



Newsletter

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9th October 2020

Dear families,

Welcome back to school and to Term 4 2020, we were so excited to welcome all students back to school

I can't emphasise how appreciative I am of your efforts at home throughout this year. As a community you have been wonderful learning advocates and supports

I am also extremely proud of how our staff and students have handled remote learning throughout 2020. We are hoping and expecting to be able to enjoy a whole term of learning together at school with the students.

Congratulations

We are happy to share some exciting Gordon PS news with you all and congratulate Ely, Josh, Evie, Margo and Ruben on the arrival of their new baby daughter / sister Dorothy. We can't wait to see some photos of her.

Planning for 2021

Planning for 2021 has begun

Parents – if you have particular requests please email them to Gordon.ps@education.vic.gov.au or send in a sealed envelope to Mr Cowan by Friday 30th October.

COVID 19 updates

- Access restriction on school site (no parents at this stage)
- Additional cleaning measures in place
- All students are expected to attend unless exempt for medical reasons
- Masks must be worn outside of the school gates for students who are 12 years old + (not required to wear them in school)
- School pickup gates will remain in place
- Before and After school care continues to run

Student Check-in resource -Gordon PS is committed to supporting the health, wellbeing and safety of all students.

While most students will adjust to the return to on-site learning without requiring additional support, we are mindful that some students may need support with their social and emotional wellbeing, or to maintain engagement with their academic learning.

We use a range of resources to help us monitor the wellbeing of our students, including a new Student Check-in resource.

The resource will complement existing approaches we use to ensure we are providing all students with the support they need.

As always, we will let you know if we identify opportunities to provide further social, academic and behavioural support to your child.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this resource or concerns about how your child is adjusting to the return to on-site learning.

Thank you very much for your support this year.

Transition

Transition for our 2021 preps have already started. There is a virtual tour available on www.gordonps.vic.edu.au. A transition letter has been sent out this week advising of changes made to our transition process due to COVID 19 restrictions

Please keep an eye out on Compass regarding grade 6 events. It will be a memorable completion to their primary school education.

Term 4 is going to be an exciting term. We have planned to have our cross country day with further details to come.

Birthdays

A big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Charlee J, Hannah M, Makayla, Annabelle, Elliot, Michal, Maddy, Zara and Kai. I hope it is a wonderful day for you and your family.

Have a great weekend

Russel Cowan



Primary Maths Specialists (PMS) News

How wonderful to see all the students arrive at school for the start of Term 4. Many had smiles on their faces ready to re-connect with their friends, teachers and their learning, in the more usual setting!

Teachers were very happy to be back in the classroom also!

Doesn't being fast mean you're a great mathematician?

It is fairly common for us to associate speedy recall of facts with accomplished mathematicians/scientists/spellers etc., etc. The reality is that speedy recall may just mean a great memory and, for maths in particular, that is not necessary for developing a great mathematical mind. A great mathematical mind can manipulate numbers. They can partition (split larger numbers into several smaller ones) to help solve problems. They understand relationships between numbers and use this to build their maths fluency (working accurately, flexibly and efficiently). There is far more to maths than remembering facts and methods!

What might a speedy maths mind be able to do?

For older students, the most obvious ability you may think of is recall of times tables. Students who can recall these facts quickly really enjoy those speedy times tables challenges that classrooms use to (and sometimes still do) run. Of course, if you don't have the ability to memorise each times table then these activities may leave your blood running cold and lead you to believe that you can never be a great mathematician. Research tells us this is particularly true for girls. The more we emphasize memorisation to students the less willing they become to think about numbers and their relations and to use and develop numbersense (Boaler, 2009).

For younger students, recognising a written numeral is a great advantage but do they understand what it represents? Developing a great mathematical mind for this age group starts in their ability to see and manipulate smaller numbers. Seeing a number represented in multiple ways helps students to move towards abstract representation (a numeral rather than a quantity). Often during the move towards abstract representations, students forget what the numeral represents and therefore cannot manipulate the number to help solve the problem.

How Can You Encourage a Great Mathematical Mind at home?

Try one of these activities. Find the one that you and your child enjoy. Collaboration is great for encouraging mathematical minds!

Matching Numbers - <https://nrich.maths.org/8282>

Totality - <https://nrich.maths.org/1216>

Mystery Matrix - <https://nrich.maths.org/1070>



Breakfast Club and 5/6 B maths



Buddy program in action



October						
				sat		sun
				9	10	11
12	13 School Photos	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Public Holiday	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
				sat		sun
						1
2 Student Free Day	3 Melbourne Cup Student Free	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Prep parent info night	11 Prep transition	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Prep transition	26	27	28	29
30						

All dates were correct at the time of going to print however they may be subject to change.



Ballan Cricket Club season 20/21

Ballan Cricket Club is preparing hopefully for a return to cricket sometime next month.

Any boys or girls who are interested in playing cricket this season could you please let us know.

We have under 11's (play Saturday morning), under 13's (play Friday night), under 15's (play Saturday morning).
Under 17's (play Saturday morning)

Please contact Peter McGregor on 0419 597 810 or email petermcgregor2@bigpond.com for further information.

Ally Munari

Being an active parent of the Gordon Primary School for almost seven years is one that has brought me great joy. Throughout our children's lives we have been active participants in everything they have done in the community. Kindergarten committee's, school fundraising groups, Coordinators of the Gordon Auskick and the Central Highlands Girls Auskick. Showing our children that you can make a difference in the community is something that has always been very important in our lives.

I am passionate about the future generation of our region. We need safer foot-paths for our children. I am keen to see more options in Gordon for our teenagers. Keeping them engaged by offering outdoor areas to stimulate them, to exercise and have fun with their friends.

I want to work with locals for the benefit and good of the community. Involving everyone in the decision-making process.

I believe in a fair, equitable and transparent approach in Council. Straight to the point conversation about things that matter, because we matter.

I have lived in the Gordon community for 17 years and have built great friendships with many of you. I'm sure you will agree that it is now time to have a local representative on Council, to advocate strongly for our needs.



* Awarded the Catherine King Community Service Award at the Gordon Primary School in 2017.

* Represented the school at a Council meeting to push for funding for the Dicker Street upgrade.





Vote 1 for Woodlands Ward

Written and Authorised by Ally Munari of 410 Moorabool West Rd, Gordon 3345.
Made with PosterMyWall.com



VOTE 1

JOHN KEOGH

Candidate for the Woodlands Ward in the forthcoming October 2020 Municipal Election.

A Candidate who is experienced and qualified to make a difference and WILL make a difference

Authorised by: John Keogh, 74a Mortons Road, Bacchus Marsh, VIC