Principal’s Message

Welcome Back
Welcome back to Term 2 everyone.
It was great to see so many children in their full school uniform this morning.
Please remember that we have a ‘no hat, no play’ policy all year round, so don’t forget to put your hats on when you are in the playground.

Goulburn ANZAC Day March

Yesterday each child was given a letter to take home explaining our school’s participation in the Goulburn ANZAC March this year.
If your child would like to be involved, could you please fill out the permission slip and return it to school by Friday.

ANZAC Day Service at School
Our ANZAC Day service will be held at school on Monday 21st April at 2.10pm in our hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

During the day our school leadership team will be planting 6 trees along Remembrance Driveway along Bourke Street.

School Photos 21st May

Envelopes are going home today. Please complete the order on front of the envelope and enclose correct money and return by Wednesday 20th May.
Please complete one order envelope per child.
Envelopes for family photo packages are available from the office.

Cross Country

On the last day of term 1 we had our school Cross Country.
All of the children were well behaved. Thank you to Mrs Leten and staff for organising and supervising the Cross Country. Without your help this event wouldn’t have been able to run.

Year 5 Opportunity Class Placement 2016
Online applications will open on Monday 27th April 2015. Parents/carers will be able to access the online application at:
www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Anti Bullying Plan
In this week’s newsletter you will be receiving a copy of our school’s Anti Bullying Plan. It outlines programs and strategies that we use at school to combat bullying. If you have any questions please come up and have a chat to your class teacher.

NAPLAN—Week 4
On 12th—14th May the children in Years 3 and 5 will be completing the NAPLAN Assessments.
In the week prior to this make sure that your child has plenty of sleep, gets time to play outside and eats healthily so that they are physically and mentally ready.

P & C AGM
Our Annual General Meeting for the P & C was postponed because we did not have enough people to fill executive positions.
We will be holding the new meeting next week on Wednesday 29th April at 6pm in the staff room.
If we do not get enough people to fill the executive positions at this meeting our P & C will be disbanded on 29th July 2015.
All of the money in the bank account will be given to schools close to us, we will no longer have fund raising for school excursions or classroom resources, Presentation Night prizes and our canteen will not operate.
It is very important that we get some new faces to fill the required positions as our school relies heavily on donations from our P & C.

How sensational are the Sydney Swans winning three games in a row. This week’s game will be a tough one, not only do we have to travel to Perth but we will be playing Fremantle, a team who are also in good form.

Regards,
Ann Patchett

Goulburn South Public School
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Dates to Remember

Thursday 23rd April
Netball Trials

Saturday April 25th
Goulburn ANZAC Day March

Sunday April 26th
P & C Bunnings BBQ

Monday 27th April
School ANZAC Ceremony & Football Zone

Wednesday 29th April
P & C AGM

Monday 4th May
District Athletics Carnival, Hudson Park

Tuesday 12th—Thursday 14th May
NAPLAN Assessments

Thursday May 21st
School Photo Day

We are on the web
http://www.goulburns-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Welcome back everyone. This week we will be doing some work about ANZAC Day. Our school will be marching this Saturday and our school service will be on Monday 27th April. We hope to see a large number of students in full school uniform on Saturday.

Due to the new carpet being laid in the library, there will be no library lessons this week.

Mr McQuillan

Welcome back to Term 2, we have a very busy term ahead of us! We have started looking at and exploring the test: “The Day the Crayons Quit”. Children will practise their skills trying to convince others to use a certain colour crayon and why.

We will begin homework next week. Library is on Wednesday morning, please remember your library bag.

Remember to practise your home reading and sight words.

Mrs Manning

Welcome back! This term we are studying a text: “One Small Island” in English. In Maths we are finishing off a unit on angles and are designing a golf course which is exciting.

Homework begins next week, however children are encouraged to read every day.

Mrs Leten

This week Year 6 will prepare for their very first Peer Support lesson. Each leader should have their Peer Support folder ready to go for next Monday.

We will be starting our reading groups this term and students will be implementing all of the group skills and discussion techniques learned throughout term one. We will be studying “Storm Boy” as our shared text in preparation to see a stage production of the story in week 4 (I hope your note and payment are taken care of).

