Principal’s Message

The following was a question in a VCE math exam.

Question 7

A 50 cent coin has 12 sides of equal length. Two 50 cent coins are balanced next to each other on a table so that they meet along one edge, as shown below.

The angle, \( x \), is

- A) 12°
- B) 30°
- C) 36°
- D) 60°
- E) 72°

This question highlights the need for students to be able to think logically. Many students can answer “text book” questions relating to angles, however, some will struggle with this relatively simple question because they were unable to apply that knowledge. Advancing students through the curriculum is all about applying their knowledge in a real situation.

Teachers at Gordon PS have been extremely successful in helping students develop their problem solving skills in order to apply their learning in many different situations.

Parents can assist at home by helping their children develop their problem solving skills. Some ways of doing this include:

- Encouraging their children to describe the problems they encounter. If children are able to explain the problems that they encounter, they are able to come up with solutions as well.
- Give children time to come up with their own solutions. Try not to jump in and solve the issue for them. Ask your child why they think their proposed solution will work. If it doesn’t work then they will learn from their efforts.
- Talk with children about what is and is not working. Ask them to explain why what they tried did or did not work.

Disco – What a great night! Well done to the Junior School Council for their organisation of the Disco. 65 children attended the event and enjoyed the music and dancing. Thank you to Mr Micallef, the many parents and staff who assisted on the evening.

Swimming – Our swimming program commences next week. Some parents have chosen for their child not to participate in the program. Arrangements need to be made with the class teacher(s) regarding the pick up of your children on these days. Teachers are travelling with their classrooms and all students left at school will travel on the bus to the swimming pool. I ask that all permission forms are returned before the end of this week.

Pick up times for children next week not going to swimming.

11:15am for P – 3 and 12:40pm for 4 – 6.

Reminder to parents that senior students will not be back until 3:45pm

Curriculum Day – There has been no change to our curriculum day, Monday 16th November. Please mark this day in your calendar as a “Student Free Day”

Dignity and Respect – In this newsletter I have included the Department of Education “Dignity and Respect Statement”. This compliments our Code of Conduct. The safety, security, health and wellbeing of staff, students, parents and visitors are extremely important and I ask that you take a look at the statement for your own information.

2016 Captains – We had numerous applications for school captain this year. Interviews have taken place for the role. Each candidate will present to the whole school next week. Our 2016 captains will be announced shortly after this.

Happy Birthday – We would like to wish Cameron Watters and Jake McGinnes a very Happy Birthday and also to any members of our community who are also celebrating their special day.

Have a great weekend

Russel Cowan
Principal

Thank you to all of our wonderful students who participated in our Jump Rope for Heart “Jump Off Day” on Monday afternoon. Each grade showed some wonderful tricks that they have been practicing over the last few weeks and we even had some teachers join in the fun. Please remember that students and families can continue to raise money online for this worthwhile cause until Friday, 6th November. You can do this by going to the link https://jumprope.everydayhero.com.au/event/JumpRope2015-GordonPrimarySchool-114261 and following the prompts.

Miss Crane
# November 2015

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

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<td>13 SCHOOL AS NORMAL</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
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<td>18 Prep Transition Day 9am–12.30</td>
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<td>20 School Concert Matinee 1.30 pm and Evening 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Canberra Camp Gr 5/6</td>
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<td>26 Canberra ASSEMBLY 2.45</td>
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## December 2015

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<td>18 Pupil Free Day</td>
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## Students of the Week and Awards from Assembly held on Thursday October 29th.

**Prep** - *Kai Bellin and Kate Bonar*

**Multilit**

**Gr 1/2** - *Annabelle McDaid*

**100 Sight Words** - *James Kriegsmann*

**Gr 4** - *Fergus McCausland and Tom Frawley*

**Word Attack Skills** - *Riley McLean*

**Gr 5/6** - *Ethan Hounsel Bachelor and Conor Grimes*


**Bookworms** - *Tom Frawley, Sean Weigall, Esther Pike, Grace Hopkins, Ashlyn Hall.*

Congratulations to everyone on your Awards

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Last Thursday, Sage Blizzard performed with The Boite Schools Chorus in Melbourne at the Darebin Art Centre. Along with 100 other students she sang songs from South Africa ‘Limpopo’. Well done Sage.
Dignity and Respect Statement

The Department of Education is committed to providing safe and supportive work environments where diversity is valued and everyone is treated with respect, fairness and dignity.

Discrimination, sexual and other forms of harassment, bullying, violence and threatening behaviour are unacceptable.

All employees, students, parents and visitors in schools and other DoE workplaces are expected to act accordingly.

The Department (which includes schools) and school councils, will act to ensure that the safety, security, health and wellbeing of all employees, students, parents and visitors in schools and other DoE workplaces are protected.

Prof. Peter Dawkins
Secretary
2006
Fire Restrictions Commence
Monday 9th November 2015 at 1am
Moorabool Shire

Gordon Fire Brigade

COMMERCIAL HOTEL BALLAN
LET’S TALK
MEN’S HEALTH EVENT 2015
7PM – 9PM
TUESDAY, 17TH OF NOVEMBER
FREE EVENT

THE PANEL OF SPEAKERS:
> DOUG HAWKINS FORMER AFL STAR
> PAUL WALSH BEYOND BLUE AMBASSADOR & FORMER VICTORIAN POLICE OFFICER
> BRENDA BAKER WORKSAFE COMMUNITY SPEAKER
> DR. DAVID LLEWELLYN LOCAL GP FOR BALLAN DISTRICT HEALTH AND CARE

FREE HEALTH CHECKS.
INFORMATION FOR ALL AGES.
WOMEN WELCOME.

A NIGHT TO HEAR FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCES WITHIN MEN’S HEALTH.
INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS AROUND A VARIETY OF HEALTH TOPICS.
FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EVENTS/1635061788786286

JACINTA MASTERS
jacinta@ddhc.com.au
0353667981
PLANNING FOR BUSHFIRE CAN BE TOUGH, SO WHY DO IT ALONE?

- Having trouble getting started?
- Not sure if your plan is as good as it can be?
- Just need to update your plan?

Whether you’ve got a bushfire survival plan already or yet to get started, this workshop will help you put together a plan that ticks all the right boxes.

In a small group setting, you’ll work through your plan step-by-step, with guidance from a CFA specialist.

What: FREE Bushfire Planning Workshops
Plan for bushfire step-by-step in a small group setting.
Free BBQ to follow. Please bring a pen.

Where: Mt Egerton Mechanics Institute, Main Rd, MT EGERTON

When: 4.00pm – 6.00pm  Sunday 8th November, 2015

Contact: CFA West Region Office on 53295510 or refer to CFA website www.cfa.vic.gov.au for details of other meetings in your area.

If you belong to a community group or club, talk to us about arranging a customised session.

Please note that CFA postpones all community meetings when the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, Extreme or Severe.

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.
FireReady

cfa.vic.gov.au/workshops