

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](mailto:Gordon.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL:**

As we approach the final two weeks of what has been a bustling term, I want to highlight several important upcoming events in our school calendar.

## **END OF SEMESTER 1 REPORTS:**

Our Semester 1 reports will be accessible on Friday, June 21st. Our dedicated staff have diligently completed assessments and crafted these reports to provide you with valuable insights into your child's progress.

## **PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:**

Please ensure you book a time for student lead conferences next term when they became available next term, a reminder that that there is an early dismissal at 1 pm on this day.

## **SCHOOL CONCERT UPDATE:**

Next term, our school concert promises to be a spectacular event for our community. Students will begin preparations early next term, including rehearsals and costume arrangements. If you are interested in assisting with costumes, sets, or props, please contact your child's teacher.

## **INDEPENDENT SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS:**

Many parents are requesting NAPLAN results for secondary school applications. Reports are expected to arrive from July 15th. Please proceed with your applications, and once received, send a copy of the NAPLAN report to your chosen school.

## **ENGAGEMENT & WELLBEING:**

As the school holidays approach, it's a good time to review and replenish school uniform supplies. All students are expected to adhere to the school's uniform guidelines for a consistent learning environment. Please visit our website for detailed guidelines.

## **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.

## 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!*



## HALF-YEAR REPORTS:

Half-year reports will be accessible on Compass from 4 pm on Friday, June 21st.

Finally, I will begin a week-long service leave next week. Ms. Hawke will be visiting family in the UK, and Ms. Castles will also be on long service leave. Mr. Walters will oversee operations during the final week of the term. If parents have any inquiries, they should first contact their child's teacher and then the unit coordinator. We are fortunate to have the support of Mr. Devlin, Mr. Murrell, Ms. Jones, and Mrs. Simpson next week, especially considering that two of them are retired principals.

Thank you for your ongoing support in making our school a vibrant and enriching environment for all students.

## UNIFORM UPDATE

- The yellow long sleeve polo is intended for girls to wear under the tunic.
- Green and black stockings should be worn under the tunic.
- School Council has approved new uniform items at this week's meeting:
  - The windcheater will be phased out and replaced by a fleece rugby jumper in bottle green, featuring a gold stripe down the right side and the gold school logo on the left. "Est 1882" will be embroidered on the back collar.
  - A new soft shell jacket will replace the current green jacket (which will be phased out). This black jacket will have the gold school logo on the front left side, gold trim, and "Est 1882" on the back collar.

A new winter skirt will be made available for students to wear (this can be worn all year round with green or black stockings). The pattern will be the same as the pinafore.

**PLAYGROUND UPDATE:** I am delighted to announce that School Council has approved the construction of a new school playground. Located near the staff carpark on the western side of the school, this addition will be warmly welcomed by our students. Once again, School Council has demonstrated their commitment to providing our community with excellent resources.



*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 .



Our recipients this week are -  
Responsibility  
Responsibility  
Resilience  
Super Special Triple R

Teacher Chair  
Hot Chocolate  
Arlo time  
Principal

Caden Barrie  
Blair Donaghy  
Maggie Rudolph  
Jye Huggins



**BIRTHDAYS**

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

**Happy Birthday to William Tyler, Xander Camton, Zander Camton.**

**During the holidays: Liam Campbell, Andy Tenerezza and Sophie Meddick**



- 21st June Newsletter
- 24th June State School Spectacular Rehearsal
- 28th June Last day of Term 2 **2.30 finish**
- 15th July First day of Term 3
- 23rd July District Athletics
- 9th August Basketball
- 23rd August Staff Professional Practice Day—pupil free**
- 12th September District Athletics
- 17th September School Production
- 4th November Pupil Free Day**

ART WORK FROM THE BOOK—You Be You

Respect Resilience Responsibility



## ART WORK channeling Wassily Kandinsky



### FUN OPEN -ENDED QUESTIONS FOR KIDS - and parents)

1. If you could have any superpower, what would it be and how would you use it to help people?
2. What do you think the world will look like 100 years from now?
3. If you could make one rule that everyone in the world had to follow, what would it be?
4. Imagine you're a chef in a famous restaurant. What kind of dishes would you create?
5. If you found a magic lamp, what three wishes would you make?
6. What do you think is at the end of the rainbow?
7. If you could grow a garden with anything in it, what would you grow?

