**Vision:** To provide every student with every opportunity to be the best they can be.

**Value:** Respect.

**Mission Statement**

**A view to the future**

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.

**2 March 2016**

### Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Foundation Family Night 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>Junior Sports Carnival (after assembly)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 March</td>
<td>Futsal Incursion (no cost—grades 3-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-11 March</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 City Camp (cost: $300)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>School Council AGM 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20 March</td>
<td>HPV Wonthaggi (selected senior students-cost $80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 March</td>
<td>Whole school Circus Rehearsal at ESC (all day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Circus Performance at 6pm Emerald Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>Puffing Billy Whole School Incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Last day of term 1. Early pickup at 2.30pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 April</td>
<td><strong>First day term 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 April</td>
<td>Produce Market 3/4B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 April</td>
<td>School Photos (whole school)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 April</td>
<td>EDEC Athletics grades 4-6 (cost: TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 April</td>
<td>Curriculum Day: no students required at school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>ANZAC day (public holiday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 April</td>
<td>EDEC Cross Country (grades 3-6) (cost: TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-20 May</td>
<td>Gilwell Camp (Grade 2) (cost: TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>EDEC Lightning Premiership (grades 5-6) (cost: TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3 June</td>
<td>Camp Coolamatong (grades 3-4) (cost: TBC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday—Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 June</td>
<td>Last Day Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**A memo from the Department of Education:**

Student accident insurance / ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers, and can be obtained by parents / guardians for individual students.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

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**Notes that have gone home**

- Foundation Family Night
- Bookclub (whole school)
- School Nursing Program (Foundation)
- HPV Wonthaggi (SLC)
- Parent Helpers (whole school)
- SLC City Camp

All notices can be accessed from the school website:

www.gembrookps.vic.edu.au

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**Final SLC Camp payment due this Friday 4 March**

**Bookclub Orders**

Due Thursday 10 March

No late orders
Dear families & friends

Family Sports Picnic Night
What a great evening! It was great to see everyone in our school community having fun and enjoying each other’s company. Thank you to our magnificent PFA team and their partners for cooking up a storm on the BBQ. Thank you to everyone who was able to come along and join in the fun. Thank you to Johnathon Hevern, our grade 1/2 teacher and Jonathan Hawes, our PE teacher for organising this great family event.

Thank you IGA for Free Fruit Friday Every Friday
Thank you to Andrew from Gembrook IGA for visiting our school last week and providing every child with a free piece of fruit. Gembrook IGA has provided free fruit every Friday for the last four years! The school community appreciates this very generous donation.

New flagpole for Circle of Harmony
Recently the school was privileged with a visit by the Wurundjeri elder, Perry Wandin. Thank you to Rhys Collins, Regional Indigenous Facilitator from Port Phillip & Western Port CMA who has kindly donated a cypress pole. On the visit to our school Perry Wandin showed the students a number of artefacts and talked about aboriginal symbols. He carved some of the symbols into the pole. This flagpole will be used to fly the Australian Aboriginal flag in the Circle of Harmony.

Enjoy your week everyone.

Kym (Principal)
PFA Easter Raffle

3 Hampers to be won

$2 per ticket or 3 for $5

Money & tickets must be returned by 16 March

Tickets drawn at assembly
on 18 March

Easter donations for hampers welcomed
& can be left at school office.

Tickets will be sent home to each school family

Dandenong Ranges Division Swimming Championships

Hamish, Vanessa, Ashley and Georgia F participated in the Dandenong Ranges Division Swimming Championships today. We are very proud of their fantastic effort. Ashley has progressed to the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Swimming Carnival which will be held next week. Well done!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamish Backstroke</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamish Breaststroke</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Freestyle</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Backstroke</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Breaststroke</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Butterfly</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Freestyle</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Butterfly</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia, Taylor, Vanessa &amp; Sarah (Freestyle Relay)</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia, Taylor, Vanessa &amp; Sarah (a substitute swimmer from Emerald Primary School)</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOU ARE ALL STARS
NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
FRIDAY MARCH 4
2016

Join more than 500,000 students across the nation, who will ride, walk, scoot and skate to school!

