



Jeffries Street
GOWRIE ACT 2904
Telephone (02) 6142 1960

Principal: Simon Smith

GAZETTE Week 2, Term 2



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Calendar

May 2022				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		4	5 Yr 3/4 Swim School	6 Mother's Day Stall K – Yr 6 9.30am Yr 3/4 Swim School
9 School Board Meeting 5.30pm P&C Meeting online 6.30pm	10 NAPLAN Online	11 NAPLAN Online Scholastic Book Club Orders due back	12 NAPLAN Online	13 WALK TO SAFELY TO SCHOOL Day 2 nd hand Uniform Stall 8.30am
16	17 NAPLAN Online	18 NAPLAN Online	19 NAPLAN Online	20
23 Book Fair	24 Book Fair Tuggeranong Cross Country Carnival	25 Book Fair National Simultaneous Storytime	26 Book Fair National Sorry Day	27 Book Fair Kindergarten Health Checks

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

There have been changes to the baseline risk controls at Gowrie Primary as we transition to alternate COVID measures. COVID smart behaviours will still be encouraged, including physical distancing where possible, practicing good hand and respiratory hygiene practices, and staying home if unwell.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING

As part of the risk mitigation strategies for the commencement of the school year for the first 8 weeks of school, the ACT Government provided two Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) per week for all on campus students from pre-school to year 12 and all school staff. From the commencement of week 9 Term 1, RATs have been provided on an as needed basis for all staff and students in ACT schools. This arrangement will continue for Term 2. Participation in Rapid Antigen Testing is voluntary. RATs are available at school to take home for self-administering. Positive test results are to be reported to the school and ACT Health.

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

The ACT Government have eased quarantine requirements for household contacts of people who have COVID-19 from 11.59pm on Tuesday 26 April. The Education Directorate are taking a precautionary approach to introducing this change to ACT Public Schools and schools are encouraged to follow the below advice in relation to the management of household contacts. For the next 2 weeks, it is strongly recommended that household contacts (including staff and students), be encouraged to work or learn from home.

COHORTING

Years 3-6 will join together from week 3 for play times. We will further investigate the options of whole school play times in the near future.

ON-SITE VISITORS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Essential visitors, volunteers on school sites

- Essential visitors are permitted to attend school sites. Essential visitors are any individuals who provides a critical service to a student or staff member, including allied health professionals.
- Volunteers are permitted to attend school sites. Volunteers are any individuals who provides a critical service to the school community, including canteen and uniform stores, parent volunteers, and P&C run fundraisers.

Parents and carers on school sites

- Parents and carers can attend outdoor areas of the school site for drop off and pick up, or when attending a permitted activity.
- Parents and carers can enter school classrooms or indoor settings with an appointment, including to access enrolment support, or when attending a permitted activity (see below). Parents and carers can book an appointment with their school.
- Parents and carers can attend activities where they are outdoors, outside of school hours, or ticketed.

While on site all visitors must:

- sign in and out as required by the Working with Children and Young People – Volunteers and Visitors Policy.
- display COVID smart behaviours. Including maintaining physical distancing, hygiene practices and staying away if unwell or presenting with symptoms of COVID.
- maintain physical distancing from other adults and students where possible
- adhere to any local arrangements that may be in place in the school. This might include entry/exit instructions, cohorting arrangements and other COVID Safe plan arrangements which the school advise of.

FACEMASKS

As of 25 April 2022 11:59pm an update to Public Health Directions removed the mandated requirement for face masks to be worn in indoor spaces at a school or early childhood education and care (ECEC) settings. In line with the ACT Public Service WHS arrangements, all staff will continue to wear masks when physical distancing of 1.5 meters cannot be maintained - e.g., when providing personal care to a student, when working in close contact with other staff or students, or when travelling to excursions.

SEMESTER 1 REPORTS

With the middle of the school year fast approaching our teachers will soon be preparing student reports for semester 1. This semester we will be providing students with an overall A-E grade, and an assessment of achievement standard statements on a 5-point scale.

