



The Galston Gumnut

Galston Public School Newsletter

Wednesday 5th May 2021

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Respect

Responsibility

Personal Best

Week 3, Term 2

Calendar Dates

Calendar Dates	
Week 3, Term 2	
Thursday 6 th May	Mother's Day Stall
Friday 7 th May	Mother's Day Breakfast 8am and catch-up Mother's Day Stall Recess
Friday 7 th May	K-6 Assembly 2:05pm
Week 4, Term 2	
Week 4 and 5	NAPLAN Online Years 3 and 5
Tuesday 11 th May	P&C Meeting in the School Library 7:00pm
Friday 15 th May	K-6 Assembly 2:05pm
Week 5, Term 2	
Week 4 and 5	NAPLAN Online Years 3 and 5
Tuesday 18 th May	Tour De Cure Visit
Thursday 20 th May	GPS Athletics Carnival – Track events
Friday 21 st May	GPS Field Carnival and K-2 Athletics Fun Day
Friday 21 st May	No Assembly

Note	Due Date
Money for buying gifts at Mother's Day Stall	Thursday 6 th May (Friday 7 th May catch-up)
Year 4: Online applications for Year 5 entry to OC in 2022	Friday 7 th May
Stages 2 and 3: Interrelate	Tuesday 18 th May

From the Principal

Attendance Matters

At Galston Public School, our students and families generally have excellent attendance. Research shows that developing strong routines and habits around daily attendance at school is a vital component to building success for students socially as well as academically.

Please see below for some information about how quickly partial or whole day absences can stack up during a child's education.

With reports coming out later this term, both whole day and partial absences will be included so that families can monitor their child's ongoing attendance. If for any reason, your family is finding your child's attendance to be an issue, please reach out to your teacher so that we can organise positive supports to assist.

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



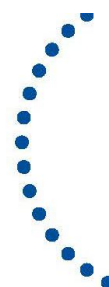
Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun



Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...




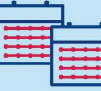
When your child misses just...	they miss days per year
5 mins per day 	= 3 days 
30 mins per day 	= 18 days 



Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	they miss weeks per year	and years over their school life
1 day per fortnight 	= 4 weeks 	= Over 1 year missed
1 day per week 	= 8 weeks 	= Over 2.5 years missed

Maintenance Works Term 2

Term 2 (and possibly part of Term 3!) is shaping up to be extremely busy from a maintenance and assets perspective at our school. While there will be some inconvenience over the coming weeks and months, we are set to see some excellent improvements for the students of Galston Public School.

- Administration building – scaffolding has now been erected and works are set to commence on re-roofing our heritage-listed administration building. This will give a beautiful building a much-needed facelift, with stormwater drainage also being upgraded as part of this work.
- Tiered Learning Space – the old technology room adjacent to the Library is being used as a temporary staffroom while our administration building is being restored. Once complete, this tiered learning space will have the steps removed and be recarpeted and painted. This will allow us to create a learning space more conducive to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) where children will be able to create, explore and discover.
- Computer Lab (cottage) – old computers in our computer lab will be distributed into classroom spaces where they will receive more use in their retirement years! The current cabling infrastructure will be removed and the cottage will be recarpeted and painted. This will then create a multi-purpose learning space for our students and teachers to use moving forward.
- Toilet upgrade – under the Metro Renewal Scheme (designed to stimulate the economy) the Department of Education is jointly funding a major upgrade to our student toilet facilities. Tiling, painting, toilets, partitions, doors, urinals, soap dispensers and taps/bubblers will all be part of these works. As I am sure you will appreciate, this will be a major bonus for our students each and every day at school. In addition to this refurbishment, we will also be having the existing toilet at the end of Mrs Hitchcock's classroom converted into a disabled toilet space.

