Term 1 Week 4

**Dates to Remember**

**Sporting Schools Commences**
STARTS TODAY 16/2

22/2  P&C Meeting 7pm
25/2  AECG Meeting 12.30pm
1/3   Oz Opera
25/3  Easter Friday
28/3  Easter Monday
8/4   Term 1 finishes

**Assemblies - Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Assembly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5/6M</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2W</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>4L</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>1M</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>3G</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>5/6G (Anzac Assembly)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>1S</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**School Photos 2016** - 28th July 2016

**Canteen Roster**

17/2
Tracey Bignell
Susanna Jackson

19/2
Ange Parish
Mel Seale

22/2
Heidi Yates
Amanda Bowling

24/2
Brad Sparke
Mel Feeney

26/2
Robyn Beggs
Tim Norrie

Records broken at swimming carnival
Making Waves in Gloucester - Primary Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all who participated and helped at the swimming carnival last Friday. It was a great day. Our behaviour was impeccable and I have had many positive comments about the day. Special thanks to all the primary staff and especially Mrs Green and Miss Crawford.

Improvement for the Future

Our school is always committed to improving and reflecting on current practices. I am interested in how students, parents/caregivers and staff perceive our school community and what we can do to make Gloucester Public School a safe and happy place. There is always room for improvement.

Tell Them From Me Survey

The Tell Them From Me surveys provide school principals and school leaders with insight into student engagement and wellbeing, and the impact of teaching practices at their schools, from the perspective of students, teachers and parents. Data collected from the survey responses are compiled into reports for school leaders. These reports are provided to schools within three business days of the surveys closing. The reports provide information that can help schools in their annual planning and reporting activities, by helping to identify emerging issues and plan for improvement.

Today I have enclosed a note for parents/caregivers. Please read it carefully and only complete the return section if you do not want your child/ren to participate.

"We found the survey easy to administer. The depth of information and the ability to manipulate and analyse the data is fabulous. In particular, the data gave us the ability to inform our wellbeing program at the school." Margaret Mulcahy, Executive Principal of Coonamble High School (a Connected Communities school)

Wellbeing - Anti-Bullying Plan

Our anti-bullying plan is now in need of review. We have started updating the information in the plan and as a staff are discussing the plan this Wednesday at our staff meeting. Mrs Tonia Channon from our P&C was nominated to be the parent representative in the coming weeks. The plan review will be coordinated by Mrs Schafer, Assistant Principal.

Work Health and Safety (WHS)

Last week we practised our lockdown and evacuation procedures. These procedures are routine and something we practise every 6 months. Thank you to all the staff and students. As a WHS committee, we will now sit and reflect on all feedback and make any improvements if necessary.

Great Lakes Network Principals Meeting - Gathering of Leaders

I will be attending the Great Lakes Network meeting tomorrow at Forster Offices. It is always informative to spend the day with colleagues and the Director of Public Schools, Mr David Willard. Mr Maggs will be relieving for the day. Thank you

Scripture

Scripture classes will begin this Thursday. Thank you to all our dedicated scripture teachers for volunteering your time to our school. If you do not wish your child/ren to attend scripture, please provide a written note to your child’s class teacher, prior to Thursday. Thank you!

Leanne Wakefield
Principal
Tell Them From Me student survey:
Information and consent form for parents and carers

Dear Parents and Caregivers

In Term 1 2016, our school is taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), has access to data from across NSW and is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next question. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child’s class teacher by Friday 4th March 2016

More information about the survey and the research is available in English on the CESE website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

Leanne Wakefield
Principal
Gloucester Public School

Dr Jenny Donovan
Executive Director
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS AND EVALUATION
E cese@det.nsw.edu.au www.cese.nsw.gov.au
SMART PACK & VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Smart Packs are once again available for purchase. Thank you to all those parents who have already paid for these. The costs are as follows:

- Kindergarten - $45.00
- Years 1-6 - $35.00

These packs contain everything your child will require for the year; e.g., pens, pencils, glue sticks, exercise books, textbooks etc.

Please pay for your child's pack as soon as possible at the office. We would appreciate it if you would make this a priority. The code for paying online is 051624.

Voluntary School Contributions will remain at $30.00 per child per year. These funds are used to assist the school to purchase items used in teaching and student welfare. Such items include expenses relating to each of the learning areas such as art supplies, equipment, sports gear, library books, take-home readers, paper, cost of photocopying and texts etc.

Payment of these fees would be very much appreciated. The code for paying online is 046001.

Bianca Turner, Sam Collie, Tarlia Watego, Alice Murphy, Byran Taylor, Quinlan Collins, Caiden Wakefield.

