From the Principal...

End of Term - It is hard to believe Term 1 is almost over. It has been a very busy start to the school year with lots of events and activities taking place for our students. We hope all of our students have a safe and relaxing holiday, ready for another busy term. Please be aware that Term 2 commences on Wednesday 1 May.

Stage 3 Camp - Our Year 5 and 6 students returned from camp last Thursday. Congratulations to our students on being such outstanding representatives for our school. All reports indicate that everyone had a great time and enjoyed the activities and experiences only camp can provide. A huge thank you to the staff who organised and attended camp. Your commitment to our Stage 3 students is highly valued and appreciated.

2012 Annual School Report - Our 2012 ASR will be available after the holidays. The ASR reflects the achievements of our school, progress on our school targets and provides reports on various school areas over a 12 month period. Parents wishing to read or download the report will be able to access this via the school website from the beginning of Term 2.

Writing notes - If your child has missed school, you need to provide a written note with the following information:

- include your child’s name and class
- include the date/s and number of days your child was away
- explain why your child was away
- include other information as needed.

If your child is going to be away for more than three days please let the school office know. You will still need to write a note when your child returns.

Applications for Exemption - A reminder to parents that regulations from the Education Department require families to apply for an exemption from school if a child is to be absent for more than 15 days. Whether through illness or essential overseas travel an exemption must be approved prior to taking the leave. Families are requested to ensure this paperwork is completed 2 weeks in advance of overseas travel. If exemption forms are not completed prior to travel enrolment of students can be affected. Should the situation arise for your family please contact the school so that we can assist you with your application.

Contribution Fees - Thank you to the families who have already paid their contribution fees. Please keep in mind that this money provides additional opportunities and resources for your children above and beyond those provided through our global budget. The voluntary portion of the levy will be used for specific purposes again this year. Governor Philip King Public School made a commitment to ensuring all classrooms were air conditioned and every classroom had an interactive whiteboard installed. Along with these benefits for our students come running costs and maintenance. The school’s funding does not stretch to cover these additional costs. Although it is wonderful to have air conditioning and interactive whiteboards across the school they are expensive pieces of equipment to run, maintain and replace, a cost which the school does not receive funding for. Unfortunately if we do not have the funds to repair and maintain these items they will need to be removed as they break down. Air conditioning and Interactive Whiteboards provide a comfortable, engaging learning environment for all students, however, they are not mandatory pieces of equipment. We anticipate that parents will appreciate the extra resources available to enhance their child’s education and support the school by paying their full school contribution of $60 per student by Friday 10 May 2013.
Office News - The school office will be closed on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 April.

Enrolment forms for Kindergarten 2014 will be available from Week 2 Term 2. Before you apply for enrolment please make sure you can produce the following documents:

- Proof of student's residential address (eg. Original copies of council rates notice, residential lease, electricity accounts etc.)
- Birth Certificate or identity documents (Passport, Travel Documents, current Visa)
- Copies of any family law or other relevant court orders (if applicable)
- Immunisation history statement (Blue book or medicare printout).

Managing Depression - One in four kids over 12 has symptoms of depression. Would you know what to look for and how to help? Don’t be afraid, ask your child how they are feeling and keep communicating with them. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/managing-depression-in-children


Spellcheck - Is your child learning to spell? Struggling with the weekly spelling lists? Here are a few strategies that will help: Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/zh/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/getting-your-child-used-to-writing

Homework Planner - Kids and families run more smoothly when there’s a plan - so print out our 2013 homework and study calendar, which includes key dates and school holidays. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner

Woolworths Earn & Learn Program - We are excited to be participating again in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. From yesterday Monday 8 April 2013 until Sunday 9 June 2013, you can collect stickers at Woolworths that go towards Earn & Learn points. For every $10 you spend at Woolworths (excluding tobacco, liquor and Gift Cards), you will receive a sticker. These stickers can be given to your children to collect on a special sticker sheet. Once completed, they can bring the sticker sheets back to school and be placed in the special box in our front office. If you have extra stickers not on a sheet, you can also put those into the box in the front office. Please do not stick the extra stickers onto a completed sheet as they are then wasted. Please return the sheets here to school and don’t deposit them in the boxes at Woolworths. The more points we earn, the more we can redeem from a choice of over 7,000 educational resources including mathematics, English, science, art and craft, through to sporting and library supplies. If you fill a sheet and need another one, they can be collected from our school office or any Woolworths store. We are sending home a sheet for every student with our newsletter today.

P&C News - Wednesday 10 April - 3-6 Cross Country - The Annual 3-6 Cross Country takes place this Wednesday morning between 9am and 11am at Allambie Reserve. Come along and cheer on your the children. The P&C will be providing refreshments for the children at the end of the race as usual. Thanks to all those that have volunteered to assist.

Mothers’ Day - The Mothers’ Day orders are proving very popular. To ensure everyone has a chance to get a gift, we have decided to extend the closing time to 9am Friday 12 April (The last day of school for the term). This is your last chance to grab one of these beautiful Mothers’ Day gifts and make it an extra special day for Mum. Thank You. P&C President - Mark Cavanaugh. SUPPORT OUR KIDS AT GPK.

Girls’ Winter Pinafore - We are now taking pre-paid orders for the girls’ winter pinafores. Please try these on the children before ordering as there will be NO refunds or exchanges. Orders will be taken on Uniform Sales days, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:30a.m. to 2:15p.m.

Old Style Track Pants Sale - We still have 4 Size 6 old style track pants available, selling at $10.00 each. There will be no refunds or exchanges given and no Student Assistance funds will be available for these purchases.

Have a great holiday!

Jason Concoran
Principal
School Photos
School Photos will be taken on Thursday 9 May. To assist parents we have included a sample payment envelope which shows this year’s packages and costs. An envelope will be sent home in Week 1 next term. It is to be returned on photo day completed with the correct money enclosed.

Learn Basics of Tennis in 3 Weeks!
Once played you will never stop loving it!
Book now 9822 3336

Writing Competition
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Homework Help, NAPLAN Training, English, Maths, HSIE & GA

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YOUR HOME YOUR TIME
0425 806 731

This workshop explores the symptoms displayed by children and adolescents with depression and/or anxiety. In examining treatment, diagnostic, causes and related risk factors. There is a focus on what parents can do to support these children.

Date: Tuesday 14 May, 2013
Time: 6.00pm - 8.10pm
Venue: Learning Links Mt Pritchard
Leif St, 468 Reservoir Rd, Mt Pritchard 2170
Cost: FREE
Suitable for: Parents and Carers ONLY
For enquires and bookings please phone Dana on 8568 8200

* This workshop is funded by the Department of Education and Communities.