



# GOWRIE GAZETTE

Term 1, Week 2  
8<sup>th</sup> February 2017



**ACT**  
Government  
Education and Training

## What's on at Gowrie In Term 1!

### FEBRUARY

#### Week 2

Wednesday

8<sup>th</sup>

**Preschool Subcommittee AGM – 6.00pm**

Friday

10<sup>th</sup>

**Assembly – Presented by 5/6H – 12.40pm in the Hall**

#### Week 3

Monday

13<sup>th</sup>

PIPS testing for Kindergarten commences  
Meet and Greet Parent/Teacher Interviews  
Preschool Chats

Gowrie School Board Meeting – 5.30pm

**P&C AGM – 6.30pm All Parents and Carers welcome to attend**

Tuesday

14<sup>th</sup>

PIPS testing continues  
Meet and Greet Parent/Teacher Interviews  
Preschool Chats

Wednesday

15<sup>th</sup>

PIPS testing continues  
Meet and Greet Parent/Teacher Interviews  
Preschool Chats

Thursday

16<sup>th</sup>

Gowrie Swimming Carnival – CISAC  
Preschool Chats

**Friday**

**17<sup>th</sup>**

**Kindergarten Health Check Forms Due Back at Gowrie**

#### Week 4

Friday

24<sup>th</sup>

**Assembly – Presented by 2O – 12.40pm – SRC Presentation and Gowrie Cup**

#### Week 5

### MARCH

Thursday

2<sup>nd</sup>

Parent Reading Workshop K-Yr 2 – 4.30pm-5.30pm

Friday

3<sup>rd</sup>

Clean Up Australia Day

**Saturday**

**4<sup>th</sup>**

**P&C Colour Fun Run – 10.00am**

### 2017 TERM DATES

**Term 1** 30<sup>th</sup> January to 7<sup>th</sup> April

**Term 2** 26<sup>th</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June

**Term 3** 17<sup>th</sup> July to 22<sup>nd</sup> September

**Term 4** 9<sup>th</sup> October to 15<sup>th</sup> December

### UNIFORM SHOP - OPENING HOURS

**FRIDAY 8.45AM – 9.15AM**

**CONTACT: TINA 0468 472 311**

[tinhanzen@gmail.com](mailto:tinhanzen@gmail.com)

### BREAKFAST CLUB

#### Monday and Thursday mornings

Can you help? We are in need of bread and margarine. These items can be dropped off at the Gowrie Office anytime between 8.30am and 3.30pm.

### BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

#### YMCA Program

Before School Care 7:30am – 9:00am daily

After School Care 3.00pm – 6.00pm daily

Contact Numbers

**YMCA Office: 6242 4040**

Mobile (Contact after 2.30pm): 0404 635 730

**We are an Approved Service for Child Care Benefits**

Gowrie Primary School  
Jeffries Street Gowrie ACT 2904

T: (02) 6205 7822 F: (02) 6205 7825

Principal: Gareth Richards

Board Chair: Kristen Watts

P&C President: Karen Williams

[gowp@gowriepts.act.edu.au](mailto:gowp@gowriepts.act.edu.au)



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to all returning and new students to Gowrie Primary School in 2017. It has been very pleasing to see growth in our school community moving into the New Year with numbers across the school, from Preschool to Year 6, extending beyond 290 students. The growth is a credit to our experienced teaching team and the quality programs we offer our students. Our early childhood team have worked very hard developing strong transition programs from preschool to kindergarten and this has resulted in transitions of 40 plus students into kindergarten classes over the past three years.

It has been terrific to see so many smiling faces as students and teachers alike re-engage in learning across the school setting. It is a very exciting time and I look forward to visiting classes over the first few weeks to check in and catch up with students and families.

Following on from last year our school canteen is operational Wednesday to Friday, Breakfast Club starts from week 2 and our lunchtime clubs will commence following our first week back. Before and after school care with the YMCA is continuing to flourish as our school community grows. Our focus on the Arts and Japanese languages program will continue in 2017 and students in Year 5/6 will have an opportunity to join the school band. The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Centre will also be developed further in 2017 operating out of the Yamba building for all students to access.

The front office team in 2017 will comprise Ms. Meryn Cashmere, Mrs. Alison Newhouse, Mrs. Sharon Ives and Mrs. Jayne Jones.

