



# The Galston Gumnut

Galston Public School Newsletter

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

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*Respect*

*Responsibility*

*Personal Best*

Week 6, Term 2

## Calendar Dates

Calendar Dates	
<b>Week 6, Term 2</b>	
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Homework resumes for students in Years 1 – 6
<b>Week 7, Term 2</b>	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Birthday long weekend
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	P&C Meeting via Zoom 7pm

## From the Principal

### New Galston Public School app

Beginning this week, our school will be transitioning to a new school app using the School Stream platform. This new GPS app will be a fantastic addition to the way we communicate with parents and carers, with many immediate benefits for our learning community.



- Online absence notification
- Online real time calendar for school events
- Latest news notifications which can be tailored to your child's year level and synched to your electronic calendar
- Paperless permission slips for excursions/events
- Links to current systems (such as uniform shop, canteen + parent online payments) in one place
- Streamlining the flow and access of information to and from school

We will be beginning this process slowly, with only notifications, absent notes and other basic features such as access to school contact information and newsletters available at this point.

Over the coming weeks as we enable new features, we will keep you updated, so watch this space!

### Reporting and Assessment

As our children have returned to school and begun settling into routine over the past two weeks, our thoughts now turn to reporting to our parents about student growth and achievement.

Due to the unusual circumstances of this first Semester, our reporting timeline will be slightly altered as follows:

Weeks 7 to 10 Term 2 – teachers conduct in class assessments and write their reports for each student.

Week 1 Term 3 – reports home to parents Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July.

Week 2 Term 3 – parent/teacher interviews Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July.

Report format will also be simplified so that teachers can provide feedback on student learning throughout the first half of the year both in writing as well as face to face with each child's parents. Changes will be as follows:

- No general comment
- Written indicators of learning with a focus on Literacy and Maths development
- Statements of learning for other Key Learning Areas (Library, Science, PD/H/PE, History/Geography, Creative Arts)
- No effort or achievement grades for each Key Learning Area
- Commitment to learning markers to remain.

This shortened format will allow teachers to go through the assessment and reporting process in the remaining weeks of Term 2, while also speaking with confidence around student growth, success and areas for future development moving into the second half of the year. This will also allow the maximum time possible for teaching, learning, assessing and reporting throughout Semester 2. We will then resume the usual full reporting format in Semester 2.

Information regarding parent/teacher interviews will be coming home ASAP.

## Homework

Beginning this Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June, students in Years 1-6 will resume homework. This will be handed out each Friday and collected the following Thursday. This homework will be consolidation of concepts taught in class in areas such as Maths, spelling and reading. It is also a valuable insight into your child's learning, while at the same time forming habits which will be valuable in the later high school years.

As we progress throughout the remainder of the year and in the wake of one mode of learning from home, our staff will be reflecting on many areas where we can continue to improve our practice and homework will be one of these areas.

Each class will send home the appropriate information regarding their specific requirements as we resume this part of our learning on Friday.

## Kindergarten 2021

If you or anyone you know has children who will be enrolling in Kindergarten in 2021, we are now accepting enrolment enquiries, applications and completed enrolment forms.

As you may be aware, the Department of Education updated the enrolment policy for all NSW public schools towards the end of 2019. For those schools over their allocated cap of students, out of area applications will not be accepted, except in extraordinary circumstances.

As Galston Public School is currently over cap, priority will be given to students from our local drawing area. At this stage, we are also able to accept siblings of students who currently attend our school and live out of area.

If you or families you know are unsure if you are in the GPS drawing area, please enquire at the school office, or check your address using the school finder link below:

<https://my.education.nsw.gov.au/school-finder>

*Allan Ison*



### Scholastic Book Club Issue 4

- Cash or cheque orders must be returned to school by **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June** – in an envelope clearly marked with Book Club, child's name and class.
- Credit payment must be completed using Scholastic's LOOP facility.
- If paying by cash or cheque (return order to school) and ensure correct payment is enclosed
  - CHEQUES – payable to Scholastic Books
  - CASH – must be exact amount: change not available.
- If the order is completed by your child – please check it!
- Late orders will not be accepted.
- Parent orders (e.g. a present for child) – mark the envelope as a parent order and include your phone number.

Delia Morgan - *Book Club Coordinator*

### NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

A reminder about changes to the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge for 2020 which have been made to help support students to participate in and complete the Challenge whilst their access to books at school and local libraries may be restricted:



### What is happening with the Challenge in 2020?

The Challenge will continue with the same closing dates for validation of entries, and the same number of books to be read for all challenge levels. We have introduced some adjustments to support students who may be learning from home, and have reduced access to suitable reading material to complete the Challenge.

