2013 Classes

As you would be aware we moved into our classes for 2013 on Friday in Week 1.

Classes are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 Classes</th>
<th>KA Kindergarten</th>
<th>Alicia Taylor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM Kindergarten</td>
<td>Mirabai Stockwell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/1E Kinder/Year 1</td>
<td>Eve Green</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1L Year 1</td>
<td>Liz Davis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2N Year 1/Year 2</td>
<td>Neil Thorne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2D Year 2</td>
<td>Debbie Howland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2S Year 2</td>
<td>Scott Warner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A Year 3</td>
<td>Amy Schafer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4H Year 3/Year 4</td>
<td>Mark Howland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4J Year 4</td>
<td>Julie Groves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5M Year 5</td>
<td>Margaret Wilson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C Year 5/Year 6</td>
<td>Caroline Moore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6R Year 6</td>
<td>Rod Maggs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parking in Hume Street

The pick-up and drop off zone in Hume Street seems to be working well.

Ideally, we would like the cars to roll through the drop off zone and have the students wait until their car comes up to the front. The difficulty with this is that students may be late getting to the line and if their car is at the front of the line then everyone has to wait. If this happens we would ask that parents go around the block again and come back in, on the end of the line so that not every parent/carer is held up. These messages also need to be conveyed to grandparents, older siblings and anyone else who may be coming to pick up your child. I would ask that you please do this and pass on the drop off zone requirements to anyone picking your child/ren up.

Some cars are coming out of the line and cue jumping as a gap becomes available further down the line. This is a fairly dangerous practice and I ask that parents be patient and take great care.

Scripture at GPS

Special Religious Education – (SRE (Scripture) lessons will start next week at Gloucester Public School. Scripture will be on a Thursday.

A group of local volunteers will offer their time to conduct Scripture lessons for our students. These volunteers are Mrs Julie McNeice, Mrs Jenny King, Mr Rodney Rumbel, Mrs Heather Beesley, Mrs Kathryn Pilgrim, Mr & Mrs Glenda & Elton Wiltshire, Mrs Michelle Hazel-Jawhary and Mrs Alice Painter.

Under the Education Act 1990 Section 32 there is a legislative requirement that “in every government school, time is allowed for the religious education of children of any religious persuasion”. In accordance with this section of the Act, the times for such lessons are “to be fixed by agreement between the principal of the school and the local members of the clergy or religious teachers of that persuasion”.

Students whose parent/carers indicate that they do not want their child/ren to attend these lessons will be supervised and undertake other activities. Such activities might be completing homework, reading and private study or in some cases minimal supervision.

If you do not want your child to attend Scripture please write a short note to the class teacher. If you have indicated, by a note, in previous years that your child will not participate in Scripture lessons there is no need to write another note. If a note is not received, students will attend Scripture.

Voluntary Contribution

Thank you to those who have paid their voluntary contribution. This remains at $30 per student and assists the school with purchasing items used in teaching and student welfare. Payment of these fees would be very much appreciated.

Mrs Leanne Wakefield, Principal.
Investiture Assembly this Thursday 14th February
We will be holding our Investiture Assembly this Thursday at 9.00am. This important occasion sees us welcome in our new leaders for 2013 and badge our elected house captains, SRC representatives, library and computer monitors. Parents, friends and the wider community are all welcome to attend this special occasion. We would love to see you there.

Mr Rod Maggs – Assistant Principal (Stage 3)

Smart Packs
Thank you to the many parents who have purchased Smart Packs. These are ready for distribution.
If you haven’t already paid, please make this a priority. Prices are as follows:
- Kindergarten - $60.00
- Years 1 & 2 - $40.00
- Years 3-6 - $35.00
These packs contain everything your child will require for the year e.g. pens, pencils, glue sticks, exercise books, textbooks etc.

Melissa Seale.

After-school Activities
The Active After-School Communities (AASC) Program has commenced.
It is held on Monday and Thursday afternoons from 3.00pm – 4.00pm and pick up is from the top playground. A healthy afternoon tea is provided free of charge.
If you would like your child to participate in this program please see the front office for a registration form. The form will need to be returned to school before your child can start.
An Active After-school Communities program overview is attached to this newsletter.
Further information can be obtained by visiting ausport.gov.au/aasc.
Please see me if you have any queries.