Mr. Frank Maynard will continue in his role as Building Services Officer.

The Executive Team will comprise:

- Mrs. Angela Georgopoulos (Deputy Principal and Executive Teacher for Preschool and Gulla Gulla),
- Ms. Wendy Marlowe (Executive Teacher - Professional Practice),
- Mr. David Herbert (Executive Teacher – Lambrigg and ICT) and
- Mr. Andrew Jacobson (Executive Teacher – Lanyon and Special Needs). This talented group have been supporting and working with our staff throughout the first week as we participated in professional learning and planning across the school.

The current staff arrangements for 2017 are as follows:

**2017 Staff - Gowrie PS**

<b>Preschool</b> Executive: Mrs. Angela Georgopoulos	Ms. Amanda Horne  Mrs. Rene Garland
<b>Athllon - 2/4B</b>	Ms. Angela Batchelor
<b>Brindabella - 1/2 H</b>	Mrs. Kim Holgate (returning from term 2 onwards) Mrs. Sarah Bowtell (term 1)
<b>Brindabella - 4/6 B</b>	Mrs. Fiona Barron
<b>Athllon - Tennant</b>	Mrs. Kim Tucker
<b>Gulla Gulla - Kindergarten</b> Executive: Mrs. Angela Georgopoulos	Mrs. Lyn Cleaver (KCL) Mrs. Kimberley Connell (KCO)
<b>Gulla Gulla - Year 1</b>	Mrs. Shannon Staszak (1S) Mrs. Julie Williams (1W)
<b>Lambrigg – Year 2</b> Executive: Mr. David Herbert	Miss Hayley Hinde (2H) Miss Sheree O'Donnell (2O)
<b>Lambrigg - Year 3/4</b>	Mr. Andrew Heffernan (3/4 AH) Mrs. Sara Harding (3/4 SH)
<b>Lanyon - Year 5/6</b> Executive: Mr. Andrew Jacobson	Mrs. Sharon Weickhardt (5/6 W) Miss Lauren Hasler (5/6 H and Band) Mr. Andrew Jacobson (Executive and 5/6 W teacher on Fridays)
<b>Japanese</b>	Miss Yumiko Dark
<b>Art</b>	Ms. Kirsty Noad
<b>Library</b>	Ms. Gill Russell

## Learning Support Assistants

- Mrs. Leanne Brown [Preschool Educator]
- Ms. Anna Charchouh [Preschool Educator]
- Ms. Angela O'Hare
- Mrs. Narelle Rundle
- Mrs. Sharon Lewis
- Mrs. Wendy Wheeler
- Mrs. Serina Jones
- Mrs. Amanda Walmsley (LSC)
- Mrs. Maureen Dale

Gowrie Primary School welcomes our new staff Mr. Heffernan, Miss Hinde, Miss Dark and Mrs. Bowtell into our amazing school. Also welcome back to a familiar face in Mrs. Weickhardt.

I welcome your feedback and suggestions and value the partnerships we share in education. All the very best for the year ahead.

Kind regards,

*Gareth Richards*

Principal

MERIT AWARDS		
KCL	Anna G	Harvey M
KCO	Zachary K	Peighton D
1/2H	Bryce A	
1S	Kaylah W	Lillibeth O
1W	Jessica S	Owen F
2/4B	Mahrosh S	
2H	Addison M	Riley D
2O	Riley V	Charlie R
3/4AH	Kaelan S	Alannah L
3/4SH	Justin H-T	Maddison B
4/6B	Matthias M	
5/6H	Riley W	Olivia D
5/6W	Lily M	Cooper D
TENNENT	Will E	

## Message from the Deputy Principal

### Parent Reading Workshop

We invite all K – Yr 2 parents to attend our **Parent Reading Workshop on Thursday 2 March from 4.30 – 5.30pm**. This practical workshop will support parents to assist their children with reading at home, explain our home reading program and to provide information about

effective reading strategies teachers use to teach reading at school. Invitations to parents will be sent out soon. Please save the date!

### **PIPS (Performance in Primary Schools) Assessment**

All students in kindergarten will be involved in the PIPS Assessment on **Monday 13 February and Tuesday 14 February**. It will assess their competence in early literacy and numeracy skills. The testing will be completed through an online portal. A parent brochure has been sent out to all kindergarten parents explaining the program.

### **Kindergarten Health Checks**

Kindergarten parents will have received their child's Kindergarten Health Checks envelopes. A reminder that all completed forms are due back to school by **Friday 17 February 2017**.

### **Term 1 Reminders**

#### **Playground Supervision**

Playground supervision begins at 8.40am. Classes begin at 9.00am. The Before School Care program is available for students requiring supervision before 8.40am. All students are to play within the school boundaries.



#### **Playground Equipment**

The school playground equipment should only be used by students during school hours under the supervision of staff. In the interests of the safety of all children, parents should ensure that their children do not use playground equipment before or after school or when a staff member is not supervising.



#### **Hats – Be SunSmart and Safe at All Times**

Children are strongly encouraged to ensure they wear a SunSmart hat for sun protection during all outside lessons, play activities and recess and lunch play. Students will be required to play in the covered courtyard areas if they do not have a hat. No Hat – Play in the Shade.



### **Term 1 Community Calendar**

This week you will receive the community calendar for term one. Please make note of all our important dates for term one especially our whole school *Swimming Carnival* on Thursday 16 February and our *Meet and Greet Parent/Teacher Interviews Wk 3* from 13 – 15 February. The Community Calendar can also be viewed on the Gowrie website.

### **Lunchtime Clubs**

This week with the newsletter you will receive an overview of the lunchtime clubs and activities that are being offered during term one. Clubs will begin in week two. Please place the flyer on your fridge and remind and encourage your child/ren to attend clubs. If you or your child have some great ideas about new clubs we could offer in the future, please contact your child's teacher.

*Angela Georgopoulos*  
Deputy Principal

# TERM OVERVIEWS

## 1/2H Term 1 Overview

During Term 1 in our **Geography Integrated Inquiry Unit** we will explore special or significant places around Australia and learn how to interpret, use and create maps.

Our **literacy** focus will be on reading and writing in the classroom. We will be exploring a variety of text types through the use of quality literature, while continuing to learn and implement a range of reading and spelling strategies.

**Numeracy** will see a focus on number and place value. Students will be undertaking a range of hands on learning activities which include skip counting to 100, ordering numbers to 100 and solving addition and subtraction problems using strategies such as counting on and partitioning.

I look forward to seeing you at the 'Meet and Greet' in week 3.

Sarah Bowtell (1/2H)

## 2-4B Term 1 Overview

Welcome back to school for 2017. The 2-4B staff include Angela Batchelor, classroom teacher (Mon-Fri) and three Learning Support Assistants (LSAs); Narelle Rundle (Mon/Tues), Sharon Lewis (Wed/Thurs) and Serena Jones (Fri).

During Semester 1, 2-4B will explore the features of Africa (term 1) and South America (term 2), their native animals, flags, housing and culture. We will use geographical texts during Literacy with the intention to inform, describe and persuade readers with our writing.

Numeracy will see a focus on location (geometry) and data (statistics) with continued practise of number word sequences and numeral identification, place value, patterns and functions, addition and subtraction.

2-4B will continue with the swimming program (Thursday weeks 2-9) and a social skills program to assist the children with self-regulation of emotions and development of appropriate social and communication skills.

As usual specific learning needs will be targeted through each child's Individual Learning Program (ILPs) formulated with parents, 2-4B staff and other professionals during Week 7.

Angela Batchelor (2-4B)

## 4-6B Term 1 Overview

4-6B is extending our learning about continents from last year - focusing this term on Asia and Africa. Differentiated instruction in literacy and numeracy continues. Our writing emphasis is on imaginative texts and the non-number mathematics unit is location. In Health we will be using "The Zones of Regulation" to help students become more aware of, and independent in controlling their emotions and impulses, managing their sensory needs, and improving their



ability to problem solve conflicts. Students will participate with Tennent in gym sessions run by Woden Valley Gymnastics on Fridays from Week 2 to Week 9. Our library session will be on Thursday afternoons. Students are looking forward to joining Lambrigg and Lanyon classes on individual timetables and using Chromebooks to enhance their learning experiences.

