrific!</td>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>Mrs Itchikawa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Captains Report**

**From Connor**

Mrs Peterson, Ella and I went to the GRIP Leadership Conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre. There were over a thousand students from all different schools. We had V.I.P. seats at the front near the stage. This meant that Ella and I got to go up on stage as part of some activities. During the day we learnt about student leadership in schools. Being a leader is about working in a team.

At Gembrook Primary we have lots of student leaders: we have House Captains, School Captains, Eco Warriors, Student Representative Council (SRC) and our grade six students.

**From Ella**

Some of the leadership things I learnt about yesterday were the importance of thinking of others when I’m going about school every day. Another thing I learnt was carrying the load for others, which means don’t think just about yourself and look for opportunities to help others, eg; helping around the school, asking teachers if they need help and playing with people who are feeling lonely. I learnt about moving forward like emus and kangaroos which are our Australian symbols. These animals only know how to move forward. Moving forward is when you don’t wait for other people to do things for you, you do them for yourself.
Family Maths

Work as a family to solve the weekly maths puzzle and you could be rewarded with a Computer Pass to be used in your classroom. Put your entry in the box in the foyer near the office.

Have fun! MATHS IS MAVELLOUS!!

What does the graph show you?

25 Nights Reading

Congratulations to all those children who have reached 25 nights of home reading. We are proud to publish your name in the newsletter when you achieve this reading milestone.

At 50 nights we applaud your success with a certificate at our weekly assembly.

When you reach 100 nights, Mrs Peterson will invite you to join her on a special visit to the park.

Happy reading everyone

2B  Billy A, Shania, Nerina, Emma B
3/4S  Abbey W

We are very proud of you all!

Birthdays for this week!!

March
21  Billy B.
23  Tess G.
25  Talisha B.
GPS Family Bush Dance

Thursday March 21.

Blackberry Jam
Bush Band

Come along and enjoy a fun family night of Australiana!

There will be a barbeque for pre-ordered sausages or burgers and salad, operating from 5.30—6.30pm. Cans of soft drink will also be available to purchase.

- “Closest to the pin” coin tosses for adults and kids
- Meat raffle
- Some great music and dancing

Family tickets $20
Available from the school office

Pre-ordered bbq form must be returned to school by 18 March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Name</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We would like to pre-order and pay for:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef sausages in bread</td>
<td>@ $2.50 each = ..........</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef burgers in bread with a choice of salads</td>
<td>@ $4.00 each = ..........</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetarian burgers in bread with a choice of salad</td>
<td>@ $4.00 each = ..........</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$ ...............</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Term 2

Footsteps Dance

After school Tuesday 3:30-4:30

A great opportunity for kids to have fun and develop confidence through dance!

$8 per child per 11 weeks term
Commencing Tuesday 16th April

Gembrook Kids Sports Club

After school Wednesday 3:30-5:00

A great opportunity for kids to have fun and develop confidence through sport!

$100 per child per 10 weeks of activities
Commencing Wednesday 17th April

Please Note: There will be no session on Wednesday 30th May due to staff absence at camp.

What is Mother Goose?

Singing, rhyming, telling stories.

By spending time with your baby or toddler in a Parent-Child Mother Goose program, you'll discover a whole new world of joyful interaction.

Parent-Child Mother Goose is suitable for children up to five years old.

Nourish your child's brain development and growing social skills. Meet and share with other parents of young children.

This program is a relaxed and social way to build on your parent strengths and learn new ways of playing, soothing, and having fun with your child.

The activities focus on interactive rhymes, stories and songs, all presented orally.

Where: Gembrook Primary School Library
When: 3pm Mondays
Facilitated by Tabitha O'Brien

Mother Goose will resume in Term 2

Feel free to come and join in. No need to book just turn up.

Gembrook Kids Cooking Class

After school Friday 3:30-5:00

A great opportunity for kids to have fun and develop confidence in the kitchen!

$100 per child per 10 weeks of activities
Commencing Friday 19th April

Please Note: There will be no session on Friday the 24th May due to staff absence at camp.

The final session on the last day of Term will run from 3:30-5:00pm.
Our Vacation Care program is filling quickly, so those families wishing to enrol can find forms and information on the Cardinia Shire website.

At Cardinia Shire we aim to deliver high quality care at a reasonable cost for families. Our current fee structure is: After School Care: $22.00 and Before School Care: $16.00. Casual bookings can be made at an additional cost of $2.00. Cardinia Shire OSHC is a non-profit organisation with costs covering qualified staff wages, nutritional meals, program resources and housekeeping costs. All families are entitled to the Childcare Rebate and those eligible can also apply for Childcare Benefits. To apply for these reductions, please call the Family Assistance Office on 13 61 50.

