

## THE GOORA GAZETTE

   inside this issue   

- Principal's Message
- Whole School Assembly change
- Harmony Day
- Easter Hat Parade and Egg Hunt

- Bective Cross Country
- ANZAC Day
- Woolworths Donation
- Attendance
- Upcoming Events

- From the Classroom K-3
- Photos—Handball fun, Easter hat creations and swimming
- Community Classifieds



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educating hearts and minds

# Mrs McGuiness'

## Message

During Week 6, I had the pleasure of attending the Principal Induction Conference held in Sydney. It was great to meet 143 new principals from across NSW. The main purpose of the conference allowed principals to:

- Deepen my understanding of the principals' role
- Support principals' in meeting their accountabilities
- Develop and strengthen my leadership capability to understand the key DoE policies and procedures in leading a school.
- Build collegial networks

Last week parents and carers were emailed a Microsoft Form regarding Parent-Teacher Conferences in Week 1 of Term 2. Please remember to complete the form to lock in your preferred time and day.

**Please note** that there has been a change to our whole school assembly. It will be held next Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March to complement the Books in Home giving assembly.

### Harmony Day

This Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March students and staff will be travelling to Dungowan Public School to participate in Harmony Day activities with students from Dungowan, Duri, Woolomin, Moonbi, Currabubula, and Nundle.



### Easter Hat Parade and Egg Hunt

Students have been busy unleashing their creativity making their Easter Hats for our annual Easter Hat Parade and Egg Hunt on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm.

We invite everyone, including parents/carers and the broader school community to join us in the celebration.

### Bective Cross Country – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

Attunga's Recreation Ground, situated behind Attunga Public School on Palmer Street, will play host to the annual Bective Cross Country event this year.

The distance the competitors will run are:

4-5 years run 500m

6-7 years run 1km

8-10 years run 2km

11-13 years run 3km

While students are not participating in their races, they will take part in other sport activities. The course familiarisation will occur at 10am and the first group of runners, consisting of 6/7-year-olds will start at 11am.

Students need to be at school by 9:15am, as the bus will leave at exactly 9:20am so we can reach Attunga PS to participate in the walk the course.



# Mrs McGuinness'

## Message cont'd.....

### Anzac Day – Thursday 25th April

With Anzac Day falling within the school holidays, we are planning for our students to participate in the march. Please contact the school office by Thursday 4th April to confirm if your child/ren will be marching on the day. This will allow us to allocate student jobs such as carrying the flag, laying our school wreath and reading the Ode.

### Woolworths Donation



This morning we had a visit from Trent (store manager) and Leanne, of Woolworths in Tamworth Shopping World, who made a very kind donation of Easter eggs and fruit for students and staff.

Thank you very much! We will certainly enjoy the treat.



**swap it**  
everyday in the lunchbox

### Happy, healthy role models

Parents and teachers can be great role models for children's eating habits.

Why not try the following ideas:

- Pack your own lunchbox full of everyday foods while your child packs theirs
- Discuss the everyday foods you like to pack in the lunchbox and why you like them
- Do some taste testing of everyday foods such as vegetables and fruit



Visit the SWAP IT website for some delicious recipes you can use for your own lunch: [www.swapit.net.au/recipes](http://www.swapit.net.au/recipes)





# Mrs McGuinness'

## Message cont'd.....

### Attendance

It's been great to have our students back in classrooms and settling into the school year. We are looking forward to a successful 2024 and are excited to work with you to make this a memorable year for your child.

The evidence is clear that consistent attendance is the essential first step for your child to have a positive experience at school.

Everyday matters for your child's learning. In recent years we've seen too many students miss a day of school here and there. Missing school for students means missing assignments, time with friends, an important maths lesson or getting picked for a sports team. With days missed, years are lost.

Students are required to attend school every day, whether it's the first or last day of the term, Mondays, Fridays or days dedicated to sports carnivals, school excursions and incursions.

Help us make sure your child is achieving their best and stays ahead in their learning with regular school attendance. The more time your child attends school, the greater their opportunity to learn, and improve their wellbeing. Together, let's build positive attendance habits for a lifetime.

If your child is absent from school, please let us know why as soon as possible, even if it's just a few minutes at the start or end of the school day. Of course, there will be times when your child is unable



to be at school (like when they are unwell). Medical appointments should take place outside school hours where possible and family holidays should be taken in term breaks.

If your child is feeling anxious about coming to school and you need support, please reach out to your child's teacher or me directly. We are here to work with you and your child to help them attend school each and every day. There are also helpful resources for parents and carers on the [Everyday Matters website](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/schooling-initiatives/every-day-matters).

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/schooling-initiatives/every-day-matters>

Thank you again for working with us to make sure your child is at school, on time, every day. We all want to see our students learn, grow and belong in our equitable and outstanding education system.