Fiona Barron (4-6B)

### Kindergarten Term 1 Overview

Welcome to all our new families. In our **Integrated Inquiry unit** this term students will initially be focusing on our Gowrie school values and building social skills through the Bounce Back and Everyone Everyday programs. Specifically, we will look at problem solving and resiliency through managing our emotions positively. We will then progress to our **Geography unit on Places and Spaces**, where we will explore the observable features of familiar places and their importance to people.

During the Kindergarten **literacy blocks** the students will be introduced to early reading and writing strategies through modelled reading of big books, including fiction and nonfiction reading materials. We will familiarise students with the 'Read to Self' time and introduce individual reading book boxes. Letter identification and sight words will be a focus through modelled reading times. Throughout this term we will have an emphasis on oral language, where students will be given opportunities to speak to the class during circle time and presentations to gain confidence and understanding in the conventions of speaking and listening.

During **Maths** we will be focusing on deepening students understanding of numbers zero to ten, through hands on counting, ordering and numeral sequencing games. We will also be introducing students to the concepts of data, location and direction.

Lyn Cleaver (KCL) and Kimberley Connell (KCO)

### Year 1 Term 1 Overview

This term, our **Integrated Inquiry Unit focus is Geography**. We will be exploring natural, managed and constructed features that characterise familiar places. During the unit, there will be an excursion to Fadden Pines.

**Literacy Workshops** will incorporate differentiated instruction based on student data. Reading workshops will involve exposure to a range of early reading strategies and genres through oral reading. Writing Workshops will be based around information texts and the explicit teaching of sentence structure, spelling (phonics) and punctuation.

**In Mathematics**, we will be focusing on number word sequences and numeral ID, investigating patterns and exploring addition and subtraction. We will be making links to our Geography Unit through geometry e.g. location, and statistics e.g. data.

This term, we have commenced our **Health and Well-Being Unit including 'Everyone COUNTS'** – the school values framework which will continue throughout the year in class meetings and

Circle Time. Constable Kenny will be visiting our students to consolidate our learning about keeping safe.

During specialist **Art lessons**, there will be focus on Australian art. In **Japanese lessons**, there will be a focus on numbers to 20 and colours. **Gross Motor and P.E.** sessions will focus on locomotor skills such as balancing, jumping, hopping, skipping and running.

Julie Williams (1W) and Shannon Staszak (1S)

### Year 2 Term Overview

This term the students are participating in a three week health unit; revisiting the Gowrie COUNTS values, with a focus on the 'understands and accepts diversity' value. Students will be exploring what makes every individual unique and learning about the diverse nature of students in their class and the rest of Gowrie.

In English, students will be revisiting the CAFÉ Reading Strategies during Readers' Workshop and identifying personal literacy goals. They will be exploring Australian Geography information texts as well as narratives whilst practicing their reading strategies. Students will continue to focus on sentence and paragraph structures, punctuation, spelling and engaging an audience during writing sessions.

In Mathematics, students will be extending their knowledge of mental computation strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems and how to apply these to different situations. They will deepen their understanding of place value and number patterning as well as learning more about location/mapping and data collection. Students will work with their classroom teacher to identify a personalised numeracy goal.

The Lambrigg Arts, STEM and PE Rotations will commence mid-term on Friday afternoons, along with daily fitness and weekly PE sessions focusing on the Fundamental Movement Skills. The Visual Art and Japanese/Cultural Awareness programs will be on Wednesday mornings.

Hayley Hinde (2H) and Sheree O'Donnell (2O)

### Year 3/4 Term Overview

This term, the students in Year 3/4 classes are starting their Geography inquiry unit called 'Our World, Our Place'. This unit is about the exploration of natural and human characteristics of selected countries in Africa and South America, focusing on interconnections and sustainability. Students will be making predictions; collecting, analysing and recording observations; and describing patterns and relationships.

In writing, students will be experimenting with informative and persuasive texts. Aiming to develop their understanding and use of language devices used to inform or influence readers. Reading workshops will begin this term with CAFÉ reading strategies. Students will also be developing their spelling and vocabulary through Word Work sessions.



This term in numeracy workshops students will be learning about number word sequences; place value patterns and functions; addition and subtraction, including mental computation. Within mathematics students will learn skills through location and data topics.