### What changes have been made to the PRC rules for 2020?

The main changes to the Challenge rules are as follows:

- Students on all Challenge levels are able to read 10 choice books - an increase from five. Please see below about adding these additional choice books to a student reading record.
- Students on all Challenge levels will be able to include books on their reading records that they read collaboratively as a class, in person or online with their teacher or at home with their parents/carers.
- Students who complete the Challenge in 2020 will be able to count this towards cumulative awards.
- Students who do not participate in the Challenge in 2020 will not be disadvantaged in the receipt of cumulative awards.

### How do students add these bonus choice books to their reading records?

Students will need to add their first 5 choice books the same way they always have for the Challenge. Their bonus choice books will need to be entered using the following PRC numbers:

- PRC 68597 2020** Bonus Choice Book 1
- PRC 68598 2020** Bonus Choice Book 2
- PRC 68599 2020** Bonus Choice Book 3
- PRC 68560 2020** Bonus Choice Book 4
- PRC 68561 2020** Bonus Choice Book 5



### PRC Student Site

The PRC student site is available again this year! Students can search for books to read, add books to their reading logs, and track their progress throughout the challenge. You can find the site at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/> and there is a useful help video available to demonstrate how the site works.

### Key Dates

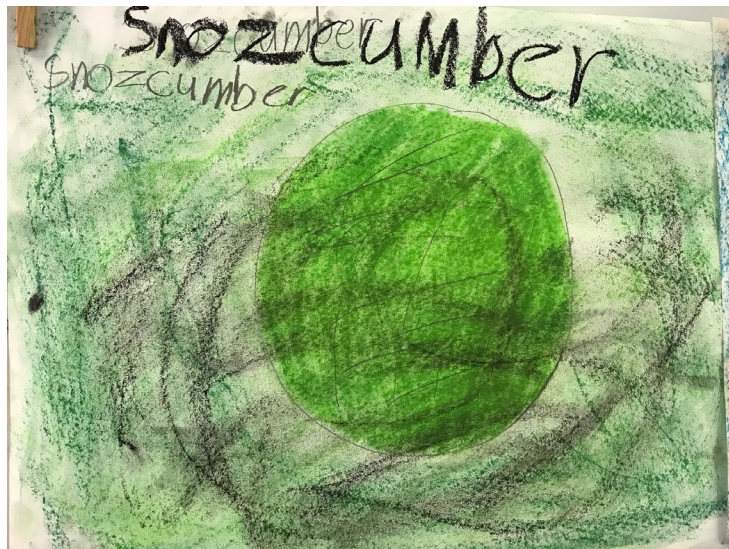
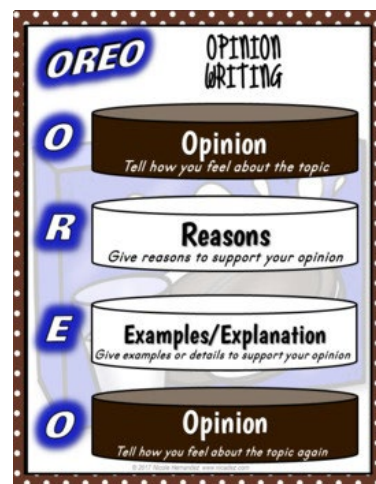
The final date for entry of Student Reading Records by students is **Friday August 28**.

## News From 1-2M

1-2M students are excited to be back in class after a long period of remote learning!

In English, we are learning to write persuasive texts using the OREO Technique. Students are beginning to incorporate rhetorical questions and use persuasive language to convince the reader. There have been many engaging discussions and points of view on a variety of topics, particularly 'why children should/should not eat junk food'.

We have read Lauren Child's persuasive book, *I Will Never Not Ever Eat A Tomato*. In the story, Charlie persuades his little sister Lola to eat all the food she doesn't like by giving them creative names. For Visual Arts, students were then given the task of drawing vegetables using oil pastels and giving them interesting names. We were all persuaded to eat the 'Nats' and 'Snozucumbers'.



Leanne McDonald – 1-2M

## P&C News

### June P&C Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June. As schools are still minimising parent/carer presence on site, the meeting will again be held via Zoom. A link enabling access to the meeting will be sent out closer to the meeting date. Please join us if you can to hear some updates regarding fundraising activities and our uniform shop.

Kim Alsdorf – P&C President, [kim@galstonpandc.org.au](mailto:kim@galstonpandc.org.au)

## Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be filling uniform orders placed through Flexischools weekly. If you do not have a Flexischools account, please contact the Uniform Shop so that other arrangements can be made. Orders will be packed and sent home with students at the start and end of each week.

Any enquiries please contact us via [uniformshop@galstonpandc.org.au](mailto:uniformshop@galstonpandc.org.au).