### EVERY DAY COUNTS....

**A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...**

| When your child misses just... | that equals...    | which is...       | and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is... | This means that the best your child can achieve is... |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|---|
| 1 day each fortnight           | 20 days per year  | 4 weeks per year  | Nearly 1 ½ a years of school                     | Equal to finishing Year 11                            |
| 1 day a week                   | 40 days per year  | 8 weeks per year  | Over 2 ½ years of school                         | Equal to finishing Year 10                            |
| 2 days a week                  | 80 days per year  | 16 weeks per year | Over 5 years of learning                         | Equal to finishing Year 7                             |
| 3 days a week                  | 120 days per year | 24 weeks per year | Nearly 8 years of learning                       | Equal to finishing Year 4                             |

*Give your child every chance to succeed...*

**Every day counts!**



# Mrs McGuiness'

## Message cont'd.....



| WK   | Upcoming Events                  |   |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| 8  | Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March    | NAPLAN  |
|  | Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March   | NAPLAN  |
|  | Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March | Intensive Swimming                                      |
|  |                                  | NAPLAN  |
|  | Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March  | NAPLAN concludes  |
|  | Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March    | Harmony Day @ Dungowan                                  |
|  |                                  | Mrs McGuiness @ Meeting – DoE Tamworth Office           |
| 9  | Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March   | Easter Hat Parade and Egg Hunt                          |
|  | Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March | Intensive Swimming                                      |
|  | Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March  | Whole School Assembly & Books in Home Assembly @ 9:40am |
|  | Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March    | Good Friday – Public Holiday                            |
| 10   | Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April     | Easter Monday – Public Holiday                          |
|  | Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April  | Intensive Swimming                                      |
|  | Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April     | Bective Cross Country @ Attunga PS                      |
| 11   | Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April | Intensive Swimming                                      |
|  |                                  | Mrs McGuiness @ DoE Tamworth Office from 1pm            |
|  | Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April    | PBL Rewards Day @ school                                |
|  |                                  | End of Term 1   |
| Please note that all dates are subject to late changes |                                  |   |

# From the K- 3 Classroom

Dear Parents,

As we dive into another exciting few weeks, I'm thrilled to share some highlights from our classroom.

## **Year 3 NAPLAN Tests**

Our Year 3 students have been diligently preparing for their NAPLAN tests. These assessments provide valuable insights into their progress and achievements across various subject areas. We commend their hard work and dedication, and we're confident they will show case their abilities during this assessment period.

## **Independent Learning for Kindergarten, Year 1, and Year 2**

While our Year 3 students are engaged in their NAPLAN tests, our Kindergarten, Year 1, and Year 2 students have been focusing on independent learning activities. It's been wonderful to witness their enthusiasm and initiative as they explore new concepts and develop essential skills. They have been diving into key learning areas such as grammar, spelling, writing, reading and sight words. I am very proud of the maturity that our youngest learners have shown during the NAPLAN testing period.

## **Return of Homework and Reader Exchange**

A friendly reminder to families to please ensure that your child returns their homework every day. This helps us maintain continuity in their learning and allows for the exchange of readers. Reading regularly is vital for improving literacy skills, and we appreciate your support in this matter.

## **Library Day**

Don't forget that our library day is every Monday. Encourage your child to take advantage of this opportunity to explore new books and expand their imagination. Our school library is a treasure trove of knowledge and adventures waiting to be discovered!

## **Maths Assessments Success**

We're thrilled to announce that our recent class-wide maths assessments yielded fantastic results! Each student demonstrated a solid understanding of mathematical concepts, and their scores reflect their hard work and commitment to learning. Congratulations to all our students for their outstanding achievement!

I'm looking forward to the next fun filled weeks.

Respectfully,

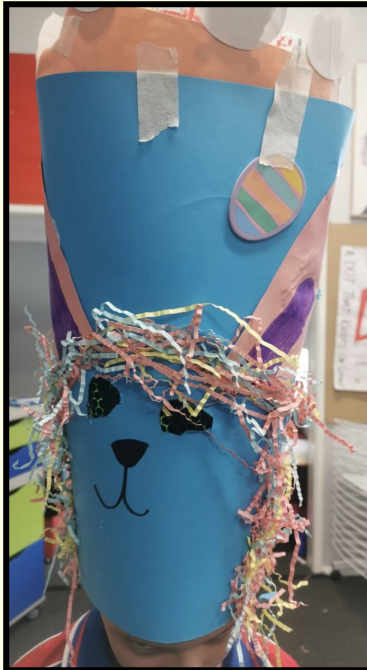
Miss Clark



Lunch time fun with the  
apparent handball champion!







Our Easter hats are coming along nicely in the 3 –6 classroom.

Don't forget our Easter Hat Parade and egg hunt is next Tuesday, 26th March between 2 and 3:30pm







Each week in Term 1, all Somerton Public School students have been participating in swimming lessons at 360 Learn to Swim in Tamworth.

It is wonderful to see the effort and enthusiasm of all students and everyone's swimming skills have increased as a result.

Well done to you all!





# COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

## Somerton CWA

The CWA meet on the second Thursday of each month at the Somerton Hotel at 10:00am.



All interested ladies are welcome.

For more information please contact:

Carol Banks (President) 6760 6250

Debbie Cross (Secretary) **0423 960 985**




## TAMWORTH

### TERM 2 - WEDNESDAYS

Gipps Street Sporting Complex  
Wednesday 8th May -  
Wednesday 3rd July  
5:30pm - 7:00pm

**Cost:**  
\$100 or  
\$50 with AKV



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[www.northernnswfootball.com.au](http://www.northernnswfootball.com.au)







**TAMWORTH  
COMMUNITY  
SATURDAY  
MARKETS!**

**We are here!** 8am to 12pm  
On the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays  
of the month

Bicentennial Park, Tamworth  
**Enquiries: 0422 801 702**



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