The Lambrigg Arts, STEM and PE Rotations will commence mid-term on Friday afternoons, along with daily fitness and weekly PE sessions focusing on the Fundamental Movement Skills. Visual Art and Japanese will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Library returning/borrowing will occur on Friday. 3/4 students will begin the Preschool Buddy Program part way through the mid-term.

Andrew Heffernan (3/4AH) and Sara Harding (3/4SH)

### **Lanyon Term 1 Overview**

Geography will be a major focus this term in Lanyon. The aim of the unit is to explore the diverse places, peoples and cultures of Asia and examine Australia's relationship to Asia. Students will begin by locating some of the main regions and countries within Asia. They will look at photographs to explore the advantages and disadvantages of the landscapes of different Asian countries. Mathematical skills that integrate into this topic will be used to look at data and graphs that examine the differences between countries in Asia and Australia and compare their economic, demographic and social characteristics. Reading and interpreting maps will also be a focus during this unit.

Over the past two weeks we have been setting up the classroom climate with a focus on the school values and how Lanyon students can take on leadership roles across the school and contribute to our school community.

The Year 5 Band assessment has been completed and placements will be offered shortly. The Year 6 Band class will recommence this Friday. Band Classes will be run every Tuesday and Friday.

Friday afternoons will be dedicated to various activities. This term, students will rotate through PE, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and Digital Arts related activities.

Speech writing, creative writing and Cooperative Reading will form part of the Literacy program as well as aspects that integrate into our Geography unit.

Lauren Hassler, Sharon Weickhardt and Andrew Jacobson

### **Japanese Term 1 Overview**

Konnichi wa Gowrie Primary School! My name is Dark Sensei and I am looking forward to a very busy and exciting year of Japanese with all students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Here are some things I will be teaching each of the grades in term one.

Kindergarten – Students will learn how to say basic greetings, numbers to ten and colours. We will also learn some Japanese songs and Japanese celebrations and folk stories.

Year 1/2 – Students will learn Japanese greetings, numbers to 20, colours, Kanji numbers to 20, classroom instructions as well as some Japanese stories and celebrations.

Year 3/4 - Students will begin to learn how to read and write all 46 Hiragana characters. We will also learn class routines in Japanese, numbers to 100, Japanese geography and begin learning how to give a self-introduction in Japanese.

Year 5/6 – Students will continue their study of the 46 Hiragana characters, learn how to present and write a self-introduction in Japanese, how to write their names in Katakana and learn about important aspects of Japanese geography and culture.

Dark Sensei

### **Visual Arts Term 1 Overview**

2017 term 1 is the beginning of new creative experiences. This year is going to be all about imagination, inspiration and how to conceive, develop, refine and produce artworks. Children from kindergarten to year 6 will be learning where we get ideas from, how we make unique artworks, how to deeply think about and interpret our world and to discuss and present artworks to an audience.

The theme for term one is 'Australian Art'. Students will be focussing on specific artists, using them as inspiration to develop ideas and works that tell a story about them and their world. K-2 will begin with Margaret Preston, focussing on the beauty of nature. 3/4's will begin with Sidney Nolan, looking at his Ned Kelly series and focussing on artworks as a narrative. Year 5/6 will begin looking at Sally Morgan and her artwork entitled 'My Place', students will explore their cultural identity.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year.

Kirsty Noad

Visual Arts Specialist

## **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

### **Welcome to our new PRESCHOOLERS!**

Our transition program from home to preschool seems to have paid off with an absolutely brilliant start to the year with both groups settling in comfortably in their first week, with not too many tears at all. The children are settled and happy and getting to know each other. We thank all families for their support in assisting us with a smooth start to the year for our delightful 2017 preschool children. Favourite play spaces in the outdoor environment are the sand pit, climbing fort, swings and cubby house. In play room 1 we love the snail race game, "Frozen" shelf and the "Trolls" scene. In playroom 2 we love the play dough, hand printing and train set.

## **Morning Routine**

Please remember to wait outside the small preschool gate, along the wall/pathway. The preschool staff will come to the small black gate to greet preschoolers and families at 9am and will share any significant messages for the day.

## **Hats, Water Bottles and Spare Clothes**

A friendly reminder to all our families that preschool children require a hat and water bottle every day. We highly suggest you have a “preschool” hat to LEAVE in the children’s personal tubs. This saves tears in our little ones when they can’t find their hats or realise they don’t have one with them.

