



The Galston Gumnut

Galston Public School Newsletter

Wednesday 10th June 2020

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Respect

Responsibility

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Week 7, Term 2

Calendar Dates	
Week 7, Term 1	
Friday 12 th June	No Assembly
Week 8, Term 1	
Monday 15 th June	Virtual Assembly on Teams
Friday 19 th June	No Assembly

Note	Due Date
Parent Teacher Interviews	Friday 19 th June
Goal Setting Parent Questionnaire	Friday 19 th June
Year 4: Intention to apply for Year 5 entry to opportunity class in 2021	Friday 19 th June

From the Principal

Parking Options

Now that we are back to learning face to face at school 5 days a week, traffic congestion in and around School Road remains an issue. Understandably, all family circumstances are different, but if you are able to spend time considering one of the following options for school pick up and drop off, that would be greatly appreciated:

1. Parking on Arcadia Road and utilising the side gate. Older siblings may be able to pick up younger siblings and meet at this entry/exit point.
2. Parking at the community centre and utilising the rear gate near the KU preschool. Older siblings may be able to pick up younger siblings and meet at this entry/exit point.
3. Parking a little further away and either walking yourself to a pick-up point or having your children meet you at this spot.
4. Give yourself a few minutes extra and get your parking spot early.
5. Try to arrange your morning routine to arrive at school a little earlier. Teachers are on duty at 8:30am and this time can be greatly beneficial for students to settle into the school day and build their interpersonal relationships with peers.
6. Make use of the full length of the Kiss and Drop Zone in School Road. We will be having the small gate at the far end open and this use of extra space greatly increases the flow of traffic.

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 the 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 July 24

Week 2 Term 3 – Parent/Teacher interviews Tuesday 28th, Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th 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.

Opportunity Class Process 2021

The application process for Year 5 opportunity class placement for entry in 2021 is about to begin.

Important dates in the application process are as follows:

Tuesday 9th June 2020 - Online applications open

Friday 26th June 2020 - Online applications close (Parents and carers must apply by the due date.)

Wednesday 16th September 2020: Opportunity Class Placement Test

Between **Tuesday 9th June and Friday 26th June 2020** Parents and carers must apply online at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>

A note outlining these dates and processes around the OC placement for 2021 will be sent home this week to the families of all students in Year 4.

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 toward 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.

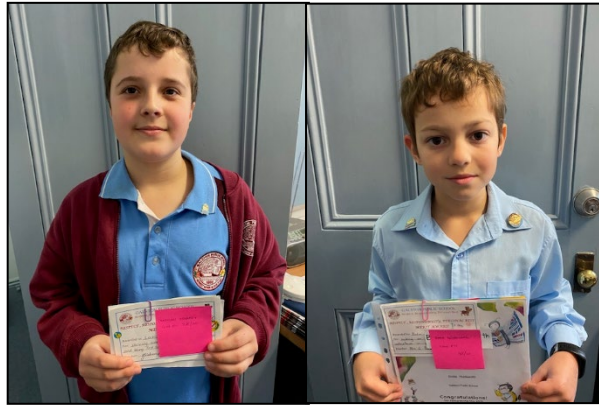
As Galston Public School is currently over cap, priority will be given to students from our local drawing area. At this stage, we are also able to accept siblings of students who currently attend our school and live out of area.

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

*Respect
Responsibility
Personal Best*



Scholastic Book Club Issue 4

- Cash or cheque orders must be returned to school by **Wednesday 17th 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.

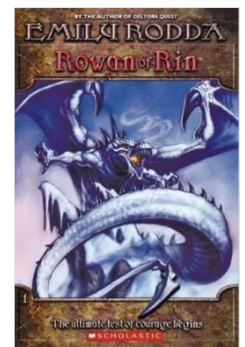
Delia Morgan - *Book Club Coordinator*

News From 5-6G

In 5-6G we have been reading the book *Rowan of Rin* by Emily Rodda. We are using this text to help us to improve our own narrative writing skills.

We have also researched some information about the author Emily Rodda. Did you know...?

- Her actual name is Jennifer June Rowe
- She is 72 years old
- She wrote the series *Deltora Quest*
- Jennifer lives with an apparently loving but very naughty labrador called Sadie
- She lives in the Snowy Mountains and has two younger brothers
- Jennifer has won the Children's Book of the Year Award five times!



In Art we have completed artworks using tissue paper and black paper to create silhouettes.





We have also practised our skills in calculating the area of rectangles to create artwork inspired by Piet Mondrian.