Class Awards:

1S : Hayden Dark
     Alice Murphy
     Oliver Collins
     Azra Kir (E)

1M : Chloe Langford
     Shakirah King
     Laura Broadhead
     Jaxson Galvin (E)

2H : Mitchell Whitby
     Matilda Dillon
     Charlotte Marchant (E)

2W : Jamieson Looby
     Amy Rumbel
     Jethro Llewellyn
     Steffi O'Mara (E)

3-6 ASSEMBLY
2.10pm
Friday 19th February
Hosts/Item = 5/6M
All welcome!

School Banking
A reminder for current school banking students to collect the new information packs this week on Thursday in the library at 8.30am. This year’s program is themed The Outback Savers. Watch out for fantastic new reward items and exciting competitions. Don’t miss out.

A big welcome to Nicholas, Lachlan, Henry, Thomas, Nikita, Christopher, Tyler and Heidi to school banking in 2016. It’s never too late if you want to join in. Just visit school banking in the library if you have any questions.

Thank you to Mrs Julie Clarke for stepping forward to help with school banking.

Don’t forget ... school banking is every Thursday 8.30 to 9.00am in the library.

Jane Richardson
School Banking Coordinator.
This week we are focusing on:
- Weekly Sound: S s
- Weekly Sight Words: I, am, a
- Numbers: counting forwards from 1-30 and backwards from 20 -1, writing from 1-10
- Maths Focus: adding, patterns, length and 2D shapes

Homework- This week your child has come home with a brand new homework folder. Please go through the folder with your child and help him/her complete the work. Remember homework is handed out on Mondays and returned to school each Friday. Not only will the completion of homework help consolidate new concepts being learnt in the classroom, but will also help your child develop good study habits for his/her ------ continued learning.
If you have any questions about the homework, please contact your classroom teacher.

Paint Shirts- It would be great if kindergarten students could bring in a paint shirt. This can simply be an old T-shirt from mum, dad, nan or pop.

General Permission Slips - Last week your child brought home an orange general permission slip which allows your child to participate in short walking excursions around the school area. Please return this note in your child’s folder.

Absences - Please remember to send a note explaining any absences from school. Alternatively, you can complete an online form through our Skoolbag App.

Susie McLeod and Cemone Baker
Kindergarten Teachers

Volunteer Tutors
Last year we ran a successful maths program, which was a modified version of Quick Smart, with the help of volunteer tutors. We would like to continue that program again this year. It will involve about an hour of your time once or twice a week, working individually with Year 5 students for blocks of 15 minutes each. You will be shown what to do. Please let me know if you can help with this program or want to volunteer your time in another way. Your help is always appreciated.
Kaye Leighton
Learning and Support Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP
Open every Friday morning
8.30am - 10.00am

Oz Opera Performance- Hansel and Gretel
OZ Opera is coming back to Gloucester Public School for a performance of Hansel and Gretel. OZ Opera is a company that brings high calibre opera performances into the school setting and engages students through a combination of music, singing, drama and design. We have been blown away by their performances in the past so make sure your child doesn't miss out this year.

Date: Tuesday 1 March (Term 1, Week 6)
Times:
  • 11:30am- Kindergarten and Year 1
  • 1:30pm- Year 2 to 6

Cost: $7 per child.

Please return the permission note attached to this newsletter and money to the school or pay online using the code: 057001.
If you have any questions, please contact me at school.
Mirabai Carruthers
Performance Coordinator
Welcome to our Kinders

KB with Mrs Baker

KM with Mrs McLeod
Primary Swimming Carnival 2016

What a wonderful day we had last Friday at the swimming carnival. The weather was warm and the pool sparkling. Congratulations to all students who participated by both swimming in events and cheering on their team mates.

As is always the case, this event would not be successful without the help of our school community, so thank you all so much for all your help. Particular mention to Lisa Richards for writing out all the ribbons, Tarnya Turner for providing support in the water, Danielle Ryll for refereeing, Ruth Edwards for providing morning tea, as well as the many parents who timed all day. Thanks to all the parents/carers who came to support our students on the day.

Congratulations to the following students on their achievements:

- Senior Boy Champion: Blake Murray
- Senior Boy Runner up: Bailey Hughes
- Senior Girl Champion: Lynelle Hester
- Senior Girl Runner up: Melia Mulder
- 11yrs Boys Champion: Harrison Edwards
- 11yrs Boys Runner up: Charles Tonks
- 11yrs Girls Champion: Emily Kearney
- 11yrs Girl Runner up: Josephine Fitzgerald
- Junior Boy Champion: Ryan Latimore
- Junior Boy Runner up: Jackson Moore
- Junior Girl Champion: Olivia Kearney
- Junior Girl Runner up: Mackenzie Schafer
- Champion House: Bradman

Students who qualified for the Zone Carnival will receive information and notes this week.