Mrs Melissa Seale, AASC Coordinator.

MUSIC NOTES
Welcome back for 2013.
Having met the classes for this year, an exciting time is assured.
Students will be encouraged to sing, play and compose during music classes.
The number and quality of students who attended the first choir practice was impressive.
We are beginning with a medley from the Lion King which will be our item for the Taree Eisteddfod.
Recorders will be an integral part of the primary program so students in Year 3 will need a recorder. These can be obtained from Bass ‘n’ Blues in Taree and also the Gloucester News agency.

Mrs Annette Burrows
Music Teacher.

Stewart House
Stewart House is a children’s charity which provides short term respite care in the form of a hospital and school. It helps over 1800 public education students each year and is largely funded by teachers. Each year Gloucester Public School is proud to support Stewart House with its fundraising.
This term your child can help by purchasing a ‘high bounce ball’ for $3.00. The balls are about the size of a small tennis ball but BOUNCY!
If your child would like to support Stewart House please return the form below with money to the office by Friday 22nd February.

Mrs Debbie Howland.
This week KM is being featured in pictures. Look at all the happy faces! The students are settling into the rhythm of school with the help of their buddies. Ms Stockwell is establishing classroom routines through the explicit explanation of class rules. She is capturing the expected behaviours in pictures, displaying them in the classroom and daily discussing them with the students. Such a great start for KM. Keep it up!
Congratulations to everyone on a great carnival and especially to all the students who had a go!
A huge thank you to all the parents/carers who helped out on the day, even jumping into the pool to help some students (well done and thank you, Kate).
Thanks also to the families who brought in a shade structure, it was fantastic!
The carnival would not be as good without the use of the swimming club’s facilities.
A HUGE thanks to Danni Ryll for being the referee…a big role for someone without even having children at this school. Thank you.
Thanks also to the Richard’s family for writing on all the ribbons, many thanks again!
To all staff…well done…again! Especially to Mr Maggs for helping out lots of swimmers. We think he enjoyed being in the pool! Happy 100th birthday for yesterday!
The champion house for 2013 is Dobell…winning the carnival by 1 point from Flynn.
Well done and congratulations everyone!

Mrs Julie Groves and Mr Mark Howland.

Senior Boys Champion: Han-Jun Ki
Senior Boys Runner Up: Kaito Sutton and Dylan Green

Senior Girls Champion: Kyra Edstein
Senior Girls Runner Up: Marnie Barkwill

11yrs Boys Champion: Sung-Jun Ki
11yrs Boys Runner Up: Damon Ireland

11yrs Girls Champion: Bronte Wisely
11yrs Girls Runner Up: Charlotte Maslen

Senior Boys Champion: Han-Jun Ki
Junior Boys Champion: Lleyton Richards  
Junior Boys Runner Up: Harrison Moore

Junior Girls Runner up: Tiarn Harvey  
Junior Girls Champion: Hannah Higgins

**WINNING HOUSE: DOBELL**  
(Captains Stephen Hester and Ella Blamires)

Basketball
We will soon be selecting a girls’ and boys’ basketball team to represent our school in the PSSA knockout competition. Try-outs will take place at school during lunchtimes. If your child is selected, you, as a parent / carer are expected to help provide transport to and from the games, pay the relevant costs involved (court fees etc) and your child is expected to attend all training sessions. These will be both at school and at the Rec. Centre. If you do not want your child to be in this team, please make this obvious to him/her to avoid disappointment. Thank you.

*Mr Mark Howland*
Year 6 Expression of Interest Forms for High School in 2014

A booklet titled ‘Moving into Year 7 in a NSW government school in 2014’ will be sent home in the coming weeks to all Year 6 students. While this is not an application to enrol, this form is essential in indicating which secondary school you are intending to send your child to. Parents, please read all sections of this booklet carefully as it outlines the options available to you and gives you the basis for selecting the right secondary school for your child.
If you have any questions about this form, please feel free to contact me after you have read through it.

Mr Rod Maggs – Assistant Principal (Stage 3)

Cricket set to begin again in 2013

This week we have begun training and selection trials for our school cricket team for 2013. As always, we have only a limited time before our first game and I am currently working with Stroud PS (our first opponents) to organise a time and venue. It will be nice not to have to play Forster PS in the first round!
All students from years 3 to 6 are welcome to try out and the best squad will be selected to begin more focused training during the coming weeks. Good luck everyone!

