

GORDON



PRIMARY SCHOOL

"OUR FUTURE STARTS HERE"

Newsletter

19th July, 2024

Principal: Russel Cowan

1 Dicker Street

Gordon, Victoria, 3345

Email: Gordon.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Dear School Community,

I am thrilled to announce that a new kindergarten will be built at our school.

This new centre will provide additional kindergarten places for the local community, while making drop-off time simpler and more convenient for some families.

We are working closely with the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA), who will oversee construction works. We expect the kindergarten to be completed and open Term 1, 2026. The kindergarten will be operated by an external organisation with experience in running kindergartens. Once appointed, they will manage all enrolment, staffing and program enquiries.

We're mindful of any impact construction might have on our community, and we're working with the VSBA to minimise this. The VSBA will create a dedicated webpage for the project so that you can track its progress and get updates.

[This is an exciting time for our school, and I look forward to sharing further updates and the design of the building once they become available.](#)

Thank you for your patience,

Russel Cowan

Principal

More information

[If you have any questions about the kindergarten works at Gordon Primary School, you can contact the VSBA by phone at 1800 896 950, email \[vsba@education.vic.gov.au\]\(mailto:vsba@education.vic.gov.au\) or visit their website: <https://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au>](#)

GORDON



PRIMARY SCHOOL

"OUR FUTURE STARTS HERE"

Newsletter

21st June, 2024

Principal: Russel Cowan

1 Dicker Street

Gordon, Victoria, 3345

Email: Gordon.ps@education.vic.gov.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Welcome back to Term 3! We have an exciting and eventful term ahead of us, filled with enriching activities and opportunities for our students. One of these events is the school concert to be held at the Wendouree performing Arts Centre at the end of this term. Please keep an eye out for communication from your child's teachers regarding costume wear for the night.

PARKING AND DROP-OFF SAFETY around our school continues to be a priority. The police and staff have noted concerning driver behaviour during school drop-off and pick-up times on Dicker Street. Regular patrols will be conducted to ensure parking compliance. Please refrain from double parking and speeding. Particular attention needs to be paid when reversing as our children are little and often can't be seen. Also note that students must cross at the school crossing at the crest of the road, this is the safest part to cross. **A gentle reminder not to park in staff carparks at the back of the Gordo. Gates are in place to restrict access to these areas, as they are deemed unsafe for students.**

UNIFORM COMPLIANCE IS essential throughout this term. Our school uniform policy is compulsory, and we kindly request your support in ensuring your child wears the full uniform. If assistance is needed, please reach out to our office staff, who are more than willing to help. You can find our Uniform Policy on the school website and purchase uniforms at Beleza, Ballarat. Please note that the long yellow sleeve polo is only to be worn under the pinafore. Beleza have been made aware of this and shouldn't be selling the long sleeve polo in any other circumstance. School Council are currently looking at new options for the following:

- Soft shell jacket
- Pullover jumper
- Long sleeve green polo shirt

EARLY STUDENT PICK-UP PROCEDURE

Parents requiring early pick-up of their children are encouraged to contact the school office in advance. By providing prior notice, arrangements can be made to ensure a smooth transition for the student and minimize disruption to the learning environment.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. We appreciate your ongoing support and cooperation in maintaining the health, safety, and educational welfare of our school community.

REGARDING MOBILE PHONES

Our school policy states that students are not required to bring them to school. However, if necessary, phones must be switched off and securely stored with their classroom teacher during school hours. Exceptions to this policy may apply under certain conditions, which can be discussed with school staff.

ONLINE SAFETY

Screen time and digital technology can help children build and maintain relationships and learn social skills. But for children of all ages, it's important to balance socialising online with opportunities for face-to-face socialising.

It's best for young children to interact with others face to face. This is how they learn about non-verbal cues, eye contact, body language and other social and communication skills.

- Social media is a big part of social and creative life for many pre-teens and teenagers.
- Social media benefits include connection, learning and creativity.
- Risks include exposure to inappropriate content, cyberbullying, and privacy and data breaches.
- Written guidelines can help pre-teens and teenagers get benefits while using social media responsibly, respectfully and safely.

[Screen time: checklist for healthy use | Raising Children Network](#)

EARLY STUDENT PICK-UP PROCEDURE

Parents requiring early pick-up of their children are encouraged to contact the school office in advance. By providing prior notice, arrangements can be made to ensure a smooth transition for the student and minimize disruption to the learning environment.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. We appreciate your ongoing support and cooperation in maintaining the health, safety, and educational welfare of our school community.

WEATHER - With the winter season upon us, please ensure your child dresses warmly for the colder weather, including the uniform jumper, long pants, and a coat. We appreciate your ongoing communication regarding student absences and reasons, which helps us ensure the well-being of all our students.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Let's make this term a successful and enjoyable one for our students!

Russel Cowan

PRINCIPAL

VALUES IN 2024 - Our school community will again embrace our values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. The teachers will be nominating students for our values badge when they see a student demonstrating the school values. Students who receive five nominations for one value will receive a badge. Students who have all three badges will be working towards additional badges each year .