For more information, visit ride2school.com.au
### Stars of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lily K</td>
<td>For a wonderful talk about the photos from our home visit. Sensational job Lily!</td>
<td>F/1B</td>
<td>Mr Bigwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronte</td>
<td>You did a lovely job with your sentence. You are a wonderful reader!</td>
<td>F/1L</td>
<td>Mrs Liston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>You have been persistent with your reading all week. Keep it up!</td>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Mr Hevern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley K</td>
<td>Always listening and being ready to learn. Well done Brad!</td>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Miss Cornell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurent</td>
<td>For trying his best in all areas of school. Thank you Laurent</td>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Mrs A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebastien</td>
<td>For a fantastic attitude to your learning!</td>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Mr Bailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>For persuading your classmates why dogs are better than cats! Well done.</td>
<td>5F</td>
<td>Mr Fraser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamie</td>
<td>A great week of Maths Jamie! You are able to order most decimal numbers. Well done!</td>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Miss Hutcheson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurent</td>
<td>Thank you for finding the leaking tap. You are helping us be sustainable.</td>
<td>Enviro-Science</td>
<td>Mrs Everett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molly L</td>
<td>For being a fantastic leader and role model by helping the JLC students with P.E. Great work!</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Hawes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India P F/1B</td>
<td>For being a fantastic helper and working hard to practise her catching. Awesome work!</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Hawes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie 2C</td>
<td>You showed how using different Art materials gives different results. What a star!</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Mrs Everett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Junior Rockers**

**Awarded To:**

Liam Waddell

**For:** Your constant effort to improve your guitar playing and your passion for learning!
School Chaplain

If you would like me to support your child / children through any issues they may be experiencing, please fill out a permission form at the school office.

Kind regards,
John Chambers
School Chaplain

Gembrook Op Shop

Our local op shop is asking for volunteer staff. If you are able to help, drop into the shop on Main Street Gembrook near the Independent Restaurant.

Gembrook Op Shop works hard to support the local community and recently donated $1000 to the CFA

Missing

3 brand new Gembrook Primary uniform green bomber jackets (size 10 and two smaller)

Please check the name tags on your children’s school clothing regularly, to make sure they haven’t picked up another child’s by mistake.

Please make sure your children’s school clothing is labelled clearly with their name!

School Apps for your convenience

Gembrook Primary has two apps available for the convenience of our families. Tiqbiz and Qkr enable families to receive school communications and respond and also pay for school events on their Smart Phones, ipads and computers. Please contact the office if you need further information.

25 nights reading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3/4A</th>
<th>3/4B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nathan K</td>
<td>Amelie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Mc</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurent</td>
<td>Thomas W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brayden H</td>
<td>Zachariah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick D</td>
<td>Emily A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katyn R</td>
<td>Lily S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toby W</td>
<td>Bradley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3/4A
Nathan K
Laura Mc
Laurent
Brayden H
Nick D
Katyn R
Toby W
Ben W

Amelie
Charlotte
Thomas W
Zachariah
Emily A
Lily S
Bradley
Why Dogs are better than Cats!!!

Dogs are better than cats because they are more fun. You can throw a ball to the dog and the dog will bring it back “good boy” and the cat just lies around, lazily!

Dogs are not picky eaters like cats. If you gave a dog a cooked chicken it will eat all the meat and cats on the other hand will eat the bits they like and nothing else.

Dogs are smarter than cats because there is a thing called puppy school for a reason, because dogs are smarter than cats!

Cats are all the same, they just lie around; however, there are lots of different types of dogs. Sniffer dogs, at the airport they sniff out drugs so they can’t take them to a different country. Guide dogs, they help the blind get around, would cats be able to do that? NO! Guard dogs, they will protect your house from robbers and could cats do that? NO!

So that’s why dogs are better than cats,
I Rest My Case!!! BY Matt Candy 5F 😄
Grades 1 and 2 constructed Mind Maps about Environmental Science. They included the four elements of sustainability—energy, waste, water, and biodiversity.
OSHC Activities for Term 1

Come and have fun with us and learn new skills in our Outside School Hours Care Program (OSHC). All students are welcome—come along and enjoy the activities and spend time making new friends. Collect an OSHC enrolment pack from the school office or download an enrolment form from the school website: www.gembrookps.vic.gov.au Register with Centre Link for a child-care rebate.

- Join Tanya at Gembrook Kids Before School Care for breakfast and fun activities
- Create exciting masterpieces with Jess in Gembrook Kids Art & Craft on Monday afternoon
- Join Kaitlyn at Gembrook Kids Tuesday & Thursday After School Care for fun and games
- Develop resilience, respect and fitness with Dylan at Gembrook Kids Martial Arts / Taekwondo on Wednesday afternoon
- Enjoy developing creative cooking skills with Tanya at Gembrook Kids Cooking on Friday afternoons
We have been making more Surrealist based art!