It's going to be another busy term.

Mrs Copland

Welcome back to Term 2, we have a very busy term ahead of us!

We encourage families to make regular payments to reduce the impact of the cost on your budget. Please complete the online medical and consent form as detailed in my note this week.

Jenni Copland
What's happening in the Library

Our library is looking amazing. The new carpet is down and we are busy returning everything to its rightful place.

Class lessons and borrowing will resume as soon as possible. We look forward to enjoying the clean, up-to-date environment.

As the Book Club company has streamlined their ordering and delivery process, we are hoping to offer orders twice this term.

The first issue for term 2 is being sent home with this newsletter. **Orders are due in by Monday 4th May.**

Mrs Gilchrist

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**P and C News**

**P & C AGM**

Our Annual General Meeting for the P & C was postponed because we did not have enough people to fill executive positions.

We will be holding the new meeting on **Wednesday 29th April** at 6pm in the staff room.

If we do not get enough people to fill the executive positions at this meeting our **P & C will be disbanded on 29th July 2015.**

**Canteen News**

Our canteen is now open each Thursday.

**Special—Thursday 23rd April**

Pumpkin Soup ... $3.00

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**The Enviro Club**

Our rain gauge is overflowing and the garden watering tanks full thanks to our “holiday” rain.

The new shrubs that were planted last term appreciated the moisture.

The chooks are still enjoying their break at Mrs Patchett’s house.

We are preparing the ground for planting of trees in the Remembrance Driveway along Bourke Street. Weather permitting, we will be planting Eucalyptus (gum trees) on Monday as part of our ANZAC Day.

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**District Athletics Carnival**

Permission notes for the carnival will be sent out tomorrow and are due back Friday of week 3 - 8th May.

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**Bunnings BBQ**

**The P & C will be hosting a Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings this Sunday 26th April**

(from 8.30am - 4pm)

This is an opportunity to raise funds from outside the school community.

Please come along and say hello—your support for this function would be appreciated.

**Helpers are needed!!**

If you are able to assist during the day, anytime between 8.30am-4pm, please ring John on 0408440093 this week, to enable us to draw up a roster.
Introducing

SCHOLASTIC

Book Clubs LOOP

for Parents

NOW AVAILABLE AS AN APP!

LOOP is the NEW Scholastic Book Clubs Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, our new platform makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download our NEW iPhone and iPad app from the App Store!

- For a quick start, just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time
- Select your school and your child’s class
- Add your child’s first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- Enter the item number from the Book Club brochure
- You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
- All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child’s classroom if you order by the close date
- There’s no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school!

For a quick how-to-order video, log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP and click on HELP in the top menu.
Bullying:
Preventing and Responding to Student Bullying in Schools Policy (2011)

The NSW Department of Education and Communities rejects all forms of bullying. No student, employee, parent, caregiver or community member should experience bullying within the learning or working environments of the Department.

Bullying

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. Cyber bullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies. Bullying can involve humiliation, domination, intimidation, victimisation and all forms of harassment including that based on sex, race, disability, homosexuality or transgender. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long term effects on those involved including bystanders.

Conflict or fights between equals or single incidents are not defined as bullying.

Bullying behaviour can be:
- **verbal** eg name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats
- **physical** eg hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- **social** eg ignoring, excluding, ostracising, alienating, making inappropriate gestures
- **psychological** eg spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions, malicious SMS and email messages, inappropriate use of camera phones.

The term “bullying” has a specific meaning. The school’s Anti-bullying Plan sets out the **processes for preventing and responding to student bullying**. The school has a range of policies and practices, including welfare and discipline policies that apply to student behaviour generally.

Schools exist in a society where incidents of bullying behaviour may occur. Preventing and responding to bullying behaviour in learning and working environments is a shared responsibility of all departmental staff, students, parents, caregivers and members of the wider school community.

**School staff** have a responsibility to:
- respect and support students
- model and promote appropriate behaviour
- have knowledge of school and departmental policies relating to bullying behaviour
- respond in a timely manner to incidents of bullying according to the school’s Anti-bullying Plan.