Emily Kearney had a wow of a carnival last Friday breaking four school swimming records. Her results were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Emily's Time</th>
<th>Previous Record Holder</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50M Breastroke</td>
<td>48:98</td>
<td>E.Toole</td>
<td>50:41</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50M Backstroke</td>
<td>43:86</td>
<td>T.Stuckey</td>
<td>46:19</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100M Open Freestyle</td>
<td>1:18:45</td>
<td>K.Shanley</td>
<td>1:19:34</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An amazing effort for Emily. Well done and good luck at the zone swimming carnival next week.
Well done to those students who handed in homework either last week or yesterday. A great start to the year!
Also, remember to do your take-home reading and to write your books into your log book. When 10 nights of reading are done, please put your plastic folder on my desk to receive your reward.
Keep up the fantastic homework and reading.
Debbie Howland
3H Classroom Teacher

Headphones for Reading Eggs
Students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will once again be using the program 'Reading Eggs' to increase both their computer and literacy skills. In order to get the most benefit out of this program, students are encouraged to bring in a set of headphones to use with the program, as some lessons require the students to listen to instructions. Most students brought in a set of headphones last year, which have now been passed on to their new teachers.
Amy Schafer
Assistant Principal

Manning Zone Tennis Trials
Last week two of our school tennis stars, Sam Ashton and Shania Richards travelled to Tuncurry to compete in the trials for a place in the Manning Zone tennis team. Both players had an excellent day of play. Sam won 4 out of his 5 games to be ranked number 2 in his age group at the end of the day. Shania won 3 out of her 5 games ranking number 3 at the end of the day. Both players ended the day with Sam chosen to compete in the zone tennis team at Newcastle at the end of the month and Shania being a reserve to play for the zone.
An excellent effort from two players who have been playing a lot of tennis over the summer to be at their best. We will soon be looking to make up a GPS tennis team and it is exciting to have these two players ready. Great job!!
Eve Green
School Tennis Coordinator

Stage 3 Number Groups begin
We have a successful start to maths groups in Stage 3 with a focus on the 'Number and Algebra' strand whereby students are grouped according to their mathematical ability in this area.
The aim of these groups is to provide a more targeted approach to students’ learning, tailoring teaching and differentiating activities to cater for their current mathematical level. Your child may be in a different class during these lessons.
These groups will run on Mondays and Tuesdays after recess and will coincide with class maths lessons in the other strands ‘Measurement and Geometry’ and ‘Statistics and Probability’.

Schools Spectacular- Choir 2016
Thank you to all of the fantastic choir students who indicated that they would like the opportunity to be in our Schools Spectacular choir. I had lots of notes returned from students in Year 4 to Year 6.
Unfortunately, there are only 16 positions in this choir so not everybody was able to get a place this year. Years 5 and 6 were given the preference and then students were picked based on their commitment to the choir in previous years.
Congratulations to the following students-Rachel Smith, Caiden Wakefield, Caitlin Campbell, Katrina Channon, Ellie Bird, Elyssa Keen, Charlotte Earle-Broadly, Ryan Beggs, Bianca Turner, Anna-Rose Seale, Brooke Willis, Laura Stone, Cameron Turner, Sadbh Renshaw, Emily Walker and Lynelle Hester.
These students will begin the task of putting together an audition song, ready to be sent to Schools Spectacular for judging in March. Extra rehearsals will begin this week for those students and all students are required to attend. In the coming weeks, there is a possibility that we will have some morning rehearsals so please look out for further information.
Congratulations again to those students and thank you to everyone for showing an expression of interest in Schools Spectacular.
Don’t forget that there is always next year!
Mirabai Carruthers
Schools Spectacular Coordinator
If you would like to volunteer to help at these sessions, please contact myself or one of the other Stage 3 teachers.

Rod Maggs – Assistant Principal (Stage 3)

**Boys Cricket to host Old Bar PS in Round 2 match**

With a bye for our first round, we again face off with Old Bar Public School in the draw for the PSSA Boys’ Cricket Knockout. The game is scheduled for next Thursday 25 February to be held on Number 2 oval in Gloucester.

Always a tough opponent, this should again be a match worth watching.

We had a record number of primary boys and girls trial for the team and I have had to shortlist players in order to get a closer look at selecting a squad for the competition and a team to start for the first match. I am hoping to get in a few more training sessions this week and an afternoon down at the local nets next Tuesday to practise batting and bowling.

Thanks to all students who tried out for the team.

