



GOWRIE GAZETTE

Term 1, Week 2

12th February 2020



ACT
Government
Education

What's on at Gowrie in Term 1!

FEBRUARY

Week 2

Friday 14th **No Assembly**

Week 3

Monday 17th BASE (PIPS) Testing
Board Meeting – 5.30pm
P&C Meeting – 6.30pm

Tuesday 18th BASE (PIPS) Testing

Wednesday 19th Gowrie Swimming Carnival – CISAC
Kindergarten – Year 2 Water Fun Day
Scholastic Book Club Due

Thursday 20th Curriculum Evening Years 5 & 6

Week 4

Monday 24th Kindergarten – Year 4 Meet & Greet Interviews/ILP Interviews
BASE (PIPS) Testing

Tuesday 25th Kindergarten – Year 4 Meet & Greet Interviews/ILP Interviews

Wednesday 26th Preschool School Photos and Family Photos
Kindergarten – Year 4 Meet & Greet Interviews/ILP Interviews
Preschool Curriculum Meeting

Thursday 27th Kindergarten – Year 6 School Photos
Kindergarten – Year 4 Meet & Greet Interviews/ILP Interviews

Friday 28th Assembly 12.40pm – Year 5/6 (Gowrie Cup)

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

YMCA Program

Before School Care 7:00am – 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

2020 Term Dates

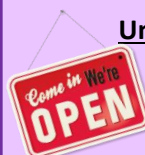
Term 1	3 February to 9 April
Term 2	27 April to 3 July
Term 3	20 July to 25 September
Term 4	12 October to 18 December

UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform shop Opening hours for 2020

FRIDAY 8.30AM – 9.00AM

CONTACT: TINA 0468 472 311



FUTURE EVENTS TERM 1

- Gowrie Swimming Carnival CISAC – 19/2
- Kindergarten – Year 2 Water Fun Day – 19/2
- Cross Country – 24/3
- Year 5/6 Jindabyne Camp – 7/4 – 9/4
- Easter Hat Parade – 8/4

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a holiday season dominated by unprecedented fires, destructive hailstorms and even floods. The loss of life and homes, the devastation to landscape and wildlife (an estimated 1 billion wildlife killed) is beyond belief.

The fires challenged and continue to challenge many things in this country that we take for granted - clean air, electronic contact with families, electricity and water supplies. It also challenged us in regard to Australian summers in the future and actions we must take.

The fires deepened people's relationships with one another and strengthened the values that we hold important as a country. I would like to acknowledge, the heroism of the fire fighters, the generous response to special appeals and the support people are already offering to the recovery. For those who have lost loved ones and homes in these 'Black Summer' bushfires our thoughts are with you. Finally, to those truly heroic women and men who are helping to fight the fires 'thank you'.

Should you feel your child is having difficulty understanding or processing the recent fires, please do not hesitate to discuss this with staff at Gowrie Primary.

Welcome

I would like to welcome to Gowrie Primary, all students and families for the 2020 school year. I especially welcome any new families. Several new staff members joined the Gowrie teaching team in 2020. Welcome to Nick Bond (grade 2), Sally Makin (grade 2), Joanne Flannigan (grade 1) and Kaari Toivonen (grade 3). I would also like to congratulate Sharon Weickhardt and Andrew Heffernan who have been successful in gaining School Executive teaching positions.

P&C

The school Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) will be meeting on Monday 17 February at 6:30pm. At this meeting all positions will be declared vacant. All parents and carers are welcome to attend. By attending it gives an opportunity to be involved in the decision making of the school and help raise valuable funds for the Gowrie community. Please note that by attending you do not have to take a formal position. The meeting will take place in Maynard cottage.

Welcome Interviews/ Curriculum Evening

This year we will be hosting 'get to know you' interviews from Kindergarten to Year 6. These interviews provide an opportunity to meet classroom teachers but also share important information to ensure a successful year. The interviews will take place weeks 4 and 5. Further communication about bookings will be sent home. Families of students in year levels 5 and 6 are welcome to join the teachers for an information evening on February 20. If families in year levels 5 and 6 require an interview in addition to the information night this can be made directly with the classroom teacher.

School Car park

A reminder to all parents and carers about safety in the school carpark. The school carpark is a designated 40km an hour area. If the carpark is full please use alternate parking at the North East corner of the school. Please ensure that disabled parking spots are left for those that require them.

Student valuables

Students are reminded that any valuables including mobile phones and any other electronic devices should be handed to the front office staff on arrival to school and collected at the conclusion of the day. This will ensure the safety of all equipment throughout the day. However, we encourage students to leave their electronic belongings at home.

Opening hours

The official opening hours of Gowrie Primary are **8:45am until 3:15pm**. Staff supervision will only begin at 8:45am each morning. Students and siblings are not permitted on the playground equipment in the mornings due to safety issues.

Communication

There are many exciting events happening at Gowrie Primary in 2020. Please continue to read newsletters, communication boards and any other communication that may be sent home.

On behalf of all the Gowrie Primary School staff, welcome to 2020. We are looking forward to a busy and rewarding year.

