We had a great start to our new school year. Our students were very happy and excited to be back at school, (and so were their parents!). It was encouraging to see their smiling faces. They arrived in full school uniform, with their best manners, ready and keen to learn and catch up with their friends.

**Kindergarten 2013**

Welcome to our new Kindergarten students for 2013. On Friday the new Kindergarten students for 2013 started at Goolgowi Public School. This year we have 12 new Kindergarten students who are very excited and ready to begin school.

We also had a wonderful group of parents and supporters who came along for our Tea and Tissues morning Tea, including a few dads. What a great effort.

It was an exciting morning. Felicity Chick organized a “cuppa” and sweets for all. Lee Flood did a great job of capturing magic moments on her camera.

Our Year Six student leaders also made sure that our new Kindergarten students transitioned smoothly on their first day of school, including coping with going to the pool on their first day of school. Miss Gordon was very pleased with her Kindergarten and Year One students on their first day at school. Well done everyone.

**Up Coming Events**

- **Monday, 11th February** - School Swimming Scheme K-6 12.00-3.00pm
- **Thursday, 14th February** - Captain & SRC Induction 11.30am
- **Thursday, 14th February** - School Swimming Scheme K-6 12.00-3.00pm
- **Friday, 15th February** - School Swimming Scheme K-6 12.00-3.00pm
- **Monday, 18th February** - School Swimming Scheme K-6 12.00-3.00pm
- **Monday, 18th February** - P&C Meeting 7.00pm

**Canteen Roster**

**Wed. 13th Feb.** - Jenny Nicholls & Melissa Burke

**Wed. 20th Feb.** - Leigh Jackson & Dee Amor
Best Start

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week all our kindergarten students participated in the Best Start assessment prior to starting school. This is a public education initiative that provides information for teachers to program specifically for each child’s learning needs. The assessment looks at different literacy and numeracy concepts and provides a very specific starting point for kindergarten students. Miss Gordon will meet with the parents of our new kindergarten students to discuss their results the next few weeks. Miss Gordon will also meet with her Year One parents and students.

Parent /Teacher/ Student Conferences

Mrs Robertson, Mrs Liddicoat and Miss Maher will also be organizing their timetables to meet with each and every parent and student for our 3-way conferences.

The purpose of this 10 to 15-minute get together is to develop a learning plan for each student, to discuss their likes and dislikes and areas of interest they have or where they may need support with their learning goals. One of our shared school values is “responsibility”, students learn to take responsibility for their behaviour actions and learning. As teachers and parents we support their learning.

Our students’ education is a partnership we share and we include the student in this conversation.

It is also a great opportunity for teachers/parents and students to meet and get to know each other. Each classroom teacher will send home a note about the times that they are available.

Please do not hesitate to phone the school and make an appointment to meet with your child’s classroom teacher or with myself if you have any concerns or issues you wish to discuss about your child’s learning.

Student Leaders

Last week the student body voted for their sport’s captain and Student Representative Council (SRC). Congratulations to the following students.

House Captains:
- **Wallaby**: Captain - Annie Brown
  Vice Captain - Harry Lucas
- **Koala**: Captain - Jayden Knowles
  Vice Captain - Jack Nicholls
- **Warrigal**: Captain - Nathan Langridge
  Vice Captain - Olivia Barber

SRC Representatives for 2013:
- **Year 1**: David Taylor
- **Year 2**: Nicola Barber
- **Year 3**: Jessica Knowles & Lochlan Wilson
- **Year 4**: Tom Nicholls
- **Year 5**: Oliver Taylor
- **Year 6**: Olivia Barber

All parents, friends and relatives are invited to our Induction ceremony, this Thursday at 11:30 am. Please come along and support our student leaders. Our P&C have agreed to run a special BBQ to celebrate the occasion.

Mr Colin Parker, our Regional Educational Director for education will be visiting our school as part of his regular school visit routines at the same time of our induction. It will be an honour and a pleasure to have the leader of Public Education for the Riverina present at this special ceremony.

Homework

This week our classroom teachers will be introducing our Home Reading Journals. This is the most important aspect of homework. It is expected that every parent will support us with our home reading program. Each student will receive a Home Reading Journal. This week Teachers will collect journals each Friday. Please
take the time this week to read through all the tips for parents in these journals. Students can read the home readers and more if they wish. They can record any reading they have done as well as reading their home readers. We would like each family to read and familiarize themselves with the home reading booklet. We are currently reviewing our homework policy.

**Classroom Equipment**
Each student is responsible for bringing their school equipment to school in a pencil case. Classroom teachers are currently compiling a list of what they need their students to bring to school. We discourage battery operated sharpeners and erasers. These are expensive and distracting. Students get upset if they are lost and teachers would rather spend their time teaching than looking for lost gadgets. It is best practice to label and name all your child’s equipment and encourage them to take responsibility for looking after their belongings.

**Library**
Students will be borrowing library books this Wednesday, please make sure your child has a library bag for borrowing.

**What’s Happening This Week!**
- Swimming lessons continue on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Miss Gordon will be on Study Leave and Best Start training for this Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. I will be teaching her class.
- Mrs Liddicoat and Miss Maher will be attending an Autism training workshop in Griffith on Thursday. Mrs Star will be teaching the 2/3/4 class.
- There will be no scripture this week due to our swimming lessons and induction ceremony.

Looking forward to a great week,
Lucia Vernon
Principal

**P&C News**
Welcome back Parents and Students for another busy school year. I hope you are all feeling revived and ready to support the P&C for another year. For all those new parents to our school, our P&C meets on the third Monday of each month with our first meeting being next Monday, 18th February at 7pm. Meeting are held in the school staffroom and everyone is welcome to attend. Our Welcome Back Pool Party which was planned for late February has been postponed at the moment, but a date for this will be set at our meeting and information will be circulated next week. This will be a great way for people to catch up and for our new families to be welcomed to our school community. There will be live music and provided we get some nice weather it should be a very enjoyable family day out.

This Thursday is our induction ceremony for the 2013 school leaders. After the ceremony the P&C will hold a BBQ for students and families to enjoy. Anyone who can spare half an hour is urged to please help Felicity Chick with the setup, serving and packing up.

The P&C has for sale chairbags in 5 great colours. These chairbags are heavy duty, wipeable vinyl and designed to fit kindy through to year 6 chairs. They are very reasonably priced at only $12 each and are available from Jane in the office.

We look forward to your continued support in 2013.
Tania Lucas
P&C President

**Bell Times**
The following times are a reminder to students and parents. It is very important for each student to arrive at school on time.

The bell will be rung at:
- **8.55am** - line up for morning assembly
  - If students arrive after 8.55am they have to go to the office to sign in and it is recorded as a partial attendance.
- **9.20am** - end of morning fitness - time to pack up, have a drink and line up ready for the morning’s lessons (except Monday due to our assembly)
- **11.00am** - recess begins - students sit down to eat their recess.

Leigh Jackson

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Leigh Jackson
11.25am - warning bell, students go to the toilet, wash hands
11.30am - end of recess, students line up for class.
1.00pm - lunch begins - students eat their lunch and then are dismissed by the teacher on duty at 1.20pm. Lunch boxes are to be put back in their school bags and sport/play equipment gathered.
1.45pm - end of lunch. Stop playing, equipment returned to the sports shed, have a drink, go to the toilet, wash hands.
1.50pm - students to be lined up ready to begin afternoon activities.
3.00pm - end of school day. Students dismissed, line up either in bus or walkers line, or seated waiting for parents.

School Contribution Fees
School Contribution fees are $60.00 per child for the year. It is important to note that the $60.00 per child only goes a small way towards the total costs involved. Attached to today’s newsletter is an envelope next week for you to use to pay your school contribution fees. You can send these back in to the office or see Mrs Brown at school to pay them in person.

If anyone needs to they can speak to the Principal confidentially about financial hardship involved in paying the school contribution fees. Please don’t hesitate to see Mrs Vernon.

Money & Notes Collection
All money and notes should be handed to the class teacher each morning at the commencement of class. Please make sure that all permission notes and money are placed within an envelope that clearly has written on it your child’s name and what the money is for on the outside of the envelope. We appreciate your support with this.

Visitors Sign In Folder at Office
A reminder that all visitors to the School must sign the Visitors Sign In Sheet which is located in the office. This includes everyone, even parents, who enter onto the school grounds between the school hours of 9.00am to 3.00pm. Parents coming to school to pick up their child before 3.00pm, helping out in the classroom for Reading or Maths, coaching sporting teams at lunch time and on canteen duty are just a few of the examples where parents must sign in.

P&C Volunteer’s Sign In Book – This will be situated in the office and will need to be also signed by visitors who will be working in the school canteen and at School Working Bees. This procedure is very important because, as the Principal, I need to know at all times just who is on the school grounds and for what reason.
Thank you for your support and understanding. It will ensure the safety and well-being of all students, staff and visitors.

Students’ Attendance
- All students are expected to attend all timetabled classes.
- If a student is absent for a day or more, they must bring a note on the day they return.
- If a student is sick and needs to go home, a note MUST be signed by the parent or person who is picking the student up.
- If you will be picking your child up during the day, please call first to the office to sign a partial day absence leave note.
- If you arrive late to school you MUST bring a note to explain why you are late to school. If you don’t then you are marked down as an unexplained partial absence and you are officially trespassing on School Property.
- It is important that teachers and the school know where all students are at all times, as it is part of the school’s responsibility.

Student Banking
Each Tuesday students can bank through the School. School banking is with the Commonwealth Bank and is conducted electronically. If you would like your child to use this service or open an account, please let Mrs Brown know and she will send home the necessary forms and information.

Tissues
Could every student please bring in a big box of tissues for use in their classroom? Every year we seem to go through the School’s supply very quickly. The boxes brought in by the students are used only in their own classroom.

No Hat, No Play Policy
No hat, no play is a school policy that takes place during the whole school year. It is part of the Department of Education’s Sun Policy for School
Students. The aim is for students to be protected from the sun in the early years of their life in the hope that they won’t get skin cancer later on in life. Also the children are learning the basic skills needed in order to protect themselves from the hot sun. Students will not be able to play in the sun this term without a hat and will only be able to play in shaded areas. You will note that the School Uniform Policy clearly states that the hat is to be a school wide-brimmed hat. This hat protects the children’s face, ears and neck. This policy, and the rest of the school uniform, will be enforced.

Parents Need to Supply Their Child With Sunscreen

Parents will need to ensure that if they wish their child to use sunscreen at school during the week, and especially on Friday’s with sport and swimming, they will need to supply their own sunscreen (labelled with their child’s name) and make sure that your child knows how to apply it to themselves. Due to the possibility of reactions and allergies associated with the large variety of different sunscreens from which to choose from, we as a school are not allowed to provide sunscreen for the students to use. Nor are other students allowed to lend their sunscreen for other students to use.

Also, due to Child Protection Issues, teachers are not allowed to apply sunscreen to students.

To participate in swimming, students will need to have sunscreen and a swimming shirt. This is needed to ensure that the School’s OH&S responsibilities are covered. Students will not be able to participate in swimming without them.

Parents really do need to ensure that the well-being of their child is of the highest priority. Many students already have sunscreen permanently in their school bag so that they can use it at anytime throughout the School day. Parents must make sure that the sunscreen has their child’s name clearly marked on it. If you wanted to send in to school a tube of sunscreen for your child to use at any time, it can be kept at school in their classroom.

Change of Student’s Travelling Arrangements

A reminder that if you wish your child in the afternoon to travel home a different way to their normal routine you must inform the school beforehand, preferably by note. This includes being picked up by another parent or person, going to someone else’s place, birthday parties, etc. We are not allowed to let a student go home a different way unless we have parental permission first. It is also not our responsibility to make phone calls to parents who haven’t organised things correctly. If we don’t have parental permission for your child’s travel arrangements to vary, they will be sent home in the normal way.

Picking Up Your Child After School

While students catching the bus or walking home are required to line up in one of three lines near the office, students who are waiting to be picked up by parents are to wait under the eating area in front of the Library until their parent comes into the school to pick them up. For safety reasons, students are not allowed to wait out at the front gate or outside the school grounds. There is a chance students could be hit by a car or be taken by a stranger. There are also times when parents are accidentally delayed in the afternoon, and hence it is much safer for the student to be inside the school grounds where they can be properly supervised. I would appreciate if parents who are picking up students from school in the afternoon could do their part to support this procedure. Thank you.

STUDENT AWARDS

Mrs Vernon’s Year 1 Awards

- Jarrod Langridge - for writing a good sentence in story writing.
- Jack Furner - for a great effort in numeracy activities.

Mrs Liddicoat/Ms Maher

- Lochlan Wilson - for writing a fabulous story about vampires and haunted houses.
- Harrison Ryan - for trying extra hard to make his story writing interesting.
- Zarli Srdoc - for having a fabulous first week at her new school.
Mrs Robertson

- Sam Loveridge - for a great start in a new school.
- Cassandra Burke - for being cooperative and helpful in the classroom.

Mrs Vernon’s Principal Awards

- Oliver Taylor - for being a helpful, responsible student.
- Olivia Barber - for being a helpful, responsible student.

SPORTS REPORT

We are off to a busy start with sport this year. Ms Maher and I will be sharing the job as Sports Coordinator for 2013.

Last Friday we had the first day of the School Swimming Scheme. This day was used to assess students’ swimming ability. A big thank you to all the parents who have put their names down to help. Without this support the Scheme could not be run.

Mrs Beth Liddicoat is the lifeguard and Mrs Sharon Power is the coordinator and course advisor.

The School Swimming Scheme will be conducted on Monday 11th, Wednesday 13th, Friday 15th and Monday 18th February. The school has been grouped with two sessions. The first session running from 12:00 to 1:30 and the second 1:30-3:00.

It is important that all students have clothes labelled, swimmers, swim shirts, sunscreen and water bottles.

The annual swimming carnival will be held on Friday 22nd February. Please mark this in your diaries. There will be more information next week. We will need lots of helpers on the day for time keeping etc.

On Tuesday 26th February we are very fortunate to have a visit from Nathan Hindmarsh representing the NRL. Griffith schools had visits earlier but because we return to school later than Eastern division the NRL has arranged a special visitor to go to Hay, Hillston and Goolgowi.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS
GOOLGOWI PUBLIC SCHOOL
CANTEEN MENU
TERM 1, 2013

RECESS ONLY

- Jatz (vegemite or cream cheese) 20¢ each
- Popcorn 80¢
- JJ's (Pizza, Burger, Chicken) $1.20
- Homemade muffin 60¢
- ½ toasted cheese sandwich (must place order) 60¢ Full sandwich $1.20
- Ice block 70¢
- Frozen yoghurt stick $1.00
- Tiny Teddies 60¢

LUNCH

- Chicken or Ham salad: plate $5.50, roll $3.50, wrap $3.50
- Chicken fillet burger (chic, lettuce & mayo) $3.00
- Cheeseburger (beef, cheese & tomato sauce) $3.00
- Chicken wedges 60¢ each
- Pizza (Hawaiian or BBQ Meatlovers) $3.00
- Large pie $2.50
- Small pie 80¢
- Sausage roll $2.50
- Macaroni cheese $3.00

DRINKS

- Juice popper $1.00
- Milk popper (Chocolate, Strawberry) $1.50
- Bottled water $1.00

N.B. Please inform the school if your child has an allergy as some of these foods may have traces of nut in them. Only Kinder, Year 1 & 2 may place recess orders with the exception of toasted sandwiches. Please use 2 brown lunch bags per child: one for recess and one for lunch. Label both bags clearly with the child's name, class/teacher, food order, prices and total.

Thank you,
Leigh Jackson Canteen manager 0269651466
Goolgowi Public Canteen Roster Term 1, 2013

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<th>Week</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Wednesday 13 Feb</td>
<td>Jenny Nicholls, Melissa Burke</td>
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<td>Wednesday 20 Feb</td>
<td>Leigh Jackson, Dee Amor</td>
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<td>Wednesday 27 Feb</td>
<td>Donna Brown, Gillian Star</td>
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<td>Wednesday 6 Mar</td>
<td>Dimity Ryan, Felicity Chick</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13 Mar</td>
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<td>Wednesday 3 Apr</td>
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<td>Wednesday 10 Apr</td>
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If you cannot make your day please try to swap with someone. You can still each bake your 2 dozen muffins at home before canteen. As always, no children can come to canteen with you. Aim to be at school by 9.00am on your day. Anyone who would like to be put on the roster as an apprentice to learn the ways of canteen should call me. Also, anyone who cannot do canteen duty but would like to contribute could donate foods, ring me for details.

Thanks everyone.

Leigh Jackson
Canteen Manager  69651466