Rod Maggs – Cricket Coordinator

**SPORTING SCHOOLS**

Our 2016 Sporting Schools Program began today. It is not too late to enrol your child in our Term 1 programs. Enrolment forms are available at the front office and will cover your child for all of our 2016 programs. Your child must be registered to be able to participate.

This term our programs are Orienteering and Table Tennis.

We look forward to seeing you!

For: Students K-6
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3pm - 4pm
Where: Meet outside the Library
Bring your hat and water bottle
We would love to see you!

GPS Sporting Schools Team
Eve Green, Mel Seale, Susie McLeod & Hayley Laurie.

**Hogs for Homeless**

On Thursday 25th February, 6 football stars will be riding into town on ‘Hogs’ (motorbikes) in support of ‘Hogs for Homeless’. Football stars include- Brad Fittler, Steve Menzies, Matt Cooper, Nathan Hindmarsh, Josh Perry and Ian Schubert.

We are encouraging upcoming football players to join us on Thursday afternoon at 4pm at the football oval to participate in a coaching clinic with the football stars.

Any students wishing to participate need to see Mrs Schafer before next Thursday 18th to place their names on the list. Students will need to-
- wear appropriate clothing suitable for football training;
- wear football boots or appropriate footwear;
- bring a water bottle, headgear and a mouthguard, if they have these available.

Please also see the back of the newsletter for more information about the event.

Amy Schafer
Assistant Principal

**JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE**

**Registration Day**

Sat 20th February 2016

No. 2 Cricket Oval
9am- 12pm

$70 Rego
includes a pair of Maggies shorts and socks
All new registrations receive a gear bag
26/2/16 @ 5.30PM
JUNIOR BLUELIGHT
Yrs K to 2
(last year Preschoolers welcome)
5.30pm till 7pm
Glenmore Park School
Entertainment: MOBILISTIC DJ's
LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

NO ALCOHOL | NO DRUGS | NO PASSOUTS
All Blue Light events - no drugs and alcohol free and supervised by Police Officers

www.pcynsw.org.au

26/2/16 @ 7.30PM
JUNIOR BLUELIGHT
Yrs 3 to 7
7.30pm till 9.30pm
Glenmore Park School
Entertainment: MOBILISTIC DJ's
LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

NO ALCOHOL | NO DRUGS | NO PASSOUTS
All Blue Light events - no drugs and alcohol free and supervised by Police Officers

www.pcynsw.org.au

Hansel & Gretel

Introduction

This opera, Hansel & Gretel, is a great way to introduce your students to the magic of opera through the timeless stories and characters of the Grimms' fairy tales, which are now part of our cultural heritage.

Objectives

- Enhance understanding of Germanic literature
- Develop critical thinking skills
- Foster creativity and imagination

Teaching Strategies

- Discussion groups
- Role play
- Group presentations
- Art and craft activities

Assessment

- Written responses
- Group presentations
- Art and craft projects

Resources

- Hansel & Gretel Opera Performance Ticket
- Hansel & Gretel Opera Performance Guide
- Hansel & Gretel Opera Performance DVD

Mentoring

- Professional Opera Mentors
- Classroom Assistance

Contact Us

For more information, contact us at:

OperA Australia
P.O. Box 2900
Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: 13 00 00

Email: info@operaaustralia.com.au

Website: operaaustralia.com.au
Coming 25th February 2016
Hogs For Homeless

Brad Fittler
Steve Menzies
Nathan Hindmarsh
Josh Perry
Matt Cooper
Ian Schubert
Plus Support Crew

COACHING CLINIC
@ 4.00pm Bert Gallagher Oval.
All interested players for 2016 invited to attend – please leave your name at your school before 18th February.

AUCTION DINNER
Adults and over 16 years only
Auction of NRL club jumpers & NSW State of Origin jumper plus other items.
6.30 for 7.00pm Start – Nibbles & Main Meal, Golf Club
$40 per ticket. Limited seats available.
Tickets: purchased from Valley Motors before 18th February.

Further details will be available on 2RE, Facebook or call 0401181964 Rodney
or 0400461159 Kristy
Gloucester Junior & Senior Rugby League Clubs
OZ OPERA

I give permission for my child, ___________________________________ of class __________
to attend Oz Opera’s performance of Hansel and Gretel on Tuesday 1st March (Week 6).

- I have enclosed $7 to cover the cost of this performance.
- I have paid online.  (Please tick whichever applies)

Signed: __________________________ (Parent/Carer)  Date: ______________

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- Please do not pay small amounts online unless you have been given a reference code; e.g., swimming. (Cash is the only option in these cases.)

Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 4th March 2016

I DO NOT give consent for my child/children to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Name of student/s .................................................................

Roll class/es ...........................................................................

Name of parent/carer .............................................................

Signature of parent/carer .........................................................

Date .................................................