Kind Regards

Simon

Principal

Safe and Supportive Schools Policy

Canberra Public Schools are safe environments in which to work and learn. The Directorate is committed to promoting the health and wellbeing of all staff and students ensuring that schools are safe and supportive. All members of the school community are responsible for contributing to a safe and supportive school environment. Please read the *Working Together with our School* Brochure attached which outlines a code of conduct expected for all members of the school community.

For more information on the Safe & Supportive Schools Policy please click on the link: https://www.education.act.gov.au/publications_and_policies/School-and-Corporate-Policies/wellbeing/safety/safe-and-supportive-schools-policy

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a comprehensive, integrated whole school approach to student wellbeing and behaviour which was introduced to Gowrie Primary School last year. The process supports the school leadership team to enhance and create positive learning environments that enable student learning and wellbeing. The key expectations are: **Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be a Responsible Learner. Students will be receiving positive acknowledgements on the playground when displaying these behaviours.** We have posters and signs across the school with our key expectations written clearly. Successful implementation of PBL is underpinned by the support and commitment of the school community.

Preschool Information Evening 2020 – Wednesday 26 February

The preschool team are inviting all preschool parents and carers to a Preschool Information Session on **Wednesday 26 February from 5.00pm – 6.00pm**. This will include an overview of the National Quality Framework (NQF) and Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), Quality Improvement Plan 2019 - 2020 (QIP), compliance documentation, indoor and outdoor learning program, routines and communication. Parents/Carers are also invited to the P&C Preschool Subcommittee AGM at the end of the meeting. Alice Buck, our 2019 Preschool Subcommittee Coordinator will outline the roles of the subcommittee and how you can become involved. An invitation will be sent to all preschool parents this week.

Term 1 Reminders

Playground Supervision

Playground supervision begins at 8.45am. Classes begin at 9.00am. Before School Care is available for students requiring supervision before 8.45am. All students are to play within the school boundaries. The Top Oval is currently unavailable.



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.



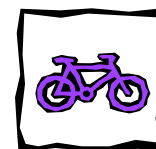
Hats – Be SunSmart and Safe at All Times

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.



Bikes

Bikes are to be left locked at the bike racks (Please supply your child with a bike lock). The school does not accept responsibility for lost or stolen bikes. By law, a helmet must be worn while riding. Scooters may be kept in the units. Please check with your child's teacher. All students must walk their bike or scooter while on school grounds.



Allergy Aware

Gowrie Primary is an allergy aware school. We currently have a number of children & staff with asthma and gluten, nut, artificial colouring, preservatives allergies presenting in our school and the wider community. Our great staff supervise eating duties at lunch time every day and train the children to eat their own food, NOT to share food and NOT to borrow or swap food. We ask families not to bring any of these types of products to school in order to minimise exposure to students who do have allergies.

Dogs

ACT Dog laws prohibit dogs from being on the premises (including the grounds) of primary schools at any time. For the safety of our students, dogs should not be on the school grounds.

I look forward to seeing many of you over the coming weeks.

Angela Georgopoulos

Deputy Principal

 **Book Club**

Dear families,

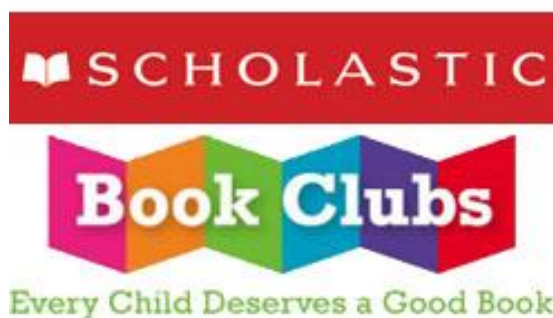
The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our class is participating in **Scholastic Book Club** this year. Up to twice a term, during the school year, I will send home the Book Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$2).

It is easy to order. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at scholastic.com.au/loop or by using the **LOOP** app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our classroom, however there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.





ORIENTEERING
— ACT —

Give your kids a REAL Challenge!

School Orienteering

SC-ORE

SC-ORE School Orienteering

2020 Term 1

A before school body and brain work out.
4-week Challenge for Primary School Children

Teams 2 girls and 2 boys

Thursday 5 March	St Monica's Primary School
Thursday 12 March	Lynham Primary School
Thursday 19 March	Maribyrnong Primary School
Thursday 26 March	Majura Primary School

SC-ORE online [registration NOW OPEN](#)

For more information visit <http://act.orienteering.asn.au/juniors/blue-sparks/sc-ore/>

Or call 0484 649 186





Parents, are you ready to learn English?

Being parents of students in ACT schools, it is important that you know about the education system and are able to fully engage with your children's school community.

Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) offers a range of English courses for people from non-English speaking backgrounds.

We offer nationally recognised courses which will assist you to achieve functional English, so that you can work more closely with your children's school and maximise opportunities for further study and employment in Australia.

The courses are designed to improve skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing English, from beginner to advanced/academic level. Our highly qualified, experienced teachers will build your confidence to use English at school, at work, for study or in the community, in a friendly and affordable learning environment.