While semester 1 reports won't include detailed teacher comments, parents are encouraged to speak directly with their child's teacher(s) if they have any questions or concerns about their progress. Our teachers will also continue to communicate directly with you when there are any concerns about student learning or other classroom updates.

Thank you for taking the time to read the updated plan. We again thank you all for your support and flexibility in this difficult time.

Kind Regards

Simon

Deputy Principal's Message

Message from the Deputy Principal

2022 Action Plan

As you may be aware, each year the school develops an Action Plan to further our five-year Strategic Plan. This year, our Action Plan focusses on strengthening the following priorities:

- Priority 1: Increase growth in student performance in writing
- Priority 2: Increase growth in student performance in numeracy
- Priority 3: Improve student identification with the school

Our strategies for both these priorities include:

- Continuing our work in Professional Learning Communities whereby teachers work together to enhance our knowledge skills and understandings
- Enhancing and documenting the consistent approach to the teaching of writing
- Aligning our assessment and feedback strategies in numeracy
- Embed a whole school approach to wellbeing through Positive Behaviours for Learning

As we progress through the year, we will continue to share our learning journey.

Understanding and responding to Feelings and Behaviours Program (UR FaB)

UR FaB is an early intervention program run in collaboration with the ACT Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the ACT Education Directorate for children in primary school, their parents and teachers. The program will be staffed by health professionals from the CAMHS Childhood Early Intervention Program who specialise in early emotional and social development, together with school staff. We are offering the UR FaB Program for a **small group of children and their families in the Year 1/2 in Term 3. A questionnaire and information pack have been sent home to all Yr 1/2 families.** If you think the program would be of benefit to your family and would like to be involved, please complete the questionnaire and return in the envelope provided by **Monday 9 May 2022.**

2023 Enrolment Process for Preschool and Kindergarten

Enrolments for the 2023 school year opened on 26 April 2022. Applications can now be made for the 2023 school year using the online enrolment form. Families are advised to check the updated information on the Education Directorate website ahead of applying to ensure they are familiar with processes for the 2023 school year. In most cases, 2022 pre-schoolers will be automatically enrolled into Kindergarten for 2023 at our school.

Preschool families who live out of area for Gowrie Primary School will need to complete a new enrolment form for your child for Kindergarten 2023.

Enrolment information sessions for parents and carers of children with developmental delay and disability

The sessions will support parents to understand the enrolment process and to start planning for 2023. All sessions will be held online.

- Enrolling for Preschool 2023 on Monday 9 May from 1:00 to 2:30 pm, or Thursday 12 May from 10:00 am to 11:30. Register and forward questions to preschoolpathways@act.gov.au.
- Enrolling for Kindergarten to year 6 on Tuesday 10 May from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, or Wednesday 11 May 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Register and forward questions to disabilityeducation@act.gov.au.

UC Professional Experience

We would like to warmly welcome several student teachers from the University of Canberra who will be completing their Professional Experience placement at our school. They will be mentored by some of our experienced staff and hope they will enjoy being part of our Gowrie Primary School teaching team and school community this term.