# PREP ONE H exploring capacity in Maths



Elliot, Adam, Scarlett, Vivian,  
Poppy, Romee, Alfie, Elena and Seth





Respect Resilience Responsibility  
Respect Resilience Responsibility  
Respect Resilience Responsibility



Maverick, Clemi, Maisie, Merryn, Adam, Lylah, Arla, Audrey, Jay, Romee, Elliot and Nancy

Respect Resilience Responsibility  
Respect Resilience Responsibility  
Respect Resilience Responsibility



## **STAY WELL THIS WINTER**

Symptoms of influenza (flu) can hit very quickly and may last several weeks. Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and others from getting the flu.

### **Keeping our school community well**

Parents, carers and students are encouraged to practice prevention measures, including:

- washing and sanitising hands regularly
- avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing · staying home if unwell and consulting a general practitioner (GP) or Nurse-on-call as required
- staying up to date with flu and COVID-19 vaccinations.

### **Flu vaccinations**

Flu vaccinations can be booked through GPs and pharmacies, many of which can also provide COVID-19 vaccinations. Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and over.

Some people are more at risk of complications from flu and are eligible for free vaccination as part of the National Immunisation Program.

### **COVID-19 booster**

The 2024 COVID-19 booster dose is available for everyone aged 18 and above.

Getting your booster dose remains the best way to prevent severe illness or hospitalisation, especially in people aged over 65 and those at higher risk of severe illness.

Children aged between 5 and 17 years who are at risk of severe illness can also receive a 2024 booster dose.

You can get your next dose at your local pharmacy or GP. To find one near you, refer to the vaccine clinic finder.

### **Find out more**

For more information about preventing flu, and immunisation, refer to: · Better Health Channel influenza flu immunisation fact sheet · Getting vaccinated against influenza.

## 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 [servicessaustralia.gov.au/centrepay](https://servicessaustralia.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.servicessaustralia.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>

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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.**

# Join us for NAIDOC Week 2024

## Monday 8 July:

- Gumnut Leaf Wreaths - Lerderderg Library: 10 - 11am; 11am - 12pm
- Gumnut Leaf Wreaths - Ballan Library: 2 - 3pm; 3 - 4pm

## Tuesday 9 July:

- Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony - Village Green, Bacchus Marsh: 10.30am
- MC Cultural Wellbeing Arts and Craft - Lerderderg Library: 11am - 12pm

## Wednesday 10 July:

- NAIDOC Fabric Funhouse – Sewing Workshop for Young People - West Maddingley Early Years & Community Hub: 10am - 2pm
- Sea of Hands drop-in session - Ballan Library: 10am - 1pm

## Thursday 11 July:

- Sea of Hands drop-in session - Lerderderg Library: 10am - 3pm
- Wadawurrung stories with Uncle Barry Gilson - Lerderderg Library: 5.30 - 6.30pm

## Friday 12 July:

- MC Cultural Wellbeing Arts and Craft - Ballan Library: 11am - 12pm
- Wadawurrung Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony Outside Ballan Neighbourhood House: 1.30pm
- Live Art Session with Wadawurrung Artist Jenna Oldaker, Murrup Art - Supper Room at Ballan Neighbourhood House: 2 - 3pm



**KEEP THE FIRE BURNING!  
BLAK, LOUD AND PROUD**

**7-14 JULY 2024**

5366 7100

[moorabool.vic.gov.au/events](https://moorabool.vic.gov.au/events)



# Apply Now for Kindergarten 2024

## Limited Places Available

Enquiries 03 5341 8188  
[www.ballaratsteinerschool.com.au](http://www.ballaratsteinerschool.com.au)



Classes K to 6  
244 Moss Avenue Mount Helen