Kindergarten Excursion - Oakvale Farm

Last Friday, there were many excited and enthusiastic faces as Kindergarten set off on their adventure to Oakvale Farm. They had a really big day and got to learn about lots of exciting creatures, big and small.

Some highlights of their adventures included a tractor ride around the farm, bottle feeding the lambs and kids, milking a cow, meeting some interesting and scaly reptiles, patting a koala and learning about lots of Australian native and farm animals.

They were so well behaved and were complimented by workers and visitors at Oakvale Farm. Mrs Keen and Mrs Carruthers are so proud of them all.

After such a big day, it wasn’t a surprise to have lots of snoozing children on the bus ride home.
From Mrs Wakefield -

Parental Controls
Parental controls help monitor and limit what your children do online. Find out which tools you should use to block out the BAD stuff.

What are Parent Controls?
These are tools that help parents/carers monitor and limit what their children do online. There are many tools available and they all offer different functions, with some even allowing parents/carers to limit the time children spend on specific websites or games. No tool is 100% effective at blocking access to inappropriate content. They are a good tool to encourage communication with children about their online activities. Currently there are more effective tools for use with PCs and Macs than with mobile, tablet devices and game consoles. Additional supervision is required with these.

How do I find the best parental control tool for me?
Look at recent reviews on trusted consumer review sites and technology review sites, such as TopTenReviews, TopConsumerReviews, PC Magazine, Laptop Magazine. Search reviews on parental control tools, content filters and internet filters. A recent study commissioned by the European Commission provides a ranking of parental control tools tested, including free tools. Access the review at http://sipbench.eu.

School Photos
Thank you to all our families for a great day. It was a long day, however all students looked wonderful. The photographer will return this Friday 7th to take a whole school photo at approx. 9.30am.

P&C Pie Drive
Please support the P&C Pie drive. The money raised will go towards equipment for the students at our school. The P&C are currently looking at helping the school fund new shade cloth for the infants’ playground and new soft fall. Thank you for your support.

Shade Cloth
Unfortunately, during the school holidays, some local children/youths entered our school and intentionally ripped the shade cloth over the infants’ play equipment. The same young people also burnt the shade cloth over the sand pit. The police have been notified, visited the school and would appreciate any further information. Please report any persons on school grounds that should not be on the grounds to the local police or safety and Security 1300 880 021. Thank you

Bus Travel
Bus travel to and from school is a privilege. It is every student’s responsibility to behave in a manner that ensures safety and comfort of the passengers and driver. There is a clear code of conduct for school students on buses set out by NSW Transport. This states that: there is no offensive or racist language, no fighting, no spitting, no placing feet on the seat, no throwing things in or from the bus, no eating or no drinking, except water.

All students are to obey reasonable directions from the bus driver and keep arms, legs and heads inside the bus. Buses are expensive and all students should respect that the bus is owned by the operator, ensure that buses are not vandalised and conduct themselves as they do at school.

Not obeying the bus rules will lead to the withdrawal from travel and possible prosecution. Please talk to your child about bus travel. There have been quite a few incidents of late that are concerning and the school fully supports the actions the bus company may impose. When a child is travelling on a bus, the bus company has a responsibility and duty of care for your child. Please contact Newcombe Coaches to discuss any concerns or issues regarding bus travel on 02 6558 1418.

Leanne Wakefield, Principal.
New Sounds: Revision of Pp, Ee, Kk Cc, Nn

New Sight Words: his, her, an

Numeracy: counting forwards to 200, backwards from 50, writing and reading numbers to 100 (and beyond), and counting by 10s and 5s.

Maths Concepts: addition, subtraction, patterns, 2D shapes, volume and capacity, and time.

KS Assembly: KS are hosting our Infants’ assembly this week. We hope to see you there!

Ms Parker– Farewell from KM

Since the beginning of Term 3, Ms Parker has been working in KM on her Teaching Practicum. She has made a huge impression in KM and has taught lots of fun and interesting lessons.

KM has been very lucky to have Ms Parker in our classroom and we would like to wish her all the best with her studies.