Angela



Merit Awards

**Congratulations to all of this fortnight's
Merit award recipients.**

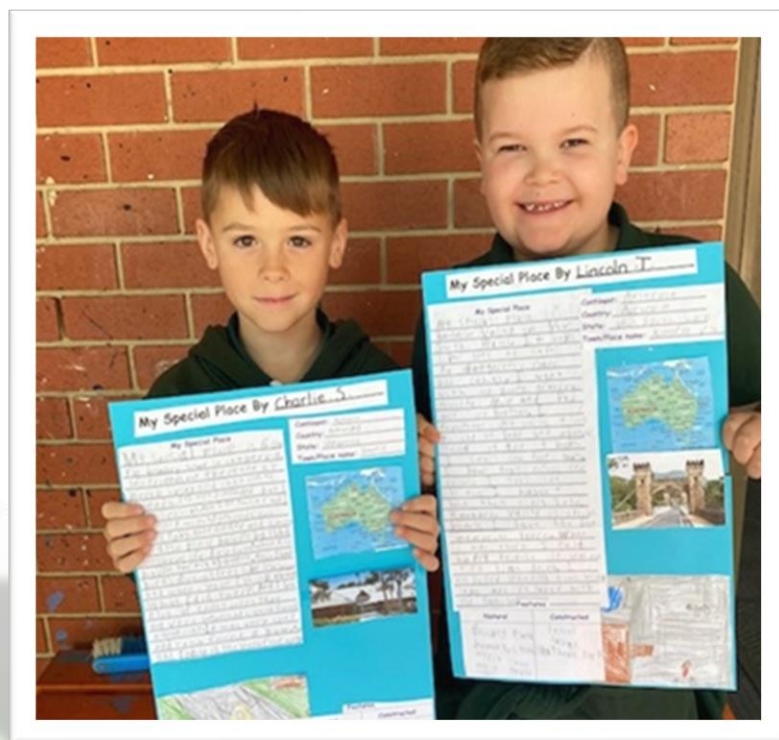
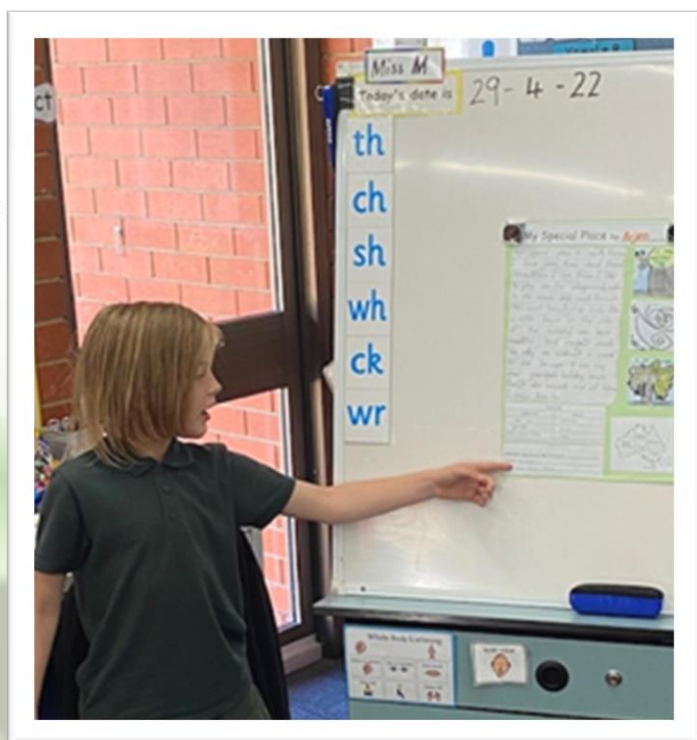


ATHLLON			
KG	Hazel N	Samuel W	Evelyn H Freya S
KH	Charlie D		
BRINDABELLA			
K-2L	Jonathan K		
2-4B	Mia L		
GULLA GULLA			
1HB	Flynn G	Raven H	
2M	Thomas K	Liliana M	
LAMBRIGG			
3H	Diesel B	Cooper W	
3W	Noah S	Charlotte S	
4D	George G	Summer H	
4W	Indianna B	Bailey T	
LANYON			
5/6H	Lewis L	Ava P	
5/6M	Sean C		
5/6T	Ella M	Owen M	
5/6W	Charlie H	Flynn	
OTHER			
ART	Savannah B (1HB)		Liara G (2M)
BAND	Charlize R		Lewis L
LANGUAGE	Neave G (5/6H)		Luca K (4W)