- New Playground Space – over a weekend late last term, we had some gum trees drop limbs. In the interests of student safety, these trees will be removed in the near future. Rather than go to waste, however, our school will be partnering with Architects of Arcadia, a playground design company, who will work with students, staff and community to design and construct a natural playground space using natural products such as timber (ie gum trees!), stone, rope and sand. This will be a fantastic addition to our playground space which all of our students will be able to enjoy in both class and break times.
- OOSH upgrades – our Out of School Hours Care (OOSH) is a wonderful asset to our school, allowing many of our families the flexibility to work their required hours, safe in the knowledge that their children are being well cared for by Shanna and her team of carers. Over the coming weeks, our OOSH building will be repainted and new vinyl laid throughout. This will also be a fabulous addition for many of our students who utilise this facility both during the term and through its vacation care programs.

Cross Country

Last Friday 30th April, our students, teachers and families enjoyed some fabulous autumn weather as we held our yearly Cross Country Carnival. A huge congratulations to all of our race winners and place getters, with some fierce competition amongst the age groups. Equally impressive was the way in which our students participated, enjoying the opportunity to exercise and feel the achievement of simply running the distance. The sportsmanship displayed was impressive as our house leaders and all students cheered each other on.



Part of our Strategic Improvement Plan for the next 3 years is Wellbeing, with a particular focus on physical activity. As we move forward, this positive link between exercise and the impact on student wellbeing will continue to be at the core of not only special events such as Cross Country, but increasingly integrated into our everyday teaching and learning programs.

Particular thanks to Mrs Cansdale and Mrs Hitchcock for their organisation of the Cross Country event, as well as Mrs Ferris and her canteen team for organising many, many lunch orders on the day.

We look forward to hearing how our students fare as they represent Galston PS at the Zone Cross Country Carnival later this term.



National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Online Testing

Between the dates of Monday 11th and Friday 22nd May, students in Years 3 and 5 will participate in NAPLAN Online. Students do not need to be computer experts to take the NAPLAN test online. Making sure students have computer skills is part of our school curriculum, and our teachers will ensure your child is familiar with the online format.

Children will complete assessments in Reading/Comprehension, Spelling, Grammar, Writing and Numeracy. NAPLAN is a point-in-time assessment that allows parents to see how their child is progressing in literacy and numeracy against the national standard and compared with their peers throughout Australia. At the classroom level, NAPLAN provides additional information to support teachers' professional judgement about student progress.

For further information on NAPLAN Online go to: <https://nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

Kindergarten 2022

If you or anyone you know has children who will be enrolling in Kindergarten in 2022, 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. Since 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 front office, or check your address using the school finder link below:

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

Allan Ison (Principal)

Week 3 PBL Awards	
Galston Gotcha Prize Draw Winners	
<p><i>Respect</i> <i>Responsibility</i> <i>Personal Best</i></p>	
	

Scholastic Book Club Issue 3

- **Cash or cheque** orders must be returned to school by **Thursday 6th May** – 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.

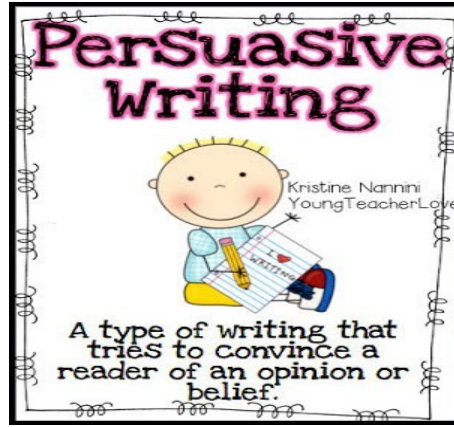
Delia Morgan – *Book Club Coordinator*

News From 1-2P

This year is flying by: we're already in Week 3 of Term 2!

Our class has been learning all about Persuasive Writing. What is Persuasive Writing? Check out these images to find out!

Now that it is autumn, not only can we see coloured leaves outside, but they've made their way into our classroom too! Please do visit us to see the amazing autumn artwork that we have created with paint, crayons and oil pastels.



It tries to make people feel the same way you do about the topic.



In History, we have been learning about how people lived in the past. We really wonder how people coped without washing machines, microwaves, fridges and, most importantly, computers. Children Back Then didn't even know what an iPad is...!

Our class went on an expedition around the school to discover artefacts and we discovered so many – even our old school bell!



In Maths, we have been learning to solve subtraction number problems using various strategies including stating the place value of two-digit and three-digit numbers. We've also been learning how to read o'clock, half-past, quarter-past and quarter-to time on analog and digital clocks.