Kristie Chambers and Belinda Crofts – *Uniform Shop Coordinators*

## Canteen News

Due to the staggered student return and the difficulties of rostering and managing the social distancing of volunteers, the Canteen will remain closed during Term 2. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to parents, and we will update parents as soon as we are able to regarding the date of reopening.

Louise O'Rourke – *Canteen Committee*

Dear Families,

Galston OOSH are fundraising for The Pyjama Foundation and we need your help.



The Pyjama Foundation provide children in foster care the opportunity to change the direction of their lives with learning, life skills and confidence. Through the Love of Learning program, volunteers called 'Pyjama Angels' are recruited, screened, trained and then matched with a child in care and spend time with them once a week, focusing on learning-based activities. Pyjama Angels read books aloud with their child, play educational games and help children with their homework. Most importantly, the volunteers give foster children a chance to reach their life potential, despite a fragile start. Children in care have the lowest education outcomes nationally. By improving their learning skills, The Pyjama Foundation is making a positive, life-long impact.

Please help me help The Pyjama Foundation by giving what you can to this great cause. We are looking to raise \$500 and we need your help with a donation, of any size. You can also "share" my page with your friends or leave a comment or "like it". It all helps!

Simply click the link below to view my fundraising page and donate:

<https://the-pyjama-foundation.giveeasy.org/campaigns/galston-oosh/>

Once you have donated you will receive a tax receipt straight away to your email address. All donations made from this link will go straight to The Pyjama Foundation.



**Thank you for your support.**

**Galston OOSH**

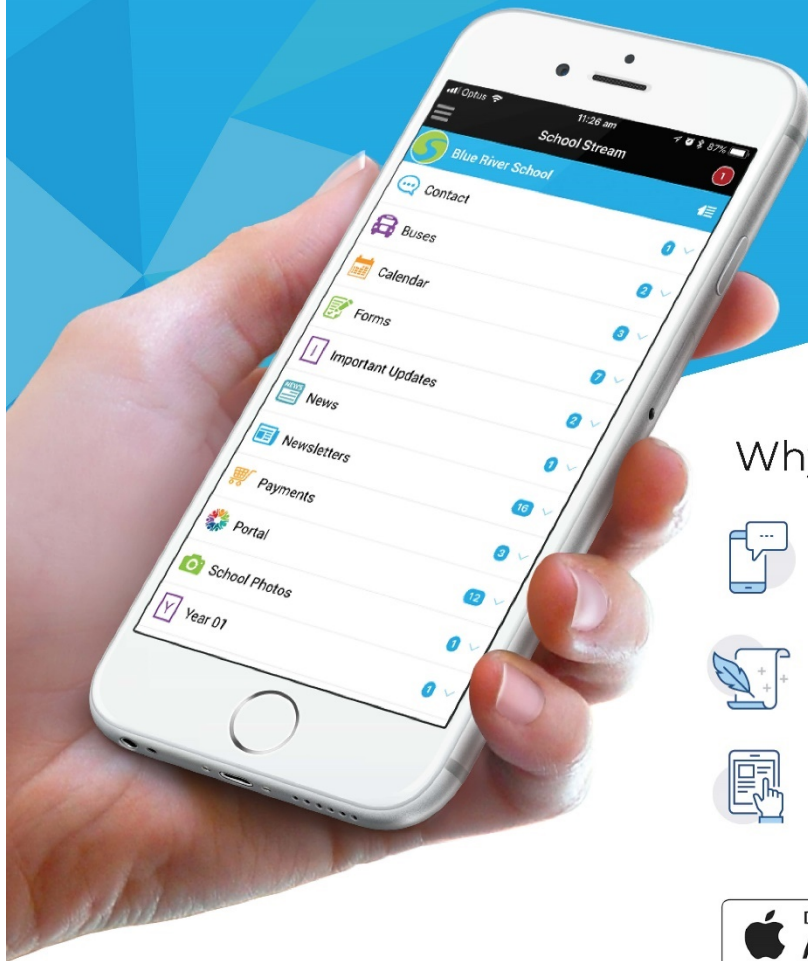
### Catholic SRE Message

The Catholic Parish of St Benedict's Arcadia sends its best wishes to the children, families, and staff of Galston Public School community. Simple to follow **Catholic SRE lessons** are available online at the following link: [Catholic SRE Online](#)

### Ethics lessons available for K – 6 students and their families

Primary Ethics has created a series of 10 lessons each for K-2 and 3-6 to help children practise their skills in critical thinking and ethical reasoning as they continue their mixed learning methods during term 2. These age-appropriate lessons are available from [primaryethics.com.au/education](http://primaryethics.com.au/education)

# Download our school app for free!



## Why download the app?



Receive instant notifications for important news.



Easily register absentees and excursions.



Keep up to date with events and set reminders.



### Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.

2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.

3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.

