



# THE GOORA GAZETTE



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educating hearts and minds

# Mrs McGuinness'

## Message



Welcome to Term 3! Students have settled into the new term and are fully engaged in their learning. I hope everyone has had a safe and relaxing break.

### COVID-19 Updates

We need to continue to follow the guidelines set by the [NSW \(New South Wales\) Health](#) and the [DoE \(Department of Education\)](#) to stay healthy and safe.

If a student is unwell and has any COVID-19 symptoms, even the mildest of symptoms, they should always test for COVID-19.

If the test comes back negative for COVID-19, the student should still not return to school until either:

- The student no longer has any symptoms, or
- A medical certificate is provided to the school confirming that symptoms are explained by another diagnosis (such as hay fever)

It is important that students do not attend school if they are unwell, even if they have tested negative for COVID-19. Rapid antigen tests can produce false negative results and symptoms of other illnesses can also be [similar to](#) COVID-19, including flu, the common cold and stomach bugs. Health advice is that students who are sick should always stay home



to rest and recover and avoid putting other students and staff at risk of getting sick.

### Masks

In response to NSW Health advice and the current COVID-19 situation in the state, the Minister for Education and Early Learning has strongly encouraged mask-wearing when indoors for all school-based staff and for all students, particularly for the first 4 weeks of Term 3.

Masks are an effective way to reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory viruses and infectious diseases, including COVID-19 and the flu. A 4-week mask-wearing 'blitz' will help to reduce the risk of transmission events in our schools and keep our schools operational to support our students' learning.

### Close Contacts

- Students identified as close contacts can attend school providing the school is informed, they return a negative COVID-19 test result and wear a mask, except when eating/drinking or exercising (if in Year 7 and above) for 5 consecutive school days, and they do not attend [high risk](#) settings.
- Students in schools for specific purposes and support units cannot attend school as a close contact and will be supported to learn remotely during their self-isolation.



# Mrs McGuinness'

## Message continued.....

### Visitors

- Visitors can attend school sites regardless of their vaccination status.
- Visitors who are engaging directly with students in certain higher-risk settings for school operations and curriculum delivery and allied health partners for the wellbeing of students, may be required to wear masks.
- Visitors who attend school as a close contact are required to inform the school and follow certain guidelines, including wearing a mask when indoors.

Today, students were given [RAT \(Rapid Antigen Test\)](#) tests to take home, these kits have been provided to assist families in continuing to carefully monitor for symptoms and test to ensure students are COVID free before attending school. If someone in your house has COVID please let us know as we will provide extra RAT kits to enable your child to test each day before attending school. A reminder that if your child is sick, please continue to be vigilant in keeping them home until their symptoms have completely resolved.

The school will be supplied with additional RAT tests over the next few weeks, they will then be sent home when they become available.

### Semester One Reports

By now you will have had to chance to read over your child/ren's report to reflect on their progress from last term. I hope you have discussed the report with your child/ren and celebrated their learning and reflect on



where to next. If you have any concerns at all, I encourage you to complete the form sent out via email last week to arrange a time to meet with your child's teacher. If this cannot be done face to face, we can organise a Zoom or phone call.

### Bective Athletics Carnival

Yesterday, students participated in the Bective Athletics Carnival, thank you to all staff and parent helpers for assisting on the day. More information to come with results.



### NAIDOC Day

On Friday, we will be hosting NAIDOC Day. Students will be participating in activities to celebrate our Indigenous history. The NAIDOC 2022 theme calls for genuine commitment from all of us – Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!

We can do so by supporting institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative reforms. It is also time to celebrate the many who have driven and led change in our communities over generations.



# Mrs McGuinness'

## Message continued.....

### Interest Groups

Students will be participating in interest groups on Friday afternoons, beginning in week 4. The activities are Technology, [Origami](#), and Insect Hotels.

### Premiers Sporting Challenge 2022

This year our school has registered to participate in the NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge.

The purpose of the Challenge is to encourage students to participate in sport and physical activity to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Over a ten-week period, Monday 18 July to Thursday 22 September, Somerton Public School students will be monitoring their physical activity levels during class time, at recess and lunch as well as during sport lessons. Physical activity outside school hours will also count towards the Challenge award. The aim is to work towards an average at least 60 minutes of activity a day for ten weeks.

Our school will be working towards an individual student award at the conclusion of the Challenge. We would like to invite families to support us in encouraging students' healthy use of leisure time and to experience the joy of being active together.

K-2 students will have their own logbook to fill out and work towards a [Gold](#) class award. Each student in Years 3-6 will record their daily physical activity on a personal logbook or digital spreadsheet.

Students completing the Challenge will receive a personalised certificate (Diamond, 80 minutes of activity on average a day, Gold 60 mins, Silver 45



mins or Bronze 30 mins), signed by the Premier of New South Wales in Term Four.

Physical activity is valued for its physical, social, and emotional benefits. It also helps young people to develop communication skills, confidence, and resilience.

Looking forward to a healthy and active Term Three!

### Education Week

This year's theme is 'creating futures – education changes [lives](#)'. As part of the celebration, we will be holding our Book Fair. Students will have the opportunity to browse the selection of items and complete a wish list that they will bring home to share with you. Items [can](#) be purchased throughout the week. On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August, we will be holding an assembly starting at 10:30am, followed by a special lunch and then open classrooms. Everyone is welcome; please remember to scan in and while indoors it would be appreciated if you could please wear a mask.

### Ground Maintenance

On Wednesday, we had EVO's Tree Lopping and Dingo Hire attend to trees on the school grounds that required either removal or trimming due to dead branches, dead wood or that had numerous areas of decay.



# Mrs McGuinness'

## Message continued.....



### Somerton P&C

Our P&C is an important part of our school community. The P&C is consulted on major matters that affect our students and enhance the school through fundraising and grants. While we have a great P&C team, we do need more parents to commit to joining and coming along to meetings. Most meetings are held in the afternoon after school. It would be wonderful to see you at next meeting.



### Upcoming Events

27 <sup>th</sup> July	Bective Athletics Carnival
28 <sup>th</sup> July	Gomeroi Language Program
29 <sup>th</sup> July	NAIDOC Day Celebrations
1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> August	Education Week
5 <sup>th</sup> August	Education Week Assembly & Open Classrooms
10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> August	Stage 2 Great Aussie Bush Camp
19 <sup>th</sup> August	Zone Athletics
<b>Please note that all dates are subject to late changes</b>	



Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)**

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.dese.gov.au/about-us/resources/department-education-skills-and-employment-complete-privacy-policy-0\)](https://www.dese.gov.au/about-us/resources/department-education-skills-and-employment-complete-privacy-policy-0).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

*Judy McGuiness*

JudyMcGuiness

Rel/Principal



## 4 simple steps to a healthy lunchbox

Packing an everyday lunchbox is as easy as:

- **Step 1:** Pack vegetables for Crunch&Sip® (e.g. carrot sticks or cherry tomatoes).
- **Step 2:** Pack fruit and an everyday snack for recess (e.g. popcorn, yoghurt, rice crackers and cheese).
- **Step 3:** Pack a sandwich, wrap, roll or leftovers (e.g. pasta, rice or roast vegetables) for lunch.
- **Step 4:** Finish with water as the perfect thirst quencher.



For easy ideas on healthy lunchboxes visit

[www.swapit.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/resources/parent-resources/packing-an-everyday-lunchbox/](http://www.swapit.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/resources/parent-resources/packing-an-everyday-lunchbox/)





Bective Athletics Carnival

