

Dear Parents,

It has hard to believe we are in the final two weeks of Term 1!

TERM 1 HIGHLIGHTS

It has been a busy start to the year with many events and achievements in the first eight weeks of school:

79 Preps settled into school; 60 new laptops in classrooms; swimming carnivals; Year 5/6 summer sport; Parent Teacher meetings; Information Nights; Maths Information Night with Michael Ymer; Evening on the Green; Prep Welcome Barbeque; Working Bee; classroom incursions & excursions and school photos.

2019 PREP ENROLMENTS

We are now accepting enrolments for 2019 and particularly ask current families with a student due to begin school next year to complete an [enrolment form](#) and drop it into the office as soon as possible. Thank you for your help with this matter. If you have friends or neighbours who have a 2019 Prep student, they should telephone the office and book into a school tour. Dates for school tours are available on our [website](#). Notices outlining this process will be dropped into the pre-schools in our area soon.

CURRICULUM DAY - FRIDAY 9 MARCH

On the curriculum day, Friday 9 March, we had a very productive day with Lisa Keskinen. The focus was one of our AIP goals, the teaching of reading across the school. The teachers looked at what good readers do, and unpacked the six strategies to improve reading comprehension:

1. Prediction/Prior knowledge
2. Think Aloud
3. Text Structure
4. Visual Representation
5. Summarisation
6. Questions/Questioning

Teachers will be follow this up, over the next couple of weeks within their PLC teams, planning for a focus on Shared Reading in Term 2. Lisa Keskinen will also be working with PLC teams and modelling this in the classrooms next term.

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2018

Tonight we have our first School Council meeting for 2018/19. A special welcome to our new School Councillors: Oded Van Ham, Mal Osborne-Smith and Ran Hao.

I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of three members who have stepped down from the last year's School Council. Jess Shinnick and Miranda Forehan, who both served on the Education Sub-Committee and Lisa Waddell, as Treasurer, on the Finance Sub-Committee. Thank you for your generous time and assistance in helping to make GIPS a special place to work and learn.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our Library is a very busy and exciting place with lots of great books in circulation. Each week students visit the library with their class. During these sessions, students browse the collection, borrow books and learn library skills. Thank you for your ongoing support of Scholastic Book Club and the Book Fair at the end of 2017. The points accumulated from our commission go directly into buying new and wonderful resources for our library and the classroom. So far this year the library has already acquired over 250 new and exciting titles for all ranges on the reading spectrum.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

We are planning a whole school “lockdown” practice as part of our Emergency Management Plan (EMP). During a lockdown all staff, students and school visitors are to remain indoors and away from windows and doors. Our EMP contains a risk assessment that addresses hazards and potential threats to the school and covers the four components of preparedness, prevention, response and recovery. We test these emergency arrangements at regular intervals to ensure that procedures work and everyone learns emergency protocols.

YEAR 6/7 TRANSITION EVENING

On Thursday 19 April, there will be a transition information evening for interested parents of students moving from Year 6 to Year 7 in 2019. This will take place at Solway PS in the Wilkinson Learning Centre from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Principals from Ashwood High School, Auburn High School and Camberwell High School will give a 25-minute presentation about their respective schools. More details about this event have been sent out via Compass to Year 5 & 6 parents, and can be found on the website [here](#).

LOST PROPERTY

Please can you take the time to label all uniform. We regularly sort and return as much lost property as possible during the school year. It is always disappointing to see the huge amount of unclaimed uniform that is in excellent condition in lost property. The lost property box is located in the main building, just inside the doors near the Year 4 rooms.

TEAPOT MORNING TEA

Students who display our school values: **Achievement, Empathy, Respect, Resilience** and **Honesty** are recognised by being awarded with a Tea Pot ticket. Last week I was pleased to host a Teapot Morning Tea with the students in the photo. Congratulations to this group and I look forward to hosting more Teapot Morning Teas this year.



LAST DAY OF TERM 1

Just a reminder that the final day of Term 1 is Thursday 29 March. We will have an assembly on this day at the earlier time of 1.50pm and school will be dismissed at 2.30pm.

I like to take this opportunity to wish all the Glen Iris families a great holiday break and enjoyable Easter. I look forward to welcoming back all our school community on Monday 16 April.

Garry Collins
Principal