Principal’s Message
Memories of my school excursions and camps when I was a student are some of my happiest recollections from the old school days. Excursions and camps are a welcome break from the routine for both students and teachers. While the main purpose is to educate the students, they also provide a fun and enjoyable bonding experience for the school community. There are many benefits to excursions and camps that include:

Reinforcement
Allowing students to understand the topic better.

Engagement
Teachers turn trips into mobile classrooms. Students who go on school excursions want to learn more about the topic.

Socialisation
Getting away from the everyday atmosphere of the classroom gives students an opportunity to spend time with each other in a new environment. They may be able to connect on more of a personal level without the structure of the normal school day. Students may be able to spend much of the educational trip day in small groups, observing, chatting and learning about each other.

Retention
The type of memories that educational trips create allow children to retain information for longer periods.

The Department of Education have a Camps, Sport and Excursion Fund that can be accessed by parents. They provide this because they understand the importance of camps and excursions. At Gordon PS we provide a minimum of one excursion per term and these were outlined in the school fee letter found on our website.

Sports Day
Our athletics day will be held at Llanberris Reserve this Friday. It is an early start and students need to be at the school at 7:30am. This allows us to get there for the start of the day. The day’s schedule can be found in this newsletter.

Parents are more than welcome to attend to support our students. We are also very fortunate to be receiving support from a famous Gordon identity on the day.

Naplan
Students in grades 3 and 5 will sit Naplan tests next month. Teachers will start preparing for this test over the next few weeks. While as a school we perform extremely well in these tests, I always like to remind parents and students that they are not an indicator for success at school. They do not inform us about your child’s sporting, musical, language, artistic, technological and social skills. The test only provides us with literacy and numeracy feedback that teachers will use in conjunction with the multitude of data they already have on our students.

Roads
I have received complaints from community members regarding cars racing down Nightingale Street to access the school. Please note that this road is 40km/h at all times. Vicroads have confirmed that any road that has a gate access to a school is 40km/h at all times unless otherwise signed. We have young children riding and walking to school and safety must be taken at all times when approaching the school vicinity.

ANZAC Day
Thank you to all the students who attended the ANZAC March and service in Ballan. Matilda did a great job and represented the school very well at the service. All of our students were impeccably behaved and should be very proud of their involvement.

Mother’s Day Stall
Notes will be going home tomorrow regarding Monday’s Mother’s Day Stall. Students will be able to purchase presents ranging from $2—$5. Please do not send any more than $5 with each child.

Happy Birthday
We would like to wish Matilda Gillespie and Teahre McLeod 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
Captain’s Corner

The Captain’s Award for this fortnight was presented to Asher Brooks

ANZAC Service in Ballan
From the Art Room

Mrs Messy is after the following items:

- Washed tins (e.g. tomato tins)
- Washed plastic bottle tops
- Washed polystyrene trays (e.g. fruit and meat trays)
- Old coloured pencils

If you can assist please drop the items into the office or give them to your class.

HOT LUNCHES

Now that the weather is turning colder the P&C are kicking off hot lunches with Pumpkin Soup Friday 13th. Order forms will go home next week. If you would like to volunteer in the kitchen please email brooks.shana.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

Gordon Primary School ANZAC Service
## April 2016

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- 28 P & C Cuppa & Chat
- 29 Athletics Carnival

## May 2016

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- 2 Assembly & Mother’s Day Stall
- 4 Open Day P& C Meeting
- 5 Grade Prep/1 Kryal Castle Story Telling
- 8 SSV Cross Country Hot Lunch (Pumpkin Soup)
- 18 P & C Cuppa & Chat
- 21 School Photo Day

## Notes

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

2016 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Ballarat Regional Athletics Centre, Llanberris Reserve, York Street BALLARAT

Friday 29th April 2016 8:30am—2:30pm

8:30  1500m race. Two heats. 1st heat (9/10yo) and 2nd heat (11/12+yo)
8:45  Students go straight to school groups for attendance roll to be marked
9:00  Welcome
9:05  Students called onto main track to assemble in Age Groups (bring morning tea)
9:05-11.10 Individual Events 1,2,3 and 4

30 minutes has been allowed for each event including 2 minutes for age groups to move

11:10—11:30 Morning Tea for all groups. Children remain with supervising teacher
11:30-1:10 Individual Events 5,6,7 and Middle (80m) and Junior (50m) relays
1:00-1:10 2/3/4 Shuttle Relay (8 runners x 80m)
1:10 - 1:20 P/1 Shuttle Relay (8 runners x 50m)
1:20—1:50 LUNCH (All children return to school areas for lunch)
1:40—1:55 100m sprint final
2:00—2:15 5/6 Circular Relay (4 runners x 100m)
2:15  Presentations for Individual Year Level Athletics Champion
2:25  Close and Thankyou

AGE  Event 1  Event 2  Event 3  Event 4  Event 5  Event 6  Event 7

5/6 9:10—9:40 9:40—10:10 10:10—10:40 10:40—11:10 11:30—12:00 12:00—12:30 12:30—1:00
Shot  Javelin  80 M  Target  Long Jump  50 M  Discus

7  Javelin  80 M  Target  Long Jump  50 M  Discus  Shot

8  80 M  Target  Long Jump  50 M  Discus  Shot  Javelin

9  Triple  Long Jump  100 M  Discus  Shot  Javelin  200 M

10  Long Jump  100 M  Discus  Shot  Javelin  200 M  Triple Jump

11  100 M  Discus  Shot  Javelin  200 M  Triple Jump  Long Jump

12/13  Discus  Shot  Javelin  200 M  Triple Jump  Long Jump  100 M
Some of our students will be performing a Corroboree on Friday 3rd June at the Gnarrwirring Ngitj Festival at Sovereign Hill. Tickets are free—follow the link on the Sovereign Hill website to book tickets.

These same students will be performing at Mountain to Mouth 2016 next Friday 6th May. Please see mountaintomouth.com.au for more details.
Wallace and District Kindergarten

55th Annual

Mother's Day Luncheon

FRIDAY 6th MAY 2016 11:30AM-3:00PM

Bungaree Community Centre

Enjoy a day filled with fun, prizes, stalls and not to forget
Our famous spinning wheel and much more

$35 per adult including a 2 course lunch
$5 per child- lunch, icy pole and
Child minding services

Bookings essential by phone, text or email
Leah-0411 859 544 or Sarah-0419 532 915
Wallace.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

CASH ONLY EVENT
If unable to attend silent seats
Will Be Available for purchase
@ $25 per seat

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR EVENT
UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS