



Nothing But The Best!

Mount Gravatt State School Newsletter

17 March 2016

Drop off your home-made cakes, biscuits, muffins, slices etc TOMORROW (Friday) morning for sale at our P&C Cake Stall at the Council Elections on Saturday! Items can also be taken straight to the Mt Gravatt Showgrounds on Saturday morning. We need your help!

Harmony Day & Anti-bullying Day Friday (tomorrow!). Students may wear an item of orange clothing or orange accessory. Please note it is not a free dress day.

Principal's Message....

Tonight is our P&C Annual General Meeting. I hope to see many families represented at our P&C meeting. 7pm in the School library.

Thank you to all families who have come along to talk with teachers for parent teacher interviews. It is so important that we work together to help the children do their best. If you have not yet made a time to see the teacher, please phone or email to make an appointment. Mr Meehan will have his interviews early next term.

Thank you to all the families who contribute to the P&C and the school by helping out. We really appreciate those who can help at fundraisers (e.g. Cake stall this Saturday) or come along to meetings. Your time and commitment is appreciated.

Staff this term have been undergoing continued professional development and coaching in the area of reading. We are focusing our work on continuing the reading improvement we saw last year. Specifically we are working on the "big 6" comprehension strategies.

Have an enjoyable Easter break with your family.

Regards

Jenny Watson

Thurs 17 March
P&C AGM

Fri 18 March
Harmony Day and
Anti-Bullying Day

Sat 19 March
P&C Cake Stall

Thurs 24 March
Free Dress Day
Gold Coin donation
for Juvenile Diabetes

Thurs 24 March
Easter Bonnet
Parade Prep-2

Thurs 24 March
Last day term one

Monday 11 April
School resumes
Term Two

Tues 12 April
Cross Country

Parents & Citizens Association meets 3rd Thursday of month, 7pm - All Welcome!

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Great state. Great opportunity.



The Buzz

***Be Safe!
Be Responsible!
Be Respectful!***

Awards were recently presented to:

Student of the Week: Maddie, Ben P, Alexia, Haley, Travis, Georgina, Rafail, Maya, Alif, Blake, Halle, Cayni, Kodey, Amelia, Aston, Ahmed, Rimaz, Aled

Reading Award: Caleb C, Olivia, Yara, Nira, Deanna, Eve, Thomas, Alexis, Lilly, Luke C, Molly, Piper, Summer, Lucy, Jamie, Sanjay

You Can Do It! Award: Jagveer, Noman, Mackenzie, Jade, James, Ella O, Brian, Dayyan, Asha, Luke S, Drew, Aidan, Amity, Jakeel, Ruwayda, Sebastian S

Home Reading: Amity

WELL DONE!

P&C News

Our Parents and Citizens Association Annual General Meeting will be held **TONIGHT** Thursday 17 March at 7pm in the library meeting room. We urge everyone to attend. There is an important need to have more parents involved in the school decision making.

P&C Bake Sale—Local Council Elections

We will need your help!

We need people to cook home made foods for us to sell—cakes, biscuits, slice, sweets, treats.

Please send in your home-baked treats for sale at the election on Saturday! We need the goods sent to the school office TOMORROW (Friday) or taken to the Mt Gravatt Showgrounds on Saturday morning.

School Holidays

School finishes for term one next Thursday, 24 March. Term two begins on Monday 11 April.

Excursion Payments

Please note that payment deadlines for excursions are final. Late payments will mean your child will miss out on the excursion.

Anti-bullying and Harmony Day- Friday

Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. It is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common. The central message for Harmony Day is that 'everyone belongs', reinforcing the importance of inclusiveness to all Australians.

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence will be held on Friday 18 March 2016. Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies.

Bullying can involve humiliation, domination, intimidation, victimisation and all forms of harassment including that based on gender, race, disability, homosexuality or transgender. Bully-

ing of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved including bystanders.

This year, we will combine both days on Friday, March 18th.

Students may wear orange clothing or accessories in recognition of anti-bullying and harmony. It is not a free dress day.

Nude Food Days

Wednesday is Nude Food day. Please try to send rubbish free lunch!

Homework Club

Please note there is no Homework Club next week (22 March). Homework Club resumes in the second week of term two (21 April).

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open:

Tuesdays—8.30am-9.30am

Thursdays—2.30pm-3.30pm.