Thank you and good luck!

KM and Mrs Carruthers

Class Awards (Week 3)

6W
- Keely Yates
- Aiden Rose
- Chloe Edstein
- Allison Simon (E)

5/6G
- Harrison Moore
- Daniel Rowney
- Blake Murray
- Alarni Longbottom (E)

5M
- Laura Stone
- Deaton Kletley
- Jack Williams
- Marni Mulder (E)

4R
- Lilly Griffith
- Charlie Roy
- Bella Wood
- Sarah Galvin (E)

4S
- Olivia O’Mara
- Jessica Murray
- Mia McBride
- Kourtney Maslen (E)

3G
- Tallulah Ashby
- Mia Sharples
- Quinlan Collins
- Sam Whittaker (E)

3C
- Clayton Selby
- Bryce Young-Longmire
- Emma Broadhead
- Abbey Seale (E)
Silver Awards (Week 3)

4R
Holly Mills
Lilly-Anne Murphy
Tiera-Jade Watt
Miranda Yates
Sam Ashton
Kyle Atkins
Jackson Blanch
Lachlan Gorton
Beau Murray
Sean Pilgrim
Charlie Roy
Travis Sansom
Dylan Smith
Jaykub Thompson
Charles Tonks
Aston Wisely
Nathan Woods

4S
Jack Johnson
Sam Leimgruber
Nicholas Maslen
Kobi Redman
Curtis Woodbine
Kelly Groves
Caiden Wakefield
Chloe Tresidder
Marcus Fish
Harrison Edwards

5M
Aiden Coombes
Kyrus Scott
Lilly Mills

5/6G
Lachlan Blanch
Simon Collins
Hayden Hodgess
Alarni Longbottom
Elly O’Meley
Aiden Rose
Harrison Moore
Thomas O’Mara
Sapphira Snow
Lucas Summerville
Mia Warwick

6W
Darcy Allardice
Josh Anniwell
Jarrod Crook
Jaime Dangerfield
Kane Davis
Chloe Edstein
Joseph Forrester
Sharla Gammage
Shaелиe Hanson

Bronze Awards

5M
Tyler Parish
Bryce Drew
Dwayne Cole
Marni Mulder
Cooper Harrod

5/6G
Sam Rose
Travis Johnston

6W
Ryan Boorer
Jhye O’Meley

Maths Olympiad

Stage 3 Maths Olympiad students had some tricky questions in Olympiad 3 last week. Congratulations to Year 6 students Sapphira Snow and Tiarn Harvey and Year 5 Brooke Willis who all tied with the highest scores. Well done ladies.

In our home Olympiad, well done to the families Channon, Bignell and Collins for last week’s answers (question 1 – 7, question 2 – 154. I will update our current scores in the next few weeks.

X and Y are two different numbers selected from the first fifty counting numbers from 1 to 50 inclusive.
What is the largest value that \( \frac{X}{Y} \) can have?

Family Name: Answer:

Eve Green
Year 6 Teacher
Dubbo - Year 4

Thank you to all parents and carers for sending in medical and PG movie forms. Please also feel free to contact us at school if you would like to discuss any issues confidentially or in greater detail prior to the excursion.

The final date for payments is TOMORROW, Wednesday 5 August. If you are unsure of the balance you need to pay to finalise this cost, please contact Mrs Griffin in the office on 6558 1303.

Less than two weeks to go!

Susie McLeod and Rod Maggs
Year 4 Teachers

Gloucester High School Tri Challenge

Year 6 GPS students have once again been kindly invited to participate in the Gloucester High School Tri Challenge in the primary school teams’ category, with each team member competing in one of the legs for their team. The three legs for this event include a 10km bike ride, a 3km kayak and a 4km run. The cost per team is $60.00. An additional $45.00 must be paid by the kayaker in a team as these students must undertake a training session in the fortnight prior to the race; this is organised in conjunction with the high school on a school day. The tri challenge takes place on the last day of term, Friday 18th September. Further information, including entry forms with be available from me this week.

