FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our book fair starts this week and I have included some research as to why students and parents should read at home.

The study by the National Literacy Trust in the U.K. suggested a link between regular access to books outside school and high test scores. According to figures, some 80 per cent of children with better than expected reading skills had their own books, compared with just 58 per cent who were below the level expected for their age group.

The disclosure follows the publication of a study found that keeping just 20 books in the home could boost children's chances of doing well at school.

Research led by Nevada University, in the United States, said that children coming from a "bookish home" remained in education for around three years longer than young people born into families with empty bookshelves, irrespective of parents' own education, occupation and social class.

Research illustrates the clear link with literacy resources at home and a child's reading ability, as well the vital importance of family encouragement.

"By ensuring children have access to reading materials in the home and by encouraging children to love reading, families can help them to do well at school and to enjoy opportunities throughout their life."
Simple interactions, such as being read to, and exposure to books, magazines, newspapers and environmental print, impact children’s progress in learning to read, and children who come from richer home literacy environments show higher levels of reading knowledge and skills at the start of kindergarten and throughout primary school.

There is also ample evidence that parents who promote reading as a valuable and worthwhile activity have children who are motivated to read for pleasure.

Involvement with reading activities at home has significant positive influences not only on reading achievement, language comprehension and expressive language skills, but also on pupils’ interest in reading, attitudes towards reading and attentiveness in the classroom.

Have a great week

Michael West

---

**CANTEEN NEWS**

**Monday Nov 19 to Friday Nov 23**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Jodie B.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Julie O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Kime T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Deanne L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Amanda H. Amanda T. Sandra W.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**LIBRARY NEWS**

**Book Fair**

**Date:** Wednesday 14th Nov.  
To Wednesday 21st Nov.

**Times:** 8.30am – 9.00am & 3.30pm – 4.00pm.  
**Place:** Library.

*Yvonne Gillespie*

---

**STAND TALL AWARDS**  
*Week ending 9 November*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Mason L.</th>
<th>For arranging his counters in a neat and organised way to show his understanding of counting by 20’s.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Katherine F.</td>
<td>For the excellent effort she puts into all her work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Tarniah G.</td>
<td>For following all our Writer’s Workshop steps to produce and publish a fantastic narrative about Bullying. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2C</td>
<td>Ethan V.</td>
<td>For being focused on his thinking and learning and working co-operatively with his classmates in group activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6A</td>
<td>Kifiona I.</td>
<td>For the positive way in which he shares his thinking and opinions with others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Yasoja L.</td>
<td>For her positive contributions to our class and willingness to share her thinking and ideas with others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>Devlyn B.</td>
<td>For staying focused on his work and making improvements in his spelling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Ronan B.</td>
<td>For working persistently during Mathematics classes and always trying to improve his understandings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Stephen F.</td>
<td>For showing consistency in his efforts and always displaying our school and class values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Suleman K.</td>
<td>For changing the way he thinks so he is able to work responsibly and independently in the classroom.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**SPORT NEWS**

**Interschool Sport:**

**District Summer Finals**  
**Date:** Friday November 23rd  
**Venue:** Westmeadows P.S.

Four of our teams have qualified for the District Finals which will be held next **Friday November 23rd**. All games will be played at Westmeadows P.S. or Westmeadows Reserve (Ardlie St)

The teams playing are as follows:

**Basketball Open**  
GVPS v Gladstone Park P.S. (Westmeadows P.S.)

**Softball Girls**  
GVPS v Aitken College (Westmeadows Reserve – Ardlie St)

**Volleyball Open**  
GVPS v Isik College (Westmeadows P.S.)

**Kanga Cricket**  
GVPS v Westmeadows (Westmeadows Reserve – Ardlie St)

We wish the teams and coaches every success with the finals.

*Richard Jasenia*  
*Phys Ed Coordinator*
**FIRST AID**

**September 2012**

**PURPOSE:**
First aid is the initial care of the injured or sick. The provision of first aid to injured or sick children will be undertaken by staff in attendance and supported by staff trained in first aid. It is recognised that first aid should:-

- preserve life
- protect the unconscious
- prevent injury or illness from becoming worse
- promote recovery

Emphasis must also be placed on prevention of injuries and illness in the first instance by encouraging responsibility and safe practices amongst all students and staff.