Mr Rod Maggs – Assistant Principal

From the Canteen

Welcome back for another year. Many thanks to all those who have very kindly volunteered for canteen duty. We really appreciate you donating your valuable time to make sure the students are well looked after.
Everyone should have received a summer menu last week. I have had to delete the long life milks from the menu due to unreliable supply.

Rosters have been sent home with the students. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call me. – Sharon Osborne, Canteen Manager.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 13/2/13</th>
<th>-</th>
<th>Susanna Jackson</th>
<th>Ruth Edwards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15/2/13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Rachel Blanch</td>
<td>Robyn Beggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 18/2/13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Felicity Hawkins</td>
<td>Louise Thurgood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20/2/13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Leanne Kearney</td>
<td>Mel O’Mara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22/2/13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Kate Shanley</td>
<td>Robyn Hooke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gloucester Gymnastics Club

Classes resume Wednesday 13th February. 3.15 – 4.00; 4.00 – 4.45; 4.45 – 5.30. New students are most welcome.
Come down between 3.15 and 5.15 and find out more about our club. Gloucester Gymnastics is a non-competitive activity that promotes balance, flexibility and motor skills. All children are welcome from ages 4 and up.
Registration $65.00. Concession for families. Weekly classes $7.00. New students receive one free lesson before signing up.
Phone Noeleen 0448815453
Marrisa 0422742510

Bus Travel

Don’t forget that if your child has gone from Year 2 to Year 3 this year and is eligible for free bus travel, a new Application Form must be completed.
ATTENTION
ALL PARENTS and CARERS

MEETING YOUR CHILD AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

We encourage all parents and carers to meet and greet their children at the end of their school day at either the Elliot Street gate (particularly for students in Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two) or Hume Street, the front entrance to our school.

All parents and carers who meet their children at the Elliot Street gate, please meet the children at the gate, not in front of the Kindergarten rooms or under the C.O.L.A.

The reason for this request are that Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two students need to be organised into-

- bus lines, then walked to the hall in the company of a teacher, to join whole school bus lines
- walking lines
  - for those students who leave via the front gate (Hume Street)
  - for those students who leave via Elliot Street gate

If parents/carers are greeting students while this organisation occurs and teachers are dismissing classes, confusion reigns for staff and students alike.

We appreciate the support given by parents and carers to this process and ask that it continues for student care and safety. Thank you

Alison Clifton
Assistant Principal
Early Stage 1/Stage 1 supervisor
From Busselton to Bendigo and Swansea to Sheffield, thousands of children around Australia are enjoying getting active after school.

The Active After-school Communities (AASC) program is a free Australian Government initiative delivered nationally by the Australian Sports Commission. The AASC program is run in around 3270 schools and after-school care centres across the country. It provides primary school children with the opportunity to experience more than 70 different sports and up to 20 other structured physical activities.

Through the program, children and their families are discovering the benefits of happy, healthy and active lifestyles. By engaging inactive children in sport, and delivering fun and free physical activity in a safe environment, this initiative is also inspiring children, their families and coaches to extend their involvement in sport outside the AASC program.

Children from diverse locations and backgrounds are involved. For example, close to half the participating sites (58 per cent) are regional and remote communities, 23 per cent are low socio-economic communities, 14 per cent are Indigenous communities and 14 per cent of sites cater for children with special needs.

The AASC program is cost-free to parents, demonstrating the Australian Sports Commission’s commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of Australian children through sport and physical activity, regardless of their location and socio-economic status.

**Motivating inactive kids**

Research tells us that without the AASC program, a high percentage of participating children would not be engaged in structured physical activity. As one Perth parent says, the program “is educating your kids that there is the option to be active rather than sitting inside watching TV. It shows them that they have the option to go outside and be active”.

Aside from the physical benefits, the AASC program also improves confidence and self-esteem — helping children generate a more positive outlook on life.
‘It’s a happy, fun and safe program, and it involves the community. The little kids get involved, and the parents watch. There’s a definite “wow” factor when the parents see the positive experiences of the kids’.