Our class uses Galston Gotchas and Dojos to reward positive behaviour. A few of us have received the Gotcha Excellence Award and it will not be long before others catch up! Students earn Dojo points based on their classroom conduct, eg perseverance, being helpful, completing work on time, taking risks, being polite etc. At the end of the day, students who have earned the maximum Dojo points can choose an activity of their choice for 5 minutes eg. sitting on the teacher's chair, going on the iPad, drawing, playing with the orange squishy ball, etc.

Our class assembly item is coming up in Week 7 and we're looking forward to our performance.

Geeta Pendharkar – 1-2P

Canteen News

Week ending Friday 7th May Mother's Day Breakfast

The P&C is excited to be hosting the inaugural Mother's Day Breakfast outside the hall on Friday 7th May from 8.00am to 9.30am. This is a very special morning just for mothers or other female Primary Carers of our GPS students to say Thank You for all you do.

- If you are planning to attend, for catering purposes you should already have let us know via our previously advertised surveymonkey link.
- Our Mother's Day Breakfast is for mothers or other female Primary Carers. If you are arriving at school with children, GPS students are asked to wait in the weather shed until 8.30am when a teacher will be on duty to supervise. Preschool children may attend the breakfast with you, however, they will not be catered for.

Friday Roster

Friday 7 th May	
Canteen Orientation 10.30am-11.30am	Sign Up
Helper 9.30am – 12pm	Amy Goldrick
Helper 12pm – 3pm	Sarah O'Reilly
Assistant 9am – 12pm	Cholena Izzard
Assistant 12pm – 3pm	Anne-Marie Hegarty
Supervisor 9am – 3pm	Pamela Ferris

Monday Roster

Monday 10th May	
Morning shift 10.45am – 1.45pm	Jenni Bohman
Recess counter sales 10.45am-11.15am	Cat Jennings
Afternoon shift 11.30am – 2.45pm	Megan Kirkland

A reminder that the Flexischools lunch order cut off time is 8.30am for both Monday and Friday lunch orders.

Thank you all for your wonderful support of our canteen.

Pamela Ferris – *Canteen Manager*, canteen@galstonpandc.org.au (0413 048 028)

Megan Kirkland – *Roster Coordinator* (0422 394 577)

P&C News

Mother's Day Breakfast

Our inaugural Mother's Day Breakfast is on this Friday 7th May from 8am-9:30am outside the school hall. A reminder that GPS students can be dropped off at the weather shed from 8am or in the school playground from 8:30am, allowing mums/grandmothers/step mums/carers to relax and enjoy breakfast and time to chat with others. See you there!

Get Involved in Just One Thing

Have you been thinking about getting involved in the P&C but weren't sure where to start? There are so many ways to be involved and we are encouraging every family to join in. We're promoting the concept of "Just One Thing" - every family expressing interest in helping with *just one thing* in order to connect with our school and support our students. To assist, we've developed a brief survey where you can find out more about what's happening in Term 2 and choose something that might suit your interests and timetable. No pressure, of course. The link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HK7L726>. Thanks!

Next P&C Meeting

Our next P&C Meeting is this coming Tuesday 11th May at 7pm in the library. Everyone is invited.

Sue Downing – *P&C President*, sedowning88@gmail.com (0487 601 925)

P&C Fundraising

Fundraising is in full swing for Term 2 and beyond! A reminder to please send in cash with the children TOMORROW for the **Mother's Day Stall**, there are limited items available and Friday's recess stall will not be as large. As per the flyer, all items will be priced at \$2, \$4, \$6 or \$8: the \$8 items being the home-made goods of plants with pot holders and handmade jewellery. There will also be some cards available for 50c each and gift wrapping for free!

The next fundraiser is the **School Disco** on Friday 4th June: please save the date. A planning meeting was held on Monday and it will be amazing! I will let everyone know when it is up on Flexischools within the next couple of weeks.

The planning committee has also begun working on our **Comedy Night** on Saturday 24th July. You can book tickets now at www.comedyforacause.net/GALSTON (please see flyer).