**GUIDELINES:**
1. This policy needs to be read in conjunction with the Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation and Asthma policies.
2. The first aid room should be stocked with appropriate supplies essential for the treatment of illness or accidents at school.
3. First aid kits for use on camps and excursions will be provided. Trained first aid teachers/support staff will be in attendance at all camps.
4. Photos of students with a known severe medical condition will be displayed in prominent staff areas including classroom roll, yard duty folders and provided to the child’s direct teachers and specialist staff.
5. Basic first aid supplies will be carried by a yard duty teacher who will attend to basic injuries in the yard. Students requiring extra assistance will be referred to the office.
6. Parents will be notified by phone if the matter is potentially serious. For other injuries that have been treated at the office, the student will be given a first aid report to take home to a parent. A copy of the first aid report will also be provided to the child’s teacher.
7. Staff members will be encouraged to gain first aid qualifications from an accredited organisation.
8. In the case of an extreme emergency which is deemed life threatening an ambulance will be contacted prior to informing parents.
9. An accident report form (for CASES) will be completed in all cases deemed to be serious.
10. Classroom programs will address and encourage safe practices at school.
11. It is essential that parents notify the school in writing of any medical conditions pertaining to their child.
12. It is a parental responsibility to ensure that the school office has current emergency contact names and numbers.

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS COMMITTEE**

**August 2012**

**PURPOSE:**
An effective Parents and Friends Association is a valuable adjunct to the school’s overall operations. School Council recognises this by the provision of one community representative position and support for its operations and fundraising services to the school.

**GUIDELINES:**
1. Parents and Friends Association will conduct an Annual General Meeting in March at which office bearers will be elected for the following year. Prior notice of this meeting will be published in the school Newsletter.
2. Each Parents and Friends Association meeting will follow established meeting procedures as outlined in the School Council Standing Orders.
3. Minutes of each meeting will be kept and a copy provided to the School Council Secretary no later than the Thursday prior to each School Council meeting. These minutes should also incorporate any recommendations for consideration by School Council.
4. Any request for School Council or Principal approval must provide all relevant details of the proposed program/activity in writing.
5. Parents and Friends Association may, with School Council approval, conduct social and fundraising activities in accordance with current school policies and procedures.
6. Prior to any request for approval to conduct an activity/program the Parents and Friends Association President should consult with the Principal and check the school diary/planner.
7. School Council approval will be required for any activity involving financial operations, the use of school facilities outside school hours and/or use of the school’s name.
8. The approval of the Principal will be required for any meeting or activity involving the use of school facilities and/or students and staff during school hours. This may also involve discussion and deliberation by relevant school staff and time should be allowed for this in planning any event.
9. Prior to requesting approval for any fundraising activities the Parents and Friends Association must consult with the School Council Fundraising Committee.
10. Any such events or programs approved by School Council will be considered as a discrete activity and no financial operations may be carried forward to other activities.
11. All financial operations must be transacted through the School Council Official Account and conform to standard school financial operating procedures.
PARENT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
November 2012

PURPOSE:
Financial contributions from parents are a vital and necessary means of obtaining extra funds to maintain and further improve the excellent range and quality of educational resources used by students at this school. It is recognised that government funds alone are not sufficient to provide the high quality range of teaching and learning resources necessary for students to access a progressive and adequately resourced educational program.

GUIDELINES:
1. School Council will determine an appropriate parent contribution amount per child for each school year.
2. In determining the level of parent contributions required, School Council will consider the level of funding anticipated from the DEECD. The School Council will determine the level of supplementary funding required to appropriately resource programs for the following school year by taking into account the range and quality of the school’s existing educational programs and resources and the funding that is required to maintain and further improve the learning programs and resources.
3. Parents will be asked for a parent contribution through the student booklists which are distributed in November for the following school year.
4. The parent contribution will be for student use items that parents could otherwise be expected to purchase or pay for eg. textbooks and equipment, individual student requisites and school uniform (where appropriate and in accordance with school council policy), excursions, camps, interschool sporting activities, in school entertainment and visitor programs and selective materials used in special programs such as elective activities, art and craft etc.
5. It is an expectation of School Council that all parents will contribute the set amount each year.
6. Parents who enrol students throughout the year will be asked for a pro-rata amount for the remainder of the year.
7. School Council will provide parents with comprehensive information outlining the reasons why supplementary parent contributions are required.
8. School Council may request voluntary contributions from parents for a range of materials and services approved by School Council. Common examples of materials or services which may be supported by voluntary contributions are: extra equipment purchases, building fund, cooperatives, general contribution or donations to the school, additional computers for the school, working bee levy etc.

Care Monkey and Asthma Australia

CareMonkey is a safe and free web app for sharing health care information. Asthma Australia has partnered with CareMonkey in order to contribute to the safety and well-being of people with asthma. Parents can create a profile for their child in CareMonkey which can be shared with trusted carers, including family, friends, teachers and sports coaches. Vital information such as emergency contacts, health and safety alerts, medications, allergy details, asthma plan and more can be easily shared.

Consider creating a profile for your child with asthma (or other medical condition) and share this with others including the staff at your school or preschool.
Go to caremonkey.com for more information.