BIRTHDAYS

We would like to acknowledge students celebrating their birthdays this month. We will place your birthday bookmark in your teachers' pigeon hole.

Happy Birthday to: Zoe Andrews, Hayden Conlan, Lilly Sharpe, Odessa Davis, Harvey Kalms, Lucy Sowman, Hudson Ffrost and Winnie Kucz.



23rd July

District Athletics selected students

First Aid in Schools

24th July

State School Spectacular Rehearsal

9th July

Basketball

23rd August

Staff Professional Practice Day—pupil free

2nd-4th September

Urban Camp Grades 5 & 6

12th September

District Athletics

17th September

School Production (Concert)

20th September

Last day of Term 3

7th October

First day of Term 4

4th November

Pupil Free Day

20th December

Last day of Term 4

29th January 2025

First day of school for 2025

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

GORDON PRIMARY SCHOOL understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND (CSEF) CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and/or sporting activities.

CENTREPAY - If you receive a regular payment from the government e.g. health care card, pension card, sole parent, foster parent or Veterans Affairs Gold Card. you are eligible to set up a fortnightly deduction to go towards your child/rens school costs – booklist, excursions and camps. **There is no charge to you for using Centrepay.**

How Deductions are set up - A Customer can set up a Deduction in a number of ways:

Via their Centrelink online account, via MyGov, using the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app or by contacting the Agency. **The minimum Deduction amount for Centrepay is \$10.**

Please quote: 555134861B

Business Name: GORDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Please 'Go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/centrepay for more information' or Freecall **1800 044 063**

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY - The Child Care Subsidy helps eligible families with the cost of outside school hours care, vacation care and registered care.

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy>

THE SMITH FAMILY

The Smith Family helps disadvantaged Australian children to get the most out of their education, so they can create better futures for themselves. For further information please go to: <http://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/what-we-do/our-work/at-school>

Some families choose to make a regular direct debit or BPay to their school account which soon adds up and is used for anything school related as directed by each family.

Please reach out to the school if you are in need of assistance. All requests are strictly confidential.

ATTENDANCE REMINDER:


A prompt start to the school day is essential for optimal learning. Students should be settled in their classrooms by 9 am daily to make the most of their educational opportunities.



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS


Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	over 13 years of schooling. that's....
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly HALF A YEAR
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Nearly 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 YEAR
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 AND A HALF YEARS
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Nearly 2 AND A HALF YEARS



Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!



BOOKCLUB ISSUE 5

The latest edition of the Bookclub catalogue has been given to students.

Below is a reminder on how to order your child's books via the LOOP, instead of sending in cash.

How to Order on Book Club

1. Your child will bring home a Book Club catalogue from school
2. Discuss with, and help your child pick the books they would like to read
3. Order online via the Scholastic Australia **LOOP** website or app and the school will take care of the rest! (**LOOP** orders are electronically linked to our school in an easy, secure online process)
4. The books are delivered to your child's classroom.

LOOP is the easy way for families to order and pay for Book Club.

(Please do not send money to the office)

Log in, or create a new account at [scholastic.com.au/loop](https://www.scholastic.com.au/loop)

1. If you are new to Book Club, follow the Wizard to set up your profile
2. Click the ORDER tab, and select your school and your child's class
3. Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
4. Enter the product item number shown on the Book Club catalogue
5. Make the payment via credit card.





SPREAD THE COST THROUGH THE YEAR

Stop by a retail service centre to pick up a Campion voucher, redeemable online or in-store for your child's back-to-school needs.

Buy your Campion vouchers through the year to spread the cost out.

Your local store:
**5 Yarrowee St,
Sebastopol**

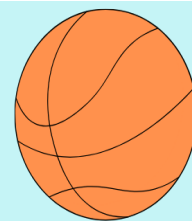


 Campion Education is an Australian family owned company.

campion.com.au

digital • textbooks • stationery

BALLAN BRUMBIES AUSSIE HOOPS TERM 3





Aussie Hoops provides kids with a fun and safe basketball experience that serves as an introduction to a lifetime of involvement in the game. These Aussie Hoops sessions are for children who are new to Basketball and who are not actively playing in a team competition. Term 3 program will run for 9 weeks starting from 22nd of July 2024 – 9th September 2024.


Great news! We have reduced our pricing for Aussie Hoops registration, Registration was \$79.50 it is now \$49.50!!!

HURRY SPOTS FILLING FAST!

REGISTER FOR
TERM 3 NOW!
CLICK HERE

 22nd July 2024 – 9th Sept 2024

 5:15–6pm, Mondays.

 Ballan Primary School Gym

- * 5–10 Years old
- * Skills Development
- * Fun and safe environment

 www.ballanbrumbies.com.au  info@ballanbrumbies.com.au



Ballan Library will be opening in 2025!

To celebrate, we'd love for the you to show what the Ballan Library will mean to you! Design a new bookmark for your chance to win.