In addition, teachers have a responsibility to:
- provide curriculum and pedagogy that supports students to develop an understanding of bullying and its impact on individuals and the broader community.

**Students** have a responsibility to:
- behave appropriately, respecting individual differences and diversity
- behave as responsible digital citizens
- follow the school Anti-bullying Plan
- behave as responsible bystanders
- report incidents of bullying according to their school Anti-bullying Plan.

**Parents and caregivers** have a responsibility to:
- support their children to become responsible citizens and to develop responsible online behaviour
- be aware of the school Anti-bullying Plan and assist their children in understanding bullying behaviour
- support their children in developing positive responses to incidents of bullying consistent with the school Anti-bullying Plan
- report incidents of school related bullying behaviour to the school
- work collaboratively with the school to resolve incidents of bullying when they occur.

**All members of the school community** have a responsibility to:
- model and promote positive relationships that respect and accept individual differences and diversity within the school community
- support the school’s Anti-bullying Plan through words and actions
- work collaboratively with the school to resolve incidents of bullying when they occur.
Our School Anti-Bullying Plan

This plan outlines the processes for preventing and responding to student bullying in our school and reflects the *Bullying: Preventing and Responding to Student Bullying in Schools Policy* of the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities.

Schools exist in a society where intimidation and harassment occur. Bullying must be taken seriously and is not acceptable in any form. Students have the right to expect that they will spend the school day free from the fear of bullying, harassment and intimidation.

Bullying devalues, isolates and frightens, affects an individual’s ability to achieve and has long effects on those engaging in bullying behaviour, those who are the subjects of bullying behaviour and the onlookers or bystanders.

A whole school approach, involving students, parents and staff is paramount in establishing support systems to addressing bullying. A committed social response is necessary to break the cycle by implementing strategies for both prevention and intervention.

Statement of purpose

Goulburn South Public School will aim to create a respectful, happy and safe environment for all children and staff.

- There is no place for bullying at Goulburn South Public School.
- Every person has the right to be treated respectfully and feel safe. The school will not tolerate any action that undermines a person’s right to feel safe and will take whatever steps are necessary to stop such behaviour.
- At Goulburn South Public School explicit strategies are introduced to combat bullying.
- The school values of respect, responsibility and learning underpin all policies and procedures. There is no place for bullying in a community that reflects these values.

As participants in the Positive Behaviours for Success (PBS), the staff believes positive behaviour promotes learning. The collection of data drives the policies and processes of the school discipline policy. The collected data provides feedback and future directions regarding student behaviour.

Protection

**Anti Bullying Plan**

Bullying behaviour is not tolerated in NSW Government Schools.

Anti Bullying Plan for School, Department of Education and Training, Memorandum DN/05/00027, Robyn Mckenihan, General Manager Access and Equity, (25th January, 2005)

Bullying is repeated, unwanted behaviour which hurts or upsets somebody else.

Bullying can be:

- Verbal e.g. name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats.
- Physical e.g. hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, biting, spitting.
- Social e.g. ignoring, excluding, ostracizing, alienating, making inappropriate gestures.
- Psychological e.g. spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding, damaging possessions, malicious SMS, email messages, Face book, Twitter or other social media posts, inappropriate use or smart phones, cameras and video and recording equipment.

(Anti Bullying Plan for School, Department of Education and Training, PD/2004/0050/V001, 25/01/05)

Cyberbullying is bullying through information and communication technologies.

All people at Goulburn South Public School have a shared responsibility in making sure that bullying behaviours are dealt with quickly and effectively whenever they occur.

