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.

23 November 2016

Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 November</td>
<td>PFA Fruit Salad &amp; Yoghurt Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kinder transition visit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Family Bike Ride</td>
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<td>27 November</td>
<td>Puffing Billy Car Parking</td>
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<td>30 November</td>
<td>Enterprise Market</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Council 7pm</td>
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<td>3 December</td>
<td>Working Bee 9—11am</td>
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<td>5 December</td>
<td>Swimming SLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 December</td>
<td>Step Up Day (grade 6)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Foundation 2017 Information Night 5.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 – 12 Dec</td>
<td>Swimming SLC (no SLC swimming on 6/12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>Christmas Concert 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 December</td>
<td>Big Day Out (Grade 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 December</td>
<td>Graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 December</td>
<td>Last day of term 4, 1.30pm pick up</td>
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No produce market on Monday 28 November

Payment for the Senior Learning Centre Swimming Program is due by Wednesday 30 November. All payments must be received by this date.

Final Working Bee for 2016
Saturday 3 December 9am-11am

There are several jobs that we would like to complete in readiness for end of year events.
Many hands make light work!
Please sign up for a job at the school office and come join in the fun!
Morning tea provided at 11am

Notes that have gone home
• Family Bike Ride (whole school)
All notices can be accessed from the school website:
www.gembrookps.vic.edu.au

Book Club orders due
Friday 25 November
No late orders
Dear Families and Friends
What a fantastic four days were had by all at Maryborough for the RACV Energy Breakthrough event held last week! The township of Maryborough really was buzzing with over 100 primary schools competing and an estimated 7000 people attending. The sun was shining and the atmosphere electric as the 14 hour endurance race commenced at 12:00noon on Friday. Nineteen of our senior school students comprising two teams, ‘Speedy Spuds’ and ‘Greased Lightning’ gave their absolute all throughout this marathon event and represented Gembrook Primary School superbly. They were passionately supported by an outstanding bunch of mums and dads, who cheered, encouraged and pit crewed for our kids. Greased Lightning finished in 6th position in class completing 307 laps, whilst Speedy Spuds finished 10th in class completing 289 laps. A fine achievement by both teams!

A massive thank you must go to our mums and dads who committed 100% to this event. Of course opportunities like HPV simply don’t happen without the organisation, commitment and hard work of staff. Thank you to Mr. Fraser and Mr. Hevern who provided our kids with such a brilliant experience and to Mr. A who drove three hours on Friday evening after school to be a part of the action. Finally, congratulations to all members of ‘Speedy Spuds’ and ‘Greased Lightning’. I can’t wait for HPV in 2017!

Grade Structures for 2017
Two weeks ago I indicated that Gembrook Primary School would be growing to 9 grades in 2017. I’m now happy to announce that we have employed classroom teacher Hayley Brown for next year. Hayley is currently teaching at Brookeside Primary School in the western suburbs and comes to us with two years of teaching experience.

As you can appreciate, a huge amount of time, consideration and discussion goes into grade structures and workforce planning for the year ahead. For 2017, our grade structures and teachers are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P/1L</td>
<td>Mrs Liston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/1B</td>
<td>Mrs Bigwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2C</td>
<td>Miss Cornell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Mr Hevern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Miss Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Mr Bailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5A</td>
<td>Mrs Alsop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Mr Fraser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Miss Hutcheson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our specialist classes for 2017 will be Art and Environmental Education with Mrs Everett along with Physical Education with Mr Hawes. We are all looking forward to an exciting year of learning in 2017.

Step Up Day Tuesday 6th December
We are very excited to announce that ‘STEP UP DAY’ is taking place on Tuesday 6th December. On this day, students will spend a half day from 9:30am – 12:30pm in their 2017 grade with their teacher for next year. This is an important transition event, and is a great opportunity for your child to get to know other students in their grade and participate in some great team building and learning activities. Students will be advised of their 2017 grade and teacher at 9:00am on Step Up Day and our 2017 Prep parents already have this information. Our Step Up Day also coincides with Orientation Day where our Grade 6 students attend their 2017 secondary school. If you have any queries in relation to Step Up Day, please see Brendan.

Working Bee Saturday 3rd December 9:00am – 11:00am
We are holding a final 2016 ‘Summer Cleaning’ working bee at school on Saturday 3rd December from 9:00am to 11:00am. There are several jobs that we would like to complete in readiness for end of year events including Step Up Day, Christmas Carols and Graduation. Pruning, weeding, sweeping, pressure cleaning and a general tidy up of school grounds will be the order of the day. A light morning tea will be provided at 11:00am. As the old saying goes: ‘Many hands make light work’, so please sign up for a job at the front office and come along and join in the fun!

Have a great week everyone and all the best!

Brendan
Principal
HPV Maryborough
Tickets will be on sale and drawn at the

**Christmas Concert**

On Wednesday 14 December from 6pm
in the Circle of Harmony

Ticket prices: $2 each or 3 for $5

Sausages ($3), drinks ($1), chips, fruit and zooper doopers ($.50cents) will be available

Donations are needed for the Christmas Raffle Hamper
All donations can be left at the school office.
Come and support the business enterprise of our grades 5 & 6 at the annual Enterprise Market

The market is part of the SLC curriculum and is a MAGNIFICENT EVENT

Come and enjoy delicious food, fun activities and pick up a bargain at the Trash and Treasure! Fun for all the family!

Wednesday 30 November
3-4.30pm
Circle of Harmony

Trash & Treasure.

Wanted: Items you don’t need.
Please drop them off in the School Office. Items might include toys, clothes, books, board games and much more.
We would much appreciate it.
Thank you!
The Enterprise Market 2016😊
School Chaplain

The Chaplaincy Service at Gembrook Primary School aims to support the emotional wellbeing of students by providing pastoral care services and strategies that support the emotional wellbeing of the broader school community.

Pastoral care means looking after the personal needs of students, not just their academic needs, by providing general spiritual and personal support.

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, Chaplain
OSHC

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. Before school care begins at 7.30 (earlier start available on request). After school care ends at 6pm. 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 Centrelink for a 50% child-care rebate. You can do this by logging into your Centrelink online account through the myGov site. Select the Approved child care service to reduce your fees option and it will be set up for you. For more details on Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate call the Department of Human Services on 13 61 50.
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DEECD Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days’ notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter, email & topic. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan — on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility’s grounds and gutters.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking our website www.gembrookps.vic.gov.au and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.

For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.
What: Horses & Bushfire Information Session

Where: Ash Wednesday Education Centre, McBride Street, Cockatoo

When: 4.00pm, 26 November 2016

Find out: Learn about how you and your horses can be prepared for bushfire

For more information: CFA District Office - 0767 1800

For more information on getting ready for the fire season visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au

If you belong to a community group or club, talk to us about arranging a customised session.

Please note that CFA postpones all community meetings when the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, Extreme or Severe.

cfa.vic.gov.au/meetings
Gembrook Community Christmas Carols
Sunday 11th December 2016
Gembrook Community Centre
Gembrook-Pakenham Rd, Gembrook
5-6pm
FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES
Jumping Castle, Popcorn, Face Painting, Fairy Floss!
(Sausage Sizzle at a small cost)
6pm
Community Carol Singing
Bring your friends and family!
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

Books and Budgets Bookkeeping

Virtual and on site bookkeeping services

Chris Grazyna Iwanowski
Qualified Bookkeeper

PO Box 554
Gembrook 3783
phone 0408 052 522

Cockatoo Country Market

First Saturday of Every Month
(except January)
8.30am - 1.00pm
Pakenham Road, Cockatoo