Eve Green
Year 6 teacher

Schools Spectacular

Please look out for two notes this week - Train booking and T-Shirt order form. I would like to get these notes back by Friday. Thank you!

Mirabai Carruthers
Schools Spectacular Coordinator

Colour Day for Cancer

The SRC will be conducting a Colour Day for Cancer next week on Thursday 13th August. Students are expected to wear full school uniform, however may wear a shirt/top or ribbon of the colour of the cancer they are supporting. The SRC are focusing on:

- breast cancer  pink
- brain cancer  grey
- sarcoma  rainbow
- melanoma  black
- lung cancer  white

On the day, SRC students will present our school with a short presentation with information on these cancers. All proceeds will go directly to the cancer council.

Susie McLeod and Eve Green
SRC

Goodluck to our boys PSSA soccer team

Gloucester Public School boy's PSSA soccer team will be playing their round 3 soccer match against Grahamstown Public School this Thursday, with kick off at 11:00.

Notes were sent home last week with additional information for the students involved. All notes should be returned to Mrs McLeod or Miss Coghlan no later than Wednesday. If you have any free time please feel welcome to come and cheer the boys along.

Soccer coordinators

Susie McLeod & Amanda Coghlan

Spelling Bee Tip
Record yourself spelling the word on your Ipod and play it back to
The Premiers Reading Challenge finishes in week 6. Here is a list of everyone who has made it to a reading level! This week I have only added the new names to the completed list. It was getting too long! Email me if you have any questions - hayley.watts3@det.nsw.edu.au *Reading levels correct as of 30/7/15

<table>
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<th>Level 2</th>
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<td>10 K Tahli Hale</td>
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<td>13 Amelia Griffith</td>
<td>11 K Alice Murphy</td>
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<td>4 Caitlin Campbell</td>
<td>13 1 Jessica Higgins</td>
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<td>4 Lilly Griffith</td>
<td>10 1 Nicholas Maggs</td>
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<td>5 Lilly Mills</td>
<td>12 1 Isabella Parker</td>
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<td>6 Brooke Turner</td>
<td>13 2 Ruby Bradbury</td>
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<td>2 Sam Collie</td>
<td>19 4 Emily Kearney</td>
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<td>2 Thomas Maggs</td>
<td>22 2 Harvey Willis</td>
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<td>2 Kurtis Sullivan</td>
<td>23 4 Charlotte Earle-Broadley</td>
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<td>3 Abbey Seale</td>
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<td>4 Josephine Fitzgerald</td>
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<td>5 Luke Williams</td>
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<td>6 Charlie Carruthers</td>
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<td>6 Sasha Fordham</td>
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Completed!!!
We’re a Sporting School!

Our Term 3 Sporting Schools program focus sports this term are Cricket and Athletics. It is never too late to enrol your child in the programs that we are running. Just grab an enrolment form at the front office and once it has been completed and returned your child will be able to start.

Please remind your child to have their hat and water bottle for these sessions as it does get hot and we do get thirsty!

Thank you

GPS Sporting Schools Team

Mrs Green, Mrs Seale, Miss Coughlan and Miss Watts

Sporting Schools

For: Students K-6

When: Tuesday and Thursday @ 3-4pm

Where: Meet outside Mrs Schafer’s wet room

What: Please bring your hat and a water bottle

From: Tuesday 21 July to Thursday 10 September (inclusive)

We would love to see you!

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Some Secrets for Success

Praise every effort in reading, especially if your child’s confidence is low.

Don’t compare your child’s performance with that of friends or relatives.

If your child sees you reading every day this will develop lifelong positive attitudes to reading.

Involve your child in the selection of a story or a book. Ask your child to tell you about something that interests him/her. Use this information when selecting reading material for your child.

We as adults seldom read something that we don’t want to, so why force young children to read something they are not interested in?

This is not to say that there is not a time and place for compulsory selection and reading of books. You must balance that yourself.

---

What to read?