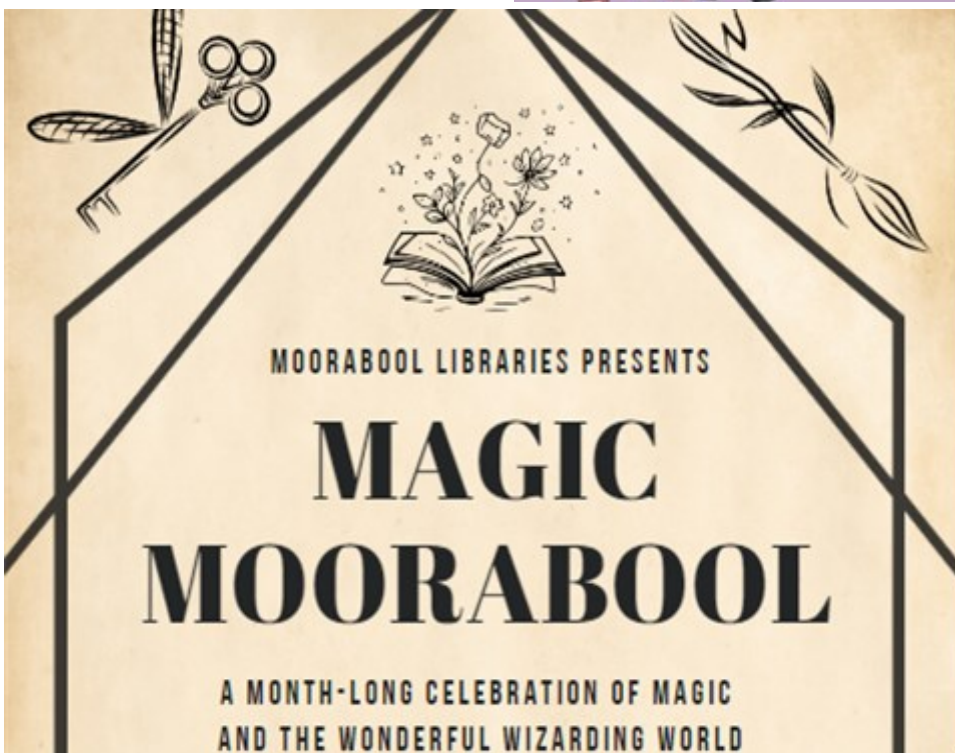
Winning designs will be made into bookmarks, to be distributed in celebration of the 2024 CBCA Book Week. Each of the selected bookmarks will be reprinted for distribution in 2025 for the opening of the new Ballan Library.

Open to all ages.



FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THESE EVENTS PLEASE GO TO THE MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL WEBSITE

Looking for a costume for CBCA Book Week? Join Moorabool Libraries for a pre-loved costume swap, bring in your old children's book character costumes and swap them for something new-to-you!. A fun, sustainable way to prepare for Book Week celebrations.



This years CBCA Book Week theme is "Reading is Magic". To celebrate Moorabool Libraries is hosting a month long celebration of the wizarding world in August. Participate in a reading challenge, costume parade, escape room or a range of magical events.

MOORABOOL SHIRE COUNCIL YOUNG & LOCAL 2024

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

**FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 14-25
WHO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT OR CREATE MUSIC**

- COACHED SESSIONS TO WRITE AND PLAY SONGS
- WORKSHOPS FOR CREATIVE AND INDUSTRY SKILLS
- OPPORTUNITY TO BE PAID TO PERFORM AT HIDE + SEEK FESTIVAL

**APPLY VIA THE QR CODE
APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON 29 JULY**





There are two art classes and then there is the Smack Talk which is a very important talk by a father who lost his son to on line exploitation, he will be here in September for one night to talk to teens/parents about the dangers of online exploitation etc. If you have teens this is must see/hear event. (see next page)



Children's art classes

Mondays
4.00pm - 5.30pm
\$100 term

Join Miranda, the president of Wombats Regional Art Network Inc as she teaches basic art theories and puts them into practice with your primary school aged children.

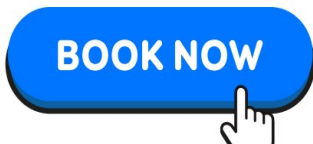
Term 3 will focus on drawing. Learn and practice new skills each week culminating in an end of term artwork to be proud of.



Animation and Character Creation

Thursdays
4:30-6.00pm
\$128.75 Term

Learn how to create characters in drawing for animation with Johnny Hall. Study the basics of character design, develop you knowledge of the underlying proportions of character construction and experiment with computer art styles.





Ballan
Neighbourhood House



Smack Talk

Friday 6th September

6.30pm - 7.30pm

\$10

Join Wayne as he tells his heartbreaking story of losing his teenage son to Suicide after he was exploited online. Do you know how to listen and what to look out for?

- More than 3200 Australians took their own lives in 2023, that's more than 60 per week, an average of 8 per day.

50% of ticket sale will be donated back to Smack Talk



Ballan
Neighbourhood House

ballanneighbourhoodhouse.com.au

BOOK NOW



E: info@bchvic.org.au

P: (03) 5368 193

A: 143 Inglis Street, Ballan, 3342

www.ballanneighbourhoodhouse.com.au