This week we played the Surrealist game called Exquisite Corpse, where we drew a whole picture collaboratively (Airliah and Jess drew the example Arliah is holding).

We made 'Gold' frames for our artwork made of 'rubbish' and paint. Nearly 90 years ago, the Surrealist artists made 'rubbish' paintings and framed them in gold frames. They did this to challenge the ideas around art and to make the viewer question "what is art?"

Jess Irvin
Gembrook Primary’s School Council has submitted the following policy for response. Please submit your comments in writing to the school office.

GEMBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Animals in the Playground Policy

Rationale:
- Dogs and other animals are popular pets, and at times wildlife, may enter the school grounds but require regulation and management to ensure the safety of the school community.
- Young children have under-developed judgement when it comes to approaching and handling animals.
- Some members of the school community experience anxiety or fear when an unfamiliar animal is present.

Aim
To provide a school environment, which is safe for students, is practical and balances the rights of individuals with the school’s duty of care toward all students, staff and community.

Implementation:
Planned visits of animals to the school grounds:
- All pet animals brought into the school grounds during school hours will be contained in a pet carrier or for larger animals on a lead.
- When making decisions regarding access of animals, consideration will be given to activities which enhance student learning within the areas of the curriculum. Safety considerations will be taken into account.
- All parents and community members will be made aware of these school rules and the safety reasons supporting them.
- Seeing-eye dogs and police dogs will have access to the school at all times.
- ‘Story Dog’ trained dogs will be permitted into designated school buildings under the supervision of their owners to carry out the story dog program.

Unplanned visits of animals to the school grounds:
- Domestic animals on the school grounds will be contained where it is safe to do so.
- Owners of domestic animals will be contacted to collect these animals if the owner is known. If reasonable attempts have been made to locate the owner, known or unknown, the local council will be contacted to take possession of the animal.
- Consideration of student safety will be taken into account when wildlife is found on the school grounds.
- Wildlife that is considered a threat to student safety will be assessed for the safest method of capture and removal; this may involve the shire council, specialist wildlife handlers such as snake catchers or the local vet. Children will be kept away from areas where dangerous wildlife are until the removal process has been completed.
- Wildlife that is considered non-threatening and is in the ‘out of bounds’ areas such as the local endangered Southern Brown Bandicoots, will be undisturbed.

Evaluation:
The school environment is safe for the school community.
The school community is aware that animals can only be taken into the school grounds during the school day with the permission of a member of the teaching staff and must be restrained in a carrier or on a lead at all times.
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.

References:
Nil

Ratified 2016
Visitors in Schools Policy

Definitions:
Visitors to the school are defined as all people entering school grounds during school hours 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday other than staff members, students and parents/guardians acting in their capacity as parents/guardians delivering or collecting children at the start or the end of the school day. Visitors can include (but are not limited to) the following:

- prospective parents and prospective employees
- those who are addressing a learning or developmental need, such as:
  - parent and community volunteers
  - invited speakers e.g. incursion presenters
  - sessional instructors
  - representatives of community, business and service groups
  - local members of parliament
- those who are conducting business such as:
  - uniform suppliers
  - booksellers
  - official school photographers
  - commercial salespeople
- trades people
- children’s services agents
- talent scouts
- instructors providing Special Religious Instruction (SRI).

Other visitors may include:
- Department of Health and Human Services Child Protection Workers
- Victoria Police
- Persons who are authorised to enter a school premises for a specific purpose (e.g. Worksafe or Environmental Health officers).

Rationale:
We seek to provide an open and friendly learning environment, which values and actively encourages visitors to the school. At the same time we recognise our duty of care to ensure a safe environment for our students and staff. We also recognise our obligation to ensure that any program or content delivered by visitors is consistent with the values of public education and the requirement that education in Victorian government schools is secular (apart from the provision of Special Religious Instruction, delivered in accordance with legislative and Department requirements).

Programs delivered by visitors must be delivered in a manner that supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy including a commitment to the following, as outlined in s 1.2.1 of the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic):

- elected government
- the rule of law
- equal rights for all before the law
- freedom of religion
- freedom of speech and association

Ratified in 2016
o the values of openness and tolerance.

Aims:
To provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff.
To establish protocols and procedures that effectively monitor and manage visitors without compromising the open and inclusive nature of the school.