Don’t restrict your child’s reading materials to only books. Provide the chance to read other types of reading material such as:-

- Magazines
- Comics
- Poetry books
- Newspapers
- Diaries
- Reference materials
- Atlases
- Maps (road maps, street directories)
- Instructions for games, machines, etc.
- Cooking Recipes
- Computer Adventure Games
- Letters
- Picture Books

Encourage a particular interest by talking and encouraging continued reading.
Raising a critical generation

In a digitally literate world of ‘likes’ and social criticism Lakshmi Singh looks at how parents can foster critical spirit in a constructive, healthy and balanced way.

American keynote speaker, author and educator Tim Elmore recently penned an article observing a trend amongst kids dishing out careless criticism of processes, ideas and institutions.

From criticizing classes to sports programs, the food offered on campus, administration or accommodation in some colleges and universities, students were increasingly displaying what Elmore calls, a ‘critical spirit’.

Time magazine also ran a feature discussing the narcissistic tendencies amongst Millennials, contributing to a feeling of entitlement amongst youngsters.

So, is there a generational change brewing, where more kids go about criticizing anything and everything, becoming self-absorbed in the process?

Experts say that a critical spirit has always existed in all of us, it is just that the nature of today’s society and the ease of accessibility of forums through which criticism can be provided has given it more opportunity to be heard.

While experts say that cultivating a spirit of thinking critically about problems and situations is important, it is also necessary to foster a healthy decision-making process.

The age of entitlement
Parents have always wanted the best for kids, but taking the “you deserve the best, this/he/she is not good enough” mentality a bit too far can also be detrimental, says parenting and education expert Ronit Baras.

“The rules of education are very simple, judgmental parents will raise judgmental kids. Why? Because judgment is a coping mechanism to fight inadequacy. Judgemental people have weaknesses [and] judgment is their way of hiding. ‘If I find faults in others, I will be able to hide mine.’ If parents model this mentality, kids will adopt it.”

Similarly projecting a “my child is special and they need to know that” vision by over-supplying them with activities, commodities and even praise can lead to an unhealthy sense of entitlement, says Dr. Ash Nayate, clinical neuropsychologist.

“Narcissism (i.e., a feeling of entitlement) is a sign of unhealthy self-esteem. Narcissistic people don’t see themselves as equal to others, they see themselves as better than others – and the reason they hold this belief is to cover up their fear of ‘not being good enough.’” she says.

Judging people helps alleviate that fear, she says. To help stop the cycle, she believes parents need to lead by example.

“Developing a healthy self-esteem is critical. If as a parent you have low confidence and low self-esteem, your kids are going to pick up on that as well. If you want your kids to be resilient and confident, then you need to work on the confidence and self-esteem within yourself.”

Readily accessible forums to dish out criticism
It is no secret that Millennials are more digitally literate than the rest of us. With most having access to their own mobile phone, laptop and social media accounts, the stage through which they can communicate with others is wide and always available.

“Social media encourages us to be more vocal about criticism. So instead of just judging people quietly, in our mind, we can do it aloud, behind the safety and anonymity of a computer screen,” says Dr. Nayate.

more on page 2
The privacy that social media affords also brings to the fore a trait that Baras calls a "brain fart".

"In my program we consider it a "brain fart" when you do not consider others or the outcome of what you say and only want to say it, at all cost," she says.

She believes the problem is intensified in a society that values external standards and imposes them on the education system through set metrics. "Teachers use marks, tests and they flash with standards and rules and this is far away from teaching critical thinking. So, no wonder kids are learning that everything in their life needs to be judged."

From teacher review sites to specialist groups and threads on social media forums, kids today can critique anything about their school, programs or individual people, making up their mind whether something makes the cut or not.

A culture that accepts criticism

With the prominence and popularity of reality TV shows comes the hard truth that our culture is now one of judgement and criticism.

"People are evaluated on the basis of what they're missing, how they're not good enough or worthy enough, and what's 'wrong' with them," says Dr. Nayate.

To compound the situation, today's society is more geared towards materialism and capitalism, she says.

With the aim of being 'better', 'richer' and 'more successful', comes the habit to indulge in self-criticism, another trigger for engaging in a dialog centred around "I am better than this guy because ..." or "I am so hopeless at this compared to ..."