We have noticed that a couple of children don’t have a spare set of clothes or underwear in their school bags. Please ensure that you check your child’s bag to make sure they have these items in case of accidents (water play, sand pit play or bathroom!). All items should be labelled clearly with children’s names.

## **Puzzle Time**

This week we are modelling to the children how to complete their puzzles. **This includes not tipping the puzzle pieces out!** Please remind and encourage your child to take the pieces out one by one and have the puzzle pieces showing and place them around the puzzle. This helps keep our puzzles safe and prevents puzzle pieces from breaking or getting lost! We have Puzzle Posters in each of the playrooms to assist adults with supporting children in this routine.

## **Full Day Eating Routine**

We aim to have snack about 10.30am on our full day at preschool. Children only require 1 – 2 food items for snack (banana & yoghurt **OR** sultanas & carrot sticks). These items must be in a SMALL container, snap lock bag, or brown paper bag labelled with children’s names on them. Snack items go in the snack boxes (we aim to put these boxes in the fridge). Please refrain from placing larger lunch box style containers in the snack boxes.

We have lunch about 12.45pm on our full day at preschool. For lunch we recommend the children to have a sandwich or wrap first followed by other items. Lunch items stay in larger lunch boxes/lunch bags inside children’s school bags (not in tubs thanks). Please remember an ice brick to keep items cool.

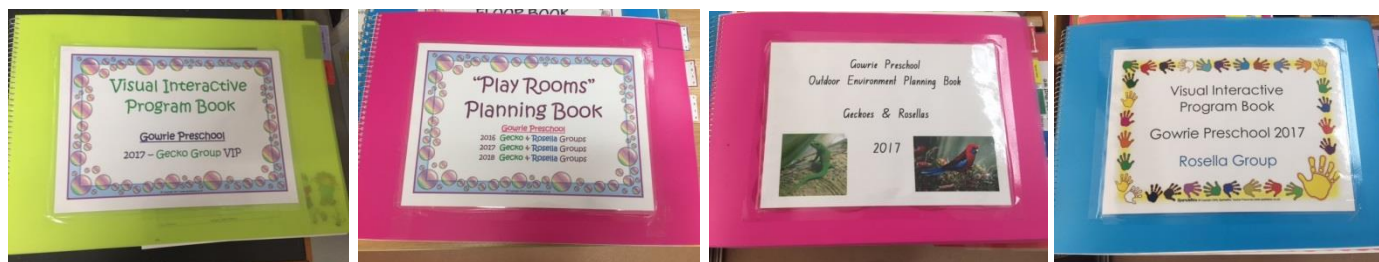
## **Preschool Parent Chats**

Notes went home in week 1 about booking into the parent chat timetable to touch base with preschool teachers on how children are settling in. Please book in ASAP. We look forward to talking to everyone again. If you would prefer a phone chat please contact the preschool to organise a time with your class teacher.

## **Planning Books**

Our A3 sized planning books are already on display in both Play Rooms. The outdoor planning book often sits outside for the day. We invite all visitors to keep reading through these books

and feel free to leave comments and suggestions. We place photos of our day and the children engaged in activities, so remember to check them to see what your child has been up to!!!



*Gowrie Preschool Team*  
Amanda, Leanne, Anna & Rene



Miss Horne, Leanne and the Geckoes singing “The Rainbow Ring” song.



The Rosellas enjoyed having morning tea picnics outside this week! We chatted with our new friends while they nibbled on their healthy snacks!

### STUDENT BANKING

School banking will be up and running again this week (week 2) for all existing bankers. Please bring your bankbook in on a Wednesday and it will be ready for collection from the front office on Friday afternoon.

If you would like to become a school banker please see the front office for enrolment forms, pop into the Bendigo Bank at Calwell or see the **friendly Bendigo Bank Staff at Gowrie in week 3 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon between 4:00pm and 5:00pm during the “Meet and Greet” interviews.**

School banking is a great way to get your child/ren involved with regular saving, with great incentives to earn over the year and use tokens in the community to support our canteen and local businesses. Regular banking will also be rewarded at Gowrie assemblies.

If you would like to find out more about school banking please feel free to leave your details at the front office and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Happy banking!