We realize that bullying behaviour occurs everywhere in our society, not just in our schools. We also realize that even though we may do everything in our power to prevent bullying, there will still be bullying behaviour. Therefore, we have strategies to deal with both the people being bullied and those doing the bullying.
The school will:

- Implement our PBS lesson weekly,
- Implement an anti bullying plan that clearly identifies the appropriate safe and respectful behaviours expected at our school,
- Explicitly teach strategies for dealing with bullying in the classroom and playground,
- Inform the students, parents and community about the school discipline code, school rules and the anti bullying plan,
- Provide students with strategies to respond to incidents of bullying behaviour
- Provide parents with clear information on strategies that promote appropriate behaviour and the consequences of inappropriate behaviour,
- Follow up complaints of bullying, harassment, intimidation and victimization,
- Provide students with strategies to deal with cyber bullying and social network etiquette,
- Teach safe, respectful behaviours explicitly.

Prevention

The staff of Goulburn South Public School model and explicitly teach students the values of respect and responsibility towards others. We emphasis the positive and encourage respectful and responsible relationships among students through participation in the following activities:

- Recognition of positive student behaviour through raffle tickets, Buzz Cards, Merit Certificates, Individual class rewards, Citizenship Awards, VIP Day, Class PBS Awards, weekly ticket draws,
- PBS strategies underpin all systems and activities,
- PD/Health/PE curriculum, including Peer Support, Child Protection and Anti Bullying lessons,
- Provision of a structure for reporting or managing possible incidents of bullying,
- Increased staff awareness of potential trouble spots through data analysis and regular observations,
- Contact with parents and relevant agencies,
- Innovative behaviour plans and processes (including alternate playground plans, communications books),
- Access to School Counsellor,
- Specific anti bullying lessons and social skills lessons,
- Contact with Police Youth Liaison Officer,
- Whole school approach using explicit lessons on respectful and responsible behaviours.

The staff implements the following strategies to assist in preventing incidents of bullying:

- Implementation of PBS lessons and strategies;
- Provision of thorough supervision to ensure safety for all,
- Creation of a caring, cooperative ethos which promotes respect for individuals,
- Establishment of clear understandings regarding rules, rights and responsibilities,
- Establishing clear and effective classroom routines,
- Addressing bullying issues through social education in the classroom via role plays, games, drama, discussions, drawing and writing,

Students are taught strategies for dealing with bullies and bullying which include:

- Walking away from someone who is annoying them or doing the wrong thing to them,
- Asking them in a calm, clear voice to stop doing what they are doing,
- Telling an adult.

Teaching of cyberbullying issues and responsible use of technology occurs in each classroom as required.
Early Intervention

At Goulburn South Public School we aim to promote positive behaviours around the issues of bullying and harassment in a number of ways:

- The implementation of PBS strategies that are underpinned by or values of Being Respectful, Responsible and Safe,
- The implementation of Quality Teaching in the areas of PD/Health/PE,
- Promotion of children reporting all bullying incidents including cyberbullying,
- Bullying issues regularly raised in classroom lessons,
- Regularly reminding students to use the strategies of walking away, asking the person to stop and then telling an adult,
- Parents encouraged to contact the school if they become aware of a problem,
- Sharing good practice through staff meetings during the year,
- Student ideas are encouraged through class meetings and SRC.

Response

The following section sets out the principle elements of the normally expected response to incidents of bullying behaviour. The precise nature of the response needs to take account of circumstances of each individual case. Parents, staff and students all have a role to play.

Teachers

Teachers are expected to use their professional judgement in regard to the strategy that best suits the situation and the needs of the students involved. However, the response strategy would normally be expected to include:

- Explicit teaching of strategies to manage difficult situations,
- Following up any possible instance of bullying about which they have been informed through the data,
- Gathering information from victims, alleged bullies and witnesses,
- Deciding on appropriate actions,
- Following up incidents of bullying which they have witnessed and seeking executive input if needed,
- Ensuring that the bully or group is involved in some type of restorative justice if appropriate,
- Informing the parents of incident and progress of investigation,
- Informing other staff of incident and actions,
- Completing relevant paperwork.

Students

Students are taught the skills to display safe and respectful behaviours. They are given opportunities to practise and develop their skills that enhance resilience (in particular negotiation, conflict resolution and problem solving).