Junior School News

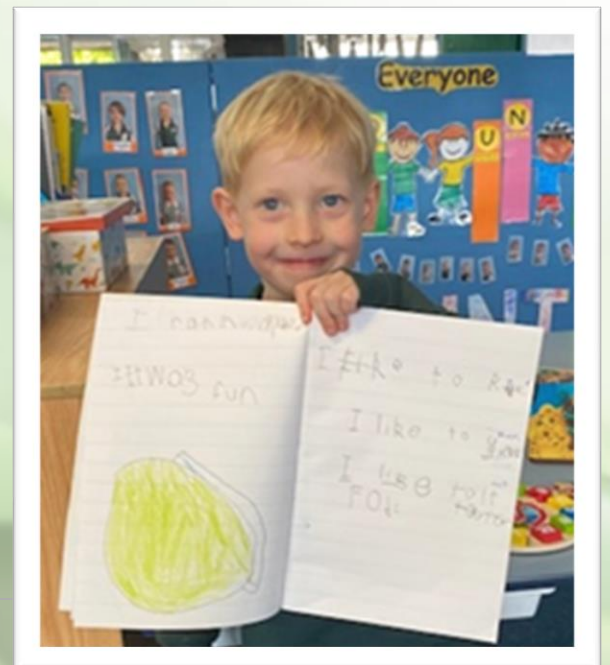
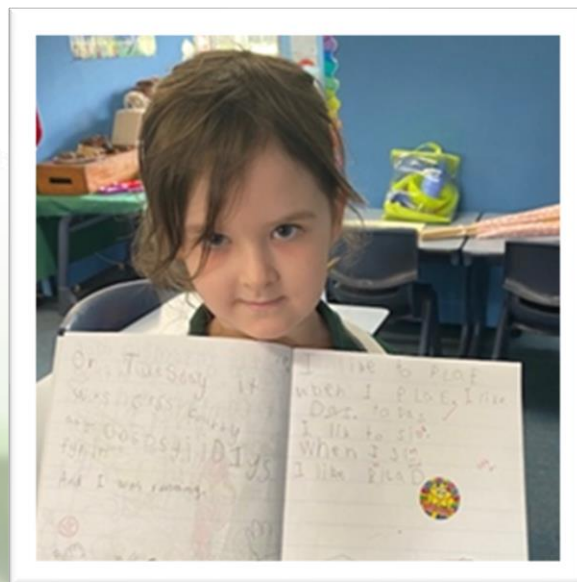
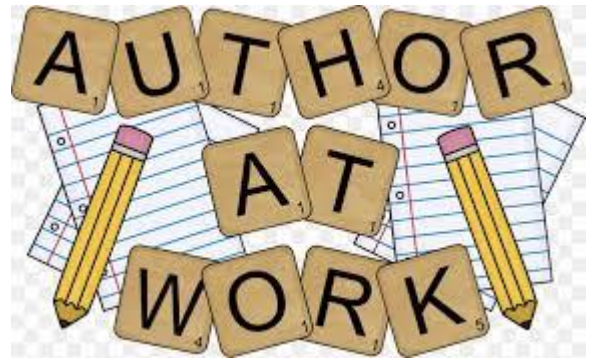
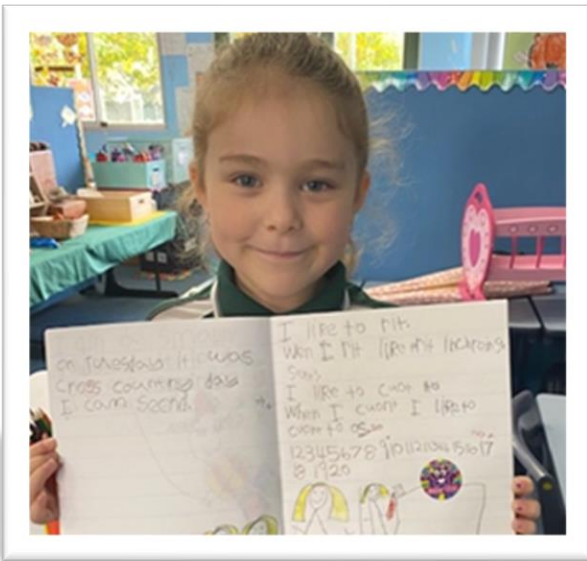
Welcome back to all of our K-2 families. We are off to a busy start in term 2!!

Our year 2 students have researched and developed projects titled 'My Special Place'. The children were then taught presentation skills and how to draw in your audience. They have presented their projects in front of their classes and have done an amazing job with the projects and presentations.