Lastly, a big THANK YOU to all the amazing volunteers and helpers for all the above fundraisers: so much work happens behind the scenes and it is hugely appreciated! Any questions please contact me.

Farah Miles – *P&C Fundraising Coordinator*, farahgps@hotmail.com (0404 044 649)

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open on Tuesday afternoons 2.30-3pm and 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.

Ali Toy – Uniform Shop Coordinator

Mother's Day Breakfast Invitation



Dear Mum /Grandmother Carers/Female Carers,

On behalf of the P&C we would like to say **Thank You** and invite you to celebrate Mother's Day with a Breakfast to be held on Friday 7 May, 2021.

Breakfast will commence at 8.00am and conclude at 9.30am. You are welcome to just drop in, have a croissant and a cuppa on your way to work or stay and enjoy some catch up with Mums you don't get time to stop and have a coffee with very often.

The breakfast will be held outside the hall. If you are bringing your children to school, please drop your children at the weather shed where they will wait until a teacher is on duty at 8.30am.

Our Mother's Day Breakfast is courtesy of the P&C and is for **you** to celebrate all the special things **you** do every single day.

For catering purposes, please RSVP via the surveymonkey link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FBH97TH>

by Monday 3 May, 2021.

We look forward to welcoming you to our inaugural Galston Public School Mother's Day Breakfast. Please note – catering will not include pre-school children.

Galston Public School
P & C

I LOVE YOU MUM

*Mum's smile can brighten any moment
Mum's hugs put pure joy in all our days
Mum's love will stay with you forever and
touch our lives in precious ways
The values you've taught, the care you've
given, and the wonderful love you've shown
have enriched your children's lives in more
ways than can be counted.
I love you Mum*

Thank you for being you.



P&C MOTHERS DAY STALL

THURSDAY 6th MAY & FRIDAY 7th MAY (recess only on Friday)

All gifts will be priced at either \$2, \$4, \$6 or \$8

This year along with the usual "Mum" gifts we also have an addition of some LOVELY home-made gifts (made specifically for the stall by a couple of school families) for purchase with samples pictured below – plants with pot holders, bookmarks, fridge magnets, coffee cosies, bracelets, earrings and necklaces! The students will have a great time picking out the perfect gift for Mum or Grandma!

Please send in money with the students on Thursday 6th May as we cannot guarantee that everything will still be available on the Friday.

Any questions please contact Farah Miles – 0404 044649 or farahgps@hotmail.com



Comedy for a Cause

SATURDAY 24th JULY 2021

Doors: 7pm / Show: 8pm / 18+

Featuring comedians from Sydney & Melbourne International Comedy Festivals

comedyforacause.net/GALSTON

 The Galston Club
21-25 Arcadia Rd,
Galston



In Support of:
Galston Public School

Ignite Music Dural



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Musicians, Teachers, and Creators at work

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PLUS: Instrument servicing and repairs, accessory and instrument sales + band and songwriting groups and workshops



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admin@ignitemusic.com.au



Unit 3, 280 New Line Road,
Dural 2158



Transport
for NSW

April 2021

Work to upgrade school zone signs across New South Wales. Start of Work on Arcadia Road, Galston week commencing 3 May 2021

The NSW Government is funding an upgrade to school zone signs, at Galston Public School as part of the Transport for NSW School Zone Flashing Lights program to improve the safety for students in the area.

Transport for NSW is upgrading school zone signs at 70 schools across the state. This includes removing obsolete equipment and upgrading the sites.

Transport for NSW currently manage over 5800 school zones flashing signs that keep school children safe across NSW. Installing flashing lights signage in school zones has led to improved driver awareness of driving at a lower speed to ensure the safety of children and people coming and going from the school area.

Our work schedule

We will be on site for one or two shifts, week commencing 3 May 2021

Our work hours will be between 7am and 6pm from Monday to Friday, Saturday 8am to 1pm, weather permitting.

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact our Project Manager, Arthur Manganas on 9794 4823 or FlashingLights@transport.nsw.gov.au

For more information on our projects, visit transport.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for your patience during this important work.

How will the work affect you?

The work will be carried out so that it does not impact the operations of existing school zone flashing signs around the school.

There will be no impact to the footpath and no lane closures are required.