Implementation:
Visitors will be a valued part of the school experience in that they increase the experience of the cultural and social features of the community, ensure parents/guardians partner in their children’s development and create strong partnerships with community services, schools, businesses and the wider community.

Principals and teachers have duty of care to their students. The duty requires principals and teachers to take all reasonable steps to reduce risk, including the provision of suitable and safe premises and the provision of an adequate system of supervision. The duty is non-delegable, meaning that it cannot be assigned to another party.

Visitors who are attending the school to deliver incursions, presentations, seminars or other activities and programs to students will be fully supervised by school staff at all times.

Where necessary, the school will assess and verify the suitability of visitors who will work with children. The evidence required is generally a working with children check (WWC Check). However if a visitor’s occupation exempts them from the requirement to have a WWC check e.g. police officers, teachers, they must provide evidence to the school support their claim to an exemption.

On the basis that schools are not public places, but are public educational institutions, the principal has ultimate discretion to approve or not approve a potential visitor. The Principal also has the authority to exclude people from being on school grounds outside of school operating hours.

When deciding to approve a visitor, the Principal will consider the visitor’s suitability, purpose and the benefit provided to the students and staff from the visit, specifically:
- the educational merit and potential benefits of the visit;
- the level of disruption to the functioning of the school programs and routines in relation to the potential benefits to students;
- whether the proposed visit is consistent with the values of public education including the requirement that education in Victorian government schools is secular (apart from Special Religious Instruction, delivered in accordance with the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic), Ministerial Direction 141 and policy);
- whether the proposed visitors will be delivering content that is appropriate having regard to school policies, Department policies and the principles and practice of Australian democracy including the elected government, the rule of law, equal rights for all before the law, freedom of religion, freedom of speech and association and the values of openness and tolerance;
- the potential for the visitor to cause controversy within the school or broader community.

The principal should consider the suitability of visitors to be in a location where children freely move about, learn and play and whether a Working With Children Check is required or exemptions apply.

Visitors who are attending the school to deliver incursions, presentations, seminars or other activities and programs to students need to seek the prior approval of the school principal (or their nominee) prior to

Ratified in 2016
attending the school. Where appropriate, the school will first obtain parental consent for students to participate in specific programs delivered by visitors.

All visitors are required to report to the administration office:

- prior to undertaking any activity within the school. They are required to sign into the school and will be assigned a “Visitor” badge which they must wear at all times within the school.
- at the end of their visit, to return their badge and sign out in the Visitors System.

This process will be published in school communications and will be displayed at all school entrances.

All visitors are required to comply with the school’s Statement of Values.

Visitors who fail to follow directions will be directed to the Administration Office.

The school’s emergency management procedures will ensure that visitors within the School at the time of any emergency or practice drill will be recognised and be appropriately catered for.

**Related Policies:**
- Emergency Management Policy
- Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy

**Evaluation:**
Visitors to the school will benefit the open and inclusive nature of the school, and support the values of the school and community.
Visitors to the school will be assessed to ensure a safe and secure environment is maintained for students and staff.
This policy will be reviewed annually.

**References:**

DET School Policy and Advisory Guide
- Duty of Care
- Special Religious Instruction
- Visitors in schools
- Volunteer Checks
- Volunteer Workers
- Creating Respectful and Safe School Communities


Ratified in 2016
**Gembrook Netball Club**

Gembrook Netball Club is currently looking for new players aged between 6 and 10 to join our Netball Team. Games start on Saturday April 9th @ 9.30am at the Cockatoo Netball Courts

If your child is interested please email gembrooknetball@gmail.com or Call Helen on 0447 758 013 to arrange for a registration form.

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**Gembrook Little Gems Playgroup**

9:30am to 11:30am every Tuesday of the school term at Gembrook Community Centre.

*Family friendly environment
*Great place to meet people
*Suitable for ages 0-5 years
*Volunteer run

EVERYONE WELCOME!

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**Can you**

**Sew on a button**

**Take up a hem**

**Put In a zip**

If not then come to the

**Gembrook Craft Cottage**

Monday Nights
7pm -10pm

bring your sewing projects and learn to do it yourself

Phone Chris Timms on 59677002 for Details

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**Newsletter Advertising**

- $10 per business card per term (businesses belonging to school families only)
- $25 quarter page for 2 weeks (for businesses outside school community)
- $25 quarter page per term (school families only)

Please contact the school office if you would like to place an add in the school newsletter