We’d like to thank all families for their understanding and patience while we have addressed administrative issues over the past weeks. We still have places available on certain days. Please contact the OSHC team on 1300 787 624 for enrolment information.

FOR SALE

Various 2nd hand school uniform clothing available for sale

If you are interested please contact Suzanne on 0438028022
Phil’s Lawn Mowing and Gardening Services
Fully insured and offering a reliable service.
Specialising in mowing, weeding, pruning, garden cleanups, chainsaw work, tree maintenance.
Free quotes. 10% discount if you mention this ad.
Contact: Phil 0411 237 828
philslawnmowingservices@gmail.com

**Drink Bottles for SALE**

Available at the School Office
All proceeds go towards the school

$5

**Hoffy’s Intensity Health & Fitness**

We have a new home..........
All sessions will be at
Mountain Road Reserve
Cockatoo

Sessions Times as of March 6th:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
6am

Monday & Wednesday
7pm (Inside Stadium)

Saturday 7am & 8am

$10pp Casual
11 session pass $100
No bookings required
Enquiries call Hoffy 0488191119

**A Fabulous Family Day Out!**

**EMERALD FUNFEST**

SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 2013 10AM - 4PM
COCKATOO DRIVE, BURGESS AVE & PUFFING BULLY PLACE

**FREE EVENT**

**Hoffy’s Burpee Challenge for Heartkids**

**Good Friday Bootcamp**

Where: Mountain Road Reserve, Cockatoo
Time: 9.30am - 10.30am
Cost: $20 Per Person

100% of money will be donated to Hoffy’s Burpee Challenge for Heartkids

**Contact Details**

Please notify the school office if there are any changes to your contact details: email, mobile phone numbers, landlines, address, emergency contacts.

It is essential for parents/carers to be easily contacted in case of illness / emergencies.
Fitness Class for Parents

**When:**  
Wednesday morning 9.30-10.30  
Thursday afternoon 3.45-4.45

**Where:** Gembrook Primary School multi-purpose room

**Cost:** $8 per session

**What does it involve:**  
a mixture of fat burning cardio work, strength and toning work, core strength as well as stretching and strengthening to enhance healthy posture.

**Qualified instructor:** Certified in many fields of fitness including advanced resistance training, personal training, group fitness, cycle and zumba. (And 1st aid, of course)

**Experience:** 20 years gym, aerobics, group fitness, personal training and 15 years fitness club owner / operator.

**How fit do you need to be:** come as you are. I encourage everyone to work at a safe level for themselves and I will guide you all the way.

**What to bring:** a drink of water, wear runners, bring a bath sized towel and….. yourself!

**Further enquiries:**  
Natasha, phone: 0412183329

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Gembrook Primary School is a welcoming and respectful community that provides modern, flexible learning spaces that support a personalised, engaging and challenging learning program so that students will achieve the social, emotional, academic and physical growth to succeed in a global society.

Delicious honey $10/1kg tub.  
A percentage from the sale of each tub goes to the school. Forms are available from the office.
Please return to your child’s teacher on their return to school

**ABSENCE NOTE**

Date/s of Absence

Students Name

Grade

Reason for absence

Parent /Guardian Signature

Date

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser.

Modern Celebrations from the Heart

Carol Tokley
Registered Marriage Celebrant

Please phone for a no obligation chat
03 59682910 or 0427 682910

Gembrook Power Basketball

Gembrook currently has 3 junior basketball teams. Gembrook Power (Red), Gembrook Power (Blue) and a third new Gembrook team.

We are looking to expand the x2 current Gembrook Power Rookies basketball teams into the local U12’s competition. Looking out for boys and girls to play for next winter season competition in both age groups!

Games are Saturday mornings between 9am – 12pm at Cockatoo or Monbulk

$5-57 per game, Winter season = 20th April – 15th September

Rookies – From Prep/G1 (5-6yo) up until about G3-4 (approx <10yo)

U12’s – G4 & up (approx >10yo)

No experience necessary – fun, friendly, & local competition

For more information call Sam – 0458 005 537

For Advertising rates
please phone the school office : 59681313

Modern Celebrations from the Heart

Carol Tokley
Registered Marriage Celebrant

Please phone for a no obligation chat
03 59682910 or 0427 682910

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