



# Gowrie Primary School



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## Gowrie Primary School

Jeffries Street  
Gowrie ACT 2904  
(02) 6142 1960

## Upcoming Events

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Friday</b><br>12 February    | Safer Internet Day                             |
|                                 | 5/6H Assembly                                  |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br>16 February   | BASE Testing Kindergarten                      |
|                                 | Canteen Special Lunch                          |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br>17 February | Preschool photos<br>Sibling photos             |
|                                 | BASE Testing Kindergarten                      |
|                                 | Preschool Information Session<br>4.30 – 5.30pm |
|                                 | Scholastic Book Club returned                  |

## TERM 1 WEEK 2 NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE.....

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE.....

GOWRIE NEWS.....

MERIT AWARDS.....

# Principal's Message

Forms & Documents

Working Together with  
Your School pamphlet



Mexican Special Lunch Day



Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by saying thank you to all members of the Gowrie community for the smooth start to 2021. Thank you to the wonderful staff, for their time and effort to prepare for the return of the students and the outstanding learning that is happening in all classrooms. Thank you to the parents and carers for the support and flexibility of the current school arrangements due to the pandemic. Thank you for the support you have offered your own children. Finally thank you to the outstanding students. Students from Preschool to Year 6 have begun the school year exceptionally well. It is always a pleasure to visit the classrooms and witness firsthand the engagement and enthusiasm of the classes across the school.

Welcome to all new students and families to the School. We trust you have felt welcomed to the community and look forward to working with you.

There have been some minor changes to staffing in 2021. Grace Batchelor (front office) has left Gowrie Primary to pursue further studies. We thank Grace for her professionalism and commitment to Gowrie Primary. On behalf of the community we wish Grace all the best for her future endeavours. Stacey Harnas will be acting in the position until a permanent replacement is organised. The position will be advertised through jobs ACT.

We welcome Ollie Holdway to our staff. Ollie will be working as a learning support assistant across the school.

I am aware much of the following information was communicated via email last week. However, I feel it is important to repeat it to ensure the entire community is aware of some key information.

## **Covid Update**

With the pandemic continuing, the ACT government continues to have restrictions in place across schools and the community. In schools these arrangements are largely the same as in Term 4 2020.

In 2021, as always, our priority is keeping the entire school community safe and healthy, by operating in a COVID-safe way.

Restrictions in place for Term 1, 2021, mainly involve gathering size, density and physical distancing.

- Gatherings on school sites must not exceed 500 visitors. Students and staff of the school do not count in the 500 person limit
- Visitors must not exceed one person per two-square-metres in indoor or outdoor spaces
- And all visitors should keep 1.5 metres apart from one another where possible, unless they are from the same family group.

**Gowrie Gathering** has re-commenced every Monday. This will take place on the back-basketball court. It will begin promptly at 9:00am. If parents choose to attend, they must adhere to social distancing requirements.

**School assemblies** will re-commence every even Friday of the term. Unfortunately, due to the size of the hall and Covid restrictions only parents of the class presenting and or those who are receiving awards will be able to attend. Parents will be notified in advance if they have an option of attending.

Gowrie Primary will continue to use the **Check in CBR** app for all visitors who attend internal spaces. We will also continue with the hard copy sign in / sign out book in the front foyer. All visitors/ volunteers must utilise one of the sign in procedures.

### **School Drop off**

Parents are permitted to be on school grounds, however we are encouraging as many families as possible to utilise the **Pickup and Set down only** area at the front of the school for school drop off and pick up. This area will operate for all families who are able to drop their child/ children at school from 8:45am and pick up from 3:00pm without leaving their car. This area will be supervised by Gowrie Primary staff in the morning and afternoons. Please note this is not for parking as we are trying to keep the flow of traffic moving. Please do not park in the allocated bus bays.

### **Communication**

There are many exciting events happening at Gowrie Primary in 2021. Please continue to read newsletters, communication boards and any other communication that may be sent home. The school Facebook page is a great way to stay informed of the happenings at Gowrie Primary School and also enjoy the events and learning taking place.

Enjoy the remainder of the week.

Simon Smith  
Principal

# Deputy Principal's Message

## Message from the Deputy 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](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: **We are Safe, We are Respectful, We are Responsible Learners. 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 – Yr 6 ‘Meet and Greet’ Parent/Teacher Interviews**

During Term 1 parents are invited to our *Meet and Greet Parent/Teacher Interviews during Wk 4 and 5 from Monday 22 February to Thursday 4 March 2021*. As part of our ongoing commitment to delivering the best for each student and to ensure open channels of communication we will be holding individual interviews with Preschool – Yr 6 parents to meet with their child’s teacher and to discuss their child’s strengths and share relevant information. This is a time for the teacher to listen to you and learn about your child. Bookings will need to be made online. Information will be sent to parents separately.

### **BASE Early Years Assessment Program - Kindergarten**

All students in kindergarten will be involved in the BASE Assessment on **Monday 15 & Wednesday 17 February and Monday 22 & Wednesday 24 February**. It will assess their competence in early literacy and numeracy skills. The testing will be completed through an online portal. A parent brochure will be sent out to all kindergarten parents explaining the program.

### **Preschool Information Evening 2021 – Wednesday 17 February**

The preschool team are inviting all preschool parents and carers to a Preschool Information Session on **Wednesday 17 February from 4:30pm – 5:30pm**. This will include an overview of the National Quality Framework (NQF) and Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF), Quality Improvement Plan 2021 (QIP), compliance documentation, indoor and outdoor learning program, routines and communication. 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.



### **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.



### **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 staff supervise eating duties at lunch time every day and support 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 Georgepoulos*



## Merit Awards

Congratulations to all of this fortnight's Merit award recipients. Certificates will be given out in assembly on Friday.

| CLASS              | AWARDED TO  |                 |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <b>ATHLLON</b>     |             |                 |
| <b>KG</b>          | Eli N       | Scarlett W      |
| <b>KH</b>          | Josh N      | Sofia A         |
| <b>GULLA GULLA</b> |             |                 |
| <b>1F</b>          | Juno K      | Lincoln T       |
| <b>1HD</b>         | Arjen G     | Alexander F     |
| <b>2B</b>          | Darcy M     | Mason F         |
| <b>2M</b>          | Angus W     | Sophie M        |
| <b>LAMBRIGG</b>    |             |                 |
| <b>3D</b>          | Cheston B   | Luca K          |
| <b>3T</b>          | Adele C J   | Luca H          |
| <b>4S</b>          | Ben D       | Georgia L       |
| <b>4W</b>          | Isabelle L  | Oliver B        |
| <b>LANYON</b>      |             |                 |
| <b>4-6M</b>        | Caleb S-G   |                 |
| <b>5/6B</b>        | Marley H    | Molly G         |
| <b>5/6H</b>        | Evan D      | Hannah W        |
| <b>5/6HA</b>       | Amelia W    | Riley V         |
| <b>BRINDABELLA</b> |             |                 |
| <b>K-3L</b>        | Korbin R-E  |                 |
| <b>5-6Ba</b>       | Grace F     |                 |
| <b>JAPANESE</b>    |             |                 |
|                    | Mila K (2B) | Mitchell J (3T) |