Cash only. At other times please send payment and order details in and the order will be filled as soon as possible.

Please note: Costs for our uniforms have risen, so some price increases are now effective. Formal dress shirts are \$35 and sports shirts are \$28. Shorts are \$15 and culottes are \$20.

Sport News

Congratulations to Josh Tokam who trialled and made the Rugby League District Team. Congratulations also to Kai Davidson and Luka Jankovic who trialled for the District soccer team and have both been short listed for the squad. We wish you well in your development and hope you can proceed through to make the team.....Best of Luck!

Cross Country is fast approaching! In fact our annual Cross Country school event is **Tuesday 12th April** (first week back after holidays.)

On Tuesday mornings we have on our school oval Cross Country practice! If you are wanting to become fitter or looking at being a competitor at our annual school competition or District Cross Country this practice is a must! This training is open from year 2 – 6 . You must hand in an official school note signed from your parent. If you have not received the school note please ask your teacher or the office.

Have a great break and see everyone back refreshed and ready to tackle a jam packed term 2

Mrs Elaine Wixted

PE Teacher

Easter Bonnet Parade

On Thursday 24th March the Prep – Yr 2 students will be involved in our Easter Bonnet parade and concert. Everyone is invited to come along and be part of the audience to help celebrate this time of the year.

Classes are making bonnets at school for the parade. Some children have expressed interest in making their own bonnets at home to bring along on the day and that is also fine.

The parade will start at 9:15am until approximately 10:15am.

We are looking forward to a great morning and hope to see you there with your dancing shoes on.

If you do not want your children participating, please advise the teacher as soon as possible.

Thank you

P – 2 teachers

Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Teach your kids about time and place

My mum used to tell me, "There's a time and place for everything Michael, and this is not the time and place to behave like that!"

My mum's words came back to me as I watched three kids (tweens and early teens) try to out-wrestle and out-shout each other while they waited in an airport queue with their parents. Their noise and wrestling quite obviously disturbed and interfered with fellow travellers, but their parents made no attempt to rein in their behaviour.

I couldn't help thinking that there is a time and place for this type of behaviour and THIS WAS NEITHER OF THOSE!

Time and place is a brilliant socialisation lesson for children of any age or era to absorb. It starts by asking yourself as a parent: "What does this social situation reasonably require of my children at their age and stage of development?"

In the above case it's reasonable to expect tweens and teens to be able to stand in a queue without disturbing others for the ten minutes that it took to get service. It's should be easy for that age group to show some self-control and consideration for others.

That timeframe maybe a stretch for under fives, but some parental attention to distract them from being bored may do the trick. The principle is the same regardless of age or a child's developmental stage, but the application varies.

Socialising kids

It's a parent's job to socialise your kids. That is, it's your job to develop a sense of OTHER so that they become aware of how their behaviour impacts on others. Many kids have L Plates when it comes to behaving in public so they need your assistance to behave according to the requirements of the situation – or according to the time and place. You do this by:

1 Giving your kids social scripts

There are times when kids don't know what to say or how to act in different social situations. "Here's what you can say when you meet Mrs. Smith....." is the type of pre-emptive social scripting that benefits most boys, kids on the autism spectrum as well as kids who need extra help to get on with others.

2 Regular behaviour rehearsal

Practise appropriate social behaviours at home so kids know how to behave around others. For example, you can role-play a restaurant situation by serving your kids' meals at the dinner table and expecting them to use their manners.

3 Just-in-time prompts

It helps to remind in positive terms how kids should speak and act around others before entering a social situation or a special place

such as a church, airport or restaurant. "In church most people....."

4 Teaching good manners

Manners are social guidelines that teach kids how to behave around others. While some conventions change over time, basic good manners such as saying 'please' and 'thank you' never change. They are the basis of a civil society. Kids are never too young to start learning manners.

5 Respectful use of consequences

While the best discipline happens before an event (through behaviour rehearsal, prompts and teaching manners) there are times when the only way to get a message across about time and place is to DO something if the kids' behaviour thoughtlessly or deliberately impinges on the rights of others. And the best action may be WITHDRAWAL from the place or activity that they are doing. That may mean that the kids (and you) miss out on an activity or being in a special place but such lessons are rarely forgotten and reinforce your important messages.

Time and place is a great parenting message for kids to learn. It's about consideration for others; it's about self-control and above all else, it's about fitting into different social situations.

Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.

parentingideas.com.au