"Self-criticism is the first step towards judgement of others. We can only judge others if we're somehow judgemental of ourselves," says Dr. Nayate.

**Striking a balance**

So, how do we turn all this 'judgement' into something that is more considered, evaluated and more respectful of the people and practices involved in the process?

By understanding the difference between informed decision-making or critical thinking and straight judgement, says Baras.

"Critical thinking is when we present kids with options and teach them to evaluate and consider the advantages and disadvantages between options. Criticism/judgment is considering yourself above others and rating them based on your own individual standard."

The good news is that critical thinking skills can be developed without being critical of others says Dr. Nayate.

"It's about adopting an attitude of open-mindedness and healthy curiosity. Just like a three year old who always asks 'why' - the child isn't doing it out of judgement or maliciousness, it's simply a raw desire to learn more about the world."

While critical thinking skills depend on the maturity of the child, Dr. Nayate believes parents can nudge kids in the right direction by role modelling it:

1. **Verbalise** the thought-process involved in everyday decisions - for example choosing healthier food options. "When I eat fries, I feel a bit sick in the stomach, and the next day I get a headache from all the salt and grease. And then I feel sluggish and lazy, and I just want to sit around at home all day instead of going to the playground with you."

2. **Assist** with decisions and evaluations - implement this as a two-step process, she advises; first, acknowledge kids when they have demonstrated critical thinking. For example; "that was a good decision to do your homework before you went to your friend's house. That way, you can really have fun and you don't need to rush to get home."

Secondly, help them assess whether the decision they made was because they accept an idea or because it came from a person they accept. As an example, many teenagers tend to accept information as credible when it comes from their peers or celebrities more so than their parents.

3. **Help** them put their higher values in perspective - while some children may value hard work or aim for certain levels of achievement, they would also value acceptance, connection with others, happiness, fun and adventure, she says.

For example, a child who values health and fitness highly might override them in favour of other values like fitting in with their peers who smoke and thus take up that habit. Encourage them to see when decisions are made based on what we value, rather than on impulse or what feels good at that moment.

Sources:
- Tim Elmore's blog on 'Curing a critical spirit in students' - http://growingleaders.com/blog/curing-critical-spirit-students/
- Time magazine article 'Millenials: The Me Me Me Generation' - http://time.com/247/millenials-the-me-me-me-generation/
GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
45 Hume Street, Gloucester 2422
Phone: 6558 1303  Fax: 6558 1655

Email: gloucester-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  Website: www.gloucester-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
You can also use our FREE Mobile App to keep informed and communicate with us.

Important Information for

PRE-SCHOOL PARENTS/CARERS

IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE for KINDERGARTEN IN 2016?
(5 years old before 31st July 2016)

We have started planning our classes for 2016 and would like to anticipate how many Kindergarten students will be attending Gloucester Public School.

Please call into the school office before the beginning of October 2015 to request an application to enrol. This will ensure your child is part of our exciting Orientation program (09/11/15) and SMOOTHSTART program (23/11/15, 30/11/15 and 07/12/15).

A BIRTH CERTIFICATE as well as proof of IMMUNISATION and RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS (e.g. rates notice, electricity bill, etc.) is also required when returning your child's enrolment form.

Please feel free to phone or visit us at any time to discuss your child's enrolment.

We look forward to meeting you and discussing your child's educational needs.

Leanne Wakefield
Principal

Mirabai Carruthers
Orientation/Smooth Start Coordinator
Hebrys Bakery
Gloucester Public School Fundraiser

PIE and LAMINGTON DRIVE ORDER FORM 2015

Simply fill in the details below and select how many and which Pies and Lamingtons you would like to order, bring your order form together with full payment back to school by Friday 21/08/2015 to the front office.

Your Pies and Lamingtons will be ready to collect on Thursday 27/08/2015 from the canteen after 1pm.

Remember to ask family and friends if they would like to order some too.

Students Full Name: _______________________________  Class: ___________________________

Contact No.: ____________________________________

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<th>Beef &amp; Potato</th>
<th>Apple</th>
<th>Custard</th>
<th>Apricot</th>
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