A parent says, ‘It’s a program designed to help keep your children fit and enjoy a variety of activities after school. It offers plenty of sports activities after school; your kids will love it.’

Strengthening local communities

The AASC program is locally focused, allowing schools and after-school care providers to tailor their program to meet the needs of children and families in their community.

This stimulates community involvement in sport — almost two-thirds of community coaches involved in the program say it creates links between schools and local sporting clubs.

In many cases the AASC program also strengthens relationships between clubs and local councils. Lacrosse Victoria in Campbell Creek, Victoria, says the Council provides a ground to play on at no charge thanks to the club’s contribution to community sport. The YMCA also provides a ground at nearby Kangaroo Rats.

Benefiting Indigenous children

The AASC program has been shown to improve the health of Indigenous communities through increased education, physical activity and the capacity to deliver sport. The program has also been credited with decreasing discipline problems by engaging Indigenous children in sport and teaching the value of teamwork.

Many stakeholders in Indigenous communities agree that the AASC program helps get children active and off the streets and keeps them out of trouble. One school principal says, ‘It’s a happy, fun and safe program, and it involves the community. The little kids get involved, and the parents watch. There’s a definite “wow” factor when the parents see the positive experiences of the kids’.

Including culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities

Stakeholders in CALD communities also see great value in the AASC program. As one stakeholder says, ‘This will be a significant step in the right direction towards solving the health crisis in this country with obesity among our children. Schools, government and community leaders must work together to solve this problem’.

With research showing that children from CALD communities are 12 per cent less likely to be involved in sports than children from non-CALD communities, the AASC program is recognised as an important initiative for this group.

Many parents in CALD communities say the AASC program plays a vital role in the growth and development of their children. A parent says, ‘It’s a program designed to help keep your children fit and enjoy a variety of activities after school. It offers plenty of sports activities after school; your kids will love it.’

More than half the schools and after-school care providers that cater for children from CALD communities agree that their community has more skilled people to deliver sports to children as a result of the program.

A program stakeholder says the program is well designed for kids in disadvantaged communities. ‘The programs are run locally with a real commitment to support community involvement and it works in partnership with other organisations.’

Facts at a glance

In Semester Two, 2009:

- approximately 190,000 children around Australia participated in the AASC program
- approximately 160,000 children are more positive toward physical activity and sport due to the AASC program
- approximately 130,000 children have become more physically active as a result of the AASC program
- approximately 110,000 children are now interested in club membership due to the AASC program
- approximately 60,000 children participating in the AASC program are likely to join a club in the next 6 months

Active After-school Communities

Helping kids and communities get active

For more information visit ausport.gov.au/aasc
**Uniform Shop**
The Uniform Shop is open every Friday morning from 8.30am to 10.00am. We stock new uniforms as well as a variety of secondhand uniforms. Further details, including a price list for new uniforms, are available on the school website.
The Uniform Shop relies on parents and carers for donations of used uniform items. Thank you to those who donate these items which are always appreciated.
A small group of volunteer parents run the Uniform Shop and enable it to open each Friday. It would be great to have some extra helpers. If you have time available and are interested in joining the roster for one or two Friday mornings a term, please feel free to drop into the Uniform Shop when it is open for more information or to leave your details.

*Tracy Dunthorne*

____________________________

**STEWART HOUSE**

My child, ____________________________________________, of class __________, would like to order a High Bounce Ball in support of Stewart House.

I enclose $______________ to cover the cost. ($3.00 per ball).

Signed: ____________________________ (Parent/Carer).  Date: ______________________

____________________________

**STEWART HOUSE**

My child, ____________________________________________, of class __________, would like to order a High Bounce Ball in support of Stewart House.

I enclose $______________ to cover the cost. ($3.00 per ball).

Signed: ____________________________ (Parent/Carer).  Date: ______________________

____________________________

**Saturday Kids Club for ages 5-13 years**

Music, Drama, Story Telling, Craft Making, Games, Activities.

This time we are making rockets that fly up to 100 feet.
TOTALLY FREE so be quick and book!
Where: Gloucester SDA Church, corner of Hume & Barrington Streets.
Saturday 23rd February and fortnightly from then on.
10 – 11.15am.
Bookings: Phone or SMS Kate on 0419499619
Don’t miss out on the fun!