CIT has a reputation for offering quality English language classes. We also offer other support such as careers and study support, counselling, library support, migrant and refugee support, IT support and of course, excellent teaching staff.

CIT English classes offer great flexibility and both **full-time and part-time study options are available, both day and evening at CIT Reid and CIT Gungahlin**. All CIT classes are ACT government subsidised and concessions are available for eligible students. There are also free English classes available to eligible ACT Access Card Holders.

Want to know more?

Come along to upcoming **information and enrolment sessions!**

These sessions are your opportunity to speak to CIT staff to find out more about the course and are a great way to have your questions answered:

CIT Gungahlin	CIT Reid, Room J106
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wednesday 5 February 2020 3pm-5.30pm• Monday 10 February 2020, 10am - 1pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday 6 February 2020, 3pm-5.30pm• Thursday 13 February 2020, 3pm - 5:30pm

Semester 1, 2020 classes start on **Monday 10 February 2020**.

For more information:

Visit: cit.edu.au/el

Or contact CIT Student Services:

Email: info@cit.edu.au

Phone: (02) 6207 3188

Live Chat: Cit.edu.au/livechat



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum



Gunghalin

Exhibition Park
Canberra
10 Flemington Rd.
Mitchell
ACT 2911

Free Professional Learning

Wednesday 18 March
2020

8.30am - 4.00pm

One day workshop on autism for teachers & parents/carers

**Join us and invite a parent/carer from your school
to work with you in a team.**

Funding support available - see below for more information.



To register, email Lynda
lhunt@autismspectrum.org.au

The Positive Partnerships initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through the Helping Children with Autism Package and is delivered by Autism Spectrum Australia. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.



Gowrie Primary School
Jeffries Street Gowrie ACT 2904
T: (02) 6142 1960

Principal: Simon Smith
Board Chair: Kristen Watts
P&C President: Sarah Janek

gowp@gowriepts.act.edu.au



PROGRAM STEPS

- 1 The school selects a team to attend the workshop. The team consists of a classroom teacher, a leadership representative and 2 parents/carers.
- 2 The school invites the parents/carers to attend the workshop, to work together as a team.
- 3 The school & parents/carers register for the workshop using the links provided.
- 4 The school staff complete the compulsory online learning (2 modules) prior to the workshop day.
- 5 The school staff and parents/carers complete a day of learning together at the workshop. The team completes a partnership plan to guide future directions.

Positive Partnerships will:

- use quality, research and evidence informed content and material to support the professional learning program
- run a 1 day workshop facilitated by an experienced, skilled and knowledgeable team
- provide a program that meets the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, specifically meeting Standards 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7. Specific details available on our website
- fund resourcing support - \$420+GST per staff participant, for a maximum of two participants per school
- provide workbooks and resources to support the workshop and online learning activities
- guide access to the website resources that support and supplement the Positive Partnerships program.

ONLINE LEARNING

An introduction to autism*

An introduction to the Planning Matrix*

*School staff only

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Autism- characteristics, impacts and strategies

Family perspectives*

Partnerships and working together

Understanding behaviour

Understanding mental health and wellbeing*

Exploring Positive Partnerships online resources*

*School staff only



To register, email Lynda: lhunt@autismspectrum.org.au

TO ATTEND:

Speak to your child's teacher for
 registration information or email,
lhunt@autismspectrum.org.au



Positive Partnerships will support you to:

- work along side teachers from your school
- learn how to build upon your home-school partnership
- explore practical, evidence based tools and strategies to support your young person on the autism spectrum

positivepartnerships.com.au

Join teachers from your school at the Positive Partnerships workshop

LEARN ABOUT

Autism, Working together &
Understanding behaviour



Free interpreter available

FREE TO ATTEND

18 March 2020

9:10 am to 2:30 pm

Exhibition Park Canberra

10 Flamington Rd.

Mitchell ACT 2911

Morning tea and light lunch provided

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5 tips for back-to-school online safety – information from the Office of the eSafety Commissioner

Tuesday 11 February is [Safer Internet Day](#), which is an annual, worldwide event that encourages building a better internet together. The beginning of a new school year is a good time to review online safety and open the conversation with your students before any issues arise.

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner recommends sharing the responsibilities of online safety with your student and working together to develop a [‘Family Tech Agreement’](#); being mindful of what you share online and with whom (e.g. photos of your child’s first day of school and other milestones); [know the signs for cyberbullying](#); [set screen time limits](#); use tools such as [parental controls](#) and [privacy and reporting tools](#); and [stay engaged](#).

The [Office of the eSafety Commissioner](#) website is a great place to visit to keep pace with the latest in online safety for children and young people all year round. The Office of the eSafety Commissioner is facilitating a number of [webinars for Parents and Carers](#):

Helping kids thrive online

Suitable for parents and carers of young people aged 5-12 years old.

- 12 February 2020 – 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM (AEDT)
- 14 February 2020 – 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (AEDT)

Tech, teens and time online

Suitable for parents and carers of young people aged 12-18 years old.

- 11 February 2020 – 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM (AEDT)
- 12 February 2020 – 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM (AEDT)

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | phone: 132281 | www.act.gov.au