They are encouraged to practise the following behaviours and communication:

- Hands and feet to yourself,
- Use friendly,
- Follow directions,
- Stay on task,
- Walk away from non-respectful behaviour,
- Ask the person to stop in a calm voice,
- Talk to an adult,
- Learn to stop what they are doing when asked by another student even if they don’t agree with the request,
- Intervene appropriately when they see non-respectful behaviour occurring by asking the student to stop, walk away and tell,
- Discussing issues with the teacher,
- Talking to parents,
- Talking to friends,
- Responsible use of technology.

Students are explicitly taught safe, respectful behaviour strategies and encouraged to report any instance of bullying where they may have been the victim or they may have witnessed an incident.

Parents

At Goulburn South Public School we want all students to develop, maintain and enjoy positive and respectful relationships at school, at play and at home. Bullying incidents can occur at all ages across all situations. Therefore it is part of the role of parents as co-educators to try to prepare their children to deal with potential conflicts.

Parents should encourage their children to:

- Have positive beliefs in themselves,
- Be resilient and bounce back from social difficulties which can occur in all group settings,
- Be assertive and responsible in all their actions,
- Report any incident to teachers, parents or a trusted adult when they need help,
- Use technology responsibly.

Parents need to respond to their child’s report in a measured, supportive and positive way. Parents are encouraged to contact the school as soon as possible following a report.

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING BULLYING

Bullying will be reported by: students, parents or community members and staff members.

Should an incident of bullying occur, staff members take the following actions:

- Act as soon as possible,
- Encourage telling by any student who is bullied or who has witnessed non-respectful behaviour towards others,
- Ensure that the victims are supported.
- Ensure a consistent response in dealing with incidents,
- Make consequences clear to children, parents and teachers,
- Explore options for providing specific support for identified students – assertiveness training, resilience, and problem solving skills (this could involve the school counsellor).

How bullying is reported by students

Students are encouraged to report any incident that they feel may constitute bullying to a teacher. These behaviours may occur in the classroom, playground, travelling to and from school at sport or PE activities.

Incidents reported at home or instances of cyberbullying should be reported to parents and teachers.

Incidents of bullying at school should be reported by the student to a teacher. Students can report verbally to any teacher.

Serious incidents should be reported immediately to the Principal or School Executive.

VICTIM SUPPORT

- Reassure him/her that it is not their fault; (recognition of positive action by student),
- Gather information from the reporting student,
- Confirm a common understanding of bullying,
- Discuss reasons and attempt to resolve the situation,
- Practise assertiveness techniques with the student if necessary,
- Establish contact with the alleged bully to explain the behaviours, the consequences and actions to follow,
- Contact with parents. Communication can include a phone call, notes, meetings with parents/caregivers,
- Feedback to parents that is timely for all parties involved.

Considerations:

As part of the school’s Student Welfare Policy, the Principal could report to police incidents involving assaults, threats, intimidation or harassment. The Suspension and Expulsion procedures could also be used depending on the severity of the acts and behaviours.

Principals have the responsibility to report any concerns of children at risk of harm to the Child Wellbeing Unit or Community Services depending on each individual case.

Parents and community members can utilise the Department of Education and Communities Complaints Handling Policy to appeal decisions made by the school if they consider that natural justice was not followed.

Recording and Monitoring Incidents

The school will utilise its monitoring system to record incidents of bullying and subsequent actions. The school executive and Principal will periodically observe the data and respond to trends as they arise.
Promotion of the Anti-bullying Plan

The new anti-bullying Plan was released with a public forum to parents and students in Term 2, 2013.

All students will be involved in safe, respectful lessons as part of PD/Health/PE and PBS lessons and be involved in Harmony Day activities annually.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The anti-bullying plan will be monitored by executive staff and Principal throughout the year. There will be a formal evaluation at the end of each year, leading to the formulation of an annual action plan.

Additional Information

Kids Helpline  1800 55 1800

Principal's comment

Bullying exists in many forms and levels of severity. Here at Goulburn South Public School we endeavour to address this issue by empowering our students with the social skills and tools to allow them to identify options, review and change their behaviour.

Ann Patchett.

PBS Team Members

Tracy Manning
Jenni Copland
Ian McQuillan
Bethany Hansen
Ann Patchett

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