Giulia Muscat – 5-6G



P&C News

Proposed Parking Changes to Arcadia Road

You may or may not be aware of some changes that Council are suggesting around Galston and Arcadia. These changes are to improve the safety of residents and visitors to the area. One of the proposed changes relates to parking currently available just north of the bus stop on Arcadia Road and could affect GPS families.

The school has recently engaged with Council regarding parking around the school in general, and we thank the Council officers who visited with Mr Ison yesterday, onsite, to discuss this further. As part of these discussions the school and P&C will formulate a response; however, I strongly recommend that every parent/carer who has concerns regarding parking options around the school also responds directly to Council. Information on the proposed changes and how you can submit your feedback can be found here:

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/council/noticeboard/your-say/current-exhibitions/Public-Consultation-Proposed-parking-restrictions-Arcadia-Road,-Galston>

School Drop-off

Once again a reminder to all parents/carers that the front of the school at morning drop-off between 8am and 9:30am is Kiss and Drop ONLY. Please assist students with their bags quickly and get back into your vehicle to move on. Do not leave your vehicle under any circumstances.

Also remember there has been a concerted effort to make sure ALL school gates are open in the morning as drop-off points, this includes the back gate, next to KU, the lower gate near OOSH, the upper gate on Arcadia Road and we are now opening all front gates.

Community Grant

We have applied for a Community Grant from MP Matt Kean to assist with the development of a new outdoor learning area in the school grounds, where our old equipment used to be. So everyone cross your fingers for some funding to assist with this area!

Canteen

We are reviewing options for opening our canteen as soon as possible. This may include a limited menu like on Mondays. We need to make sure we comply with the Department of Education's guidelines; however, please know we are following this up.

Next P&C Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 30th June. Please join us if you can.

Kim Alsdorf – P&C President, kim@galstonpandc.org.au

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

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.

Kristie Chambers and Belinda Crofts – *Uniform Shop Coordinators*

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

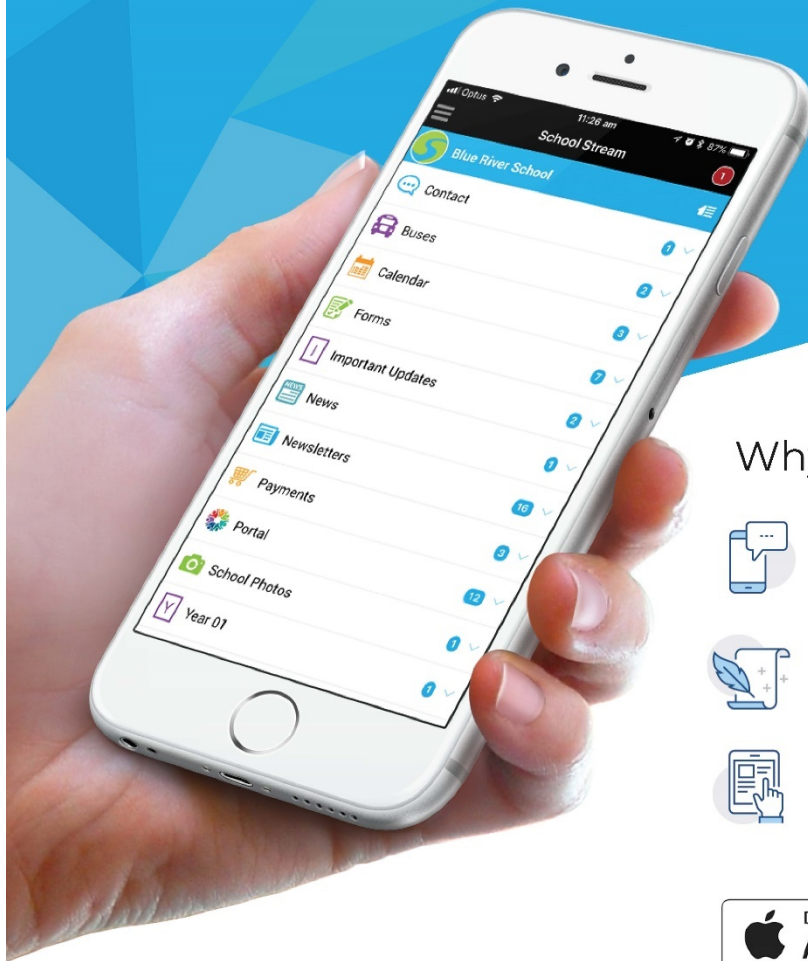
Catholic SRE Message

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

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.

