From the Principal...

Student and Family Information - We request that parents inform the front office of any changes to contact details which may have occurred over the holiday period. This includes home and mobile numbers. If there have been any changes with family situations including custody arrangements we request that you notify the school as soon as possible.

Keeping your child safe - Parents are asked to help us to keep their children safe by ensuring they have appropriate supervision arrangements for their children before and after school. Recently I have had students arriving at school from 7am! **Students should not be at school before 8:30am as there is no staff supervision available.** If you need help with before and after school care you may want to consider booking your child into the Outside School Hours Care provided by Allambie Road Before and after School Care (located next door to Governor Philip King). If you want your child to access this program please call Allambie Road Before and After School Care directly (98234262) and request a place.

P&C Meeting - The next P&C meeting will be held this Friday (27 February) in the school staff room. The meeting will commence at 9am. All parents are welcome to come along.

Barbara Petchenik Children’s Map Competition 2015 - Competition’s theme is “My place in today's world”. Entries can be nominated in four age groups: under 6 years, 6-8 years, 9-12 years and 13-15 years. The deadline for participation in the contest is **Thursday, 2 April 2015**. For more detailed information about the competition, please visit the MSIA website [http://mappingsciences.org.au](http://mappingsciences.org.au).

All about apostrophes - Not knowing where to place apostrophes can haunt people for their entire lives. Here’s an easy guide to help your child understand what they mean, how to use them and get them right, now.

When older kids struggle with reading - Should you let your reluctant teen reader choose magazines over books? If your child is still struggling to read and write, and they’re heading into high school, there are ways to get them on the right page.


Sorting fact from fiction - Help your child develop their “dodgy website” antennae when doing homework. Here are ways your child can tell a good website – or any document - from a bad one.

P&C Second Hand Uniform Sale - A second hand uniform sale will be held this Thursday, 26 February from 8:30am near the front office.
Tell Them From Me student feedback survey - I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and Frequently Asked Questions for parents/carers about the survey has been sent home with students. If you DO NOT want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and Frequently Asked Questions are available from the website above.

Values Education - The value for Weeks 5 and 6 is Self-Esteem or Self-Acceptance. Self-Esteem is feeling confident and good about ourselves and Self-Acceptance is being able to recognize who we are and accepting ourselves whilst continuing to strive to attain our personal best. It is an acceptance of all aspects of ourselves ‘warts and all’. The effect of students having positive self-esteem on others is that they can be inspired. Self-acceptance leads to self-confidence which we all need at some time.

Please have discussions about these values with your child/children at home. Mrs S. Kumar, Student Engagement.

Have a great week!
Jason Corcoran
Principal

Friday, 27th February is GPK Clean Up Day!

Clean Up Day is run by Clean Up Australia. On this Friday, children from schools all over Australia will help clean up their local area.

Our whole school will be involved, with each class asked to clean up a special area of our school.

Please send your children to school with gloves and a plastic bag.

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