The year one students have been using educational ICT programs such as sunshine online and reading eggs to support their literacy rotations. They are beginning to learn how to independently logon to the school chromebooks.

Our amazing kindergarten students are learning to write sentences. They are using fullstops, capital letters as well as beginning sounds to help construct their sentences. The children have daily opportunities to explore writing in fun and engaging ways.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

It's wonderful to see everyone returned from holidays revitalised and ready for a busy term in the Library.

We are preparing to **Dive into the Scholastic Book Fair** during Week 5. Students will have the opportunity to browse the Fair with their classes early in that week, making note of books that appeal. This Wish List then comes home for families' consideration.

Details regarding all books available at the Fair, family viewing times and payment options in next fortnight's Gazette, as well as on the school's Facebook page from next week. Our Book Fair is a great way of expanding home libraries as well as benefiting our school's.



NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

Week 5 also sees the school's Annual participation in **National Simultaneous Storytime**. Gowrie students will join more than 1 million readers across Australia on Wednesday May 25 to celebrate a recently published Australian picture book. In 2022, the Australian Library and Information Association has chosen **Family Tree by Josh Pyke** to read together.



Happy Reading,
Wendy Wheeler
Library Resources Manager



Enrolment News

How do I enrol for 2023?

Enrolments for the 2023 school year will open on 26 April 2022 at 6am. You can submit an enrolment application using the online enrolment form from 26 April 2022.

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/publicschool-life/enrolling-in-a-public-school>

Who makes enrolment decisions?

Enrolment decisions are made by the Principal of the school, with policies, procedures and support provided by the Education Directorate.

When can my child start school/preschool?

If your child turns four on or before 30 April, they can start preschool the first day of term 1 that year. If your child turns four after 30 April, they can start preschool the first day of term 1 the following year. If your child turns five on or before 30 April, they can start Kindergarten the first day of term 1 that year. If your child turns five after 30 April, they can start Kindergarten the first day of term 1 the following year. Use the handy calculator to work out when your child can start school.

I am applying late for Preschool 2022. Do I need to call other schools to find out if there is capacity?

No, you do not need to call other schools. Please submit an application to your preferred school who will assess the application, taking into account available capacity at the time of applying. If your preferred school is unable to offer a place, they will forward to the PEA school, or the nearest school with available capacity. You will then receive an offer of place.

Can I put my name on a waitlist?

Schools do not maintain waiting lists. If we are unable to offer a place, your application will be forwarded to a school with available capacity and an offer will be made from that school. Regardless of where a student attends preschool, they will continue to be guaranteed a place at their local school for kindergarten onwards.

Will I need to reapply for kindergarten if my child is currently attending Gowrie Preschool?

Only pre-schoolers living outside of the suburb of Gowrie with no siblings attending Gowrie Primary school will need to submit an enrolment application for kindergarten.

Students Graduating Year 6.

If your child is graduating Year 6 in 2022 you will need to submit an application to your preferred high school who will assess the application, taking into account available capacity at the time of applying. If your preferred school is unable to offer a place, they will forward to the PEA school, or the nearest school with available capacity. You will then receive an offer of place.



Important News



During the holidays:

Did you move home?

Get a new phone number?

Change your email address or

Have a new emergency contact person?

If you need to update any of your contact details, please let us know either by email – gowp@gowriepps.act.edu.au

Thankyou in advance



Mother's Day Stall Friday 6th May

Mother's Day is fast approaching, a time to honour and thank those special mums and maternal figures in our kids' lives, for all that they do.

The Gowrie P&C will be holding a Mother's Day stall on **Friday 6th May**.
For preschool students, the stall will be held on **Wednesday 4th May**.

This will run a little bit differently to the last year's stall. There will be no pre-ordering or pre-payments. One gift can be chosen per student, to ensure everybody has an opportunity. While payment is not required, cash donations of up to \$5 per gift to cover the P&C's costs, will be very gratefully accepted on the day.

One gift per student
No need to pre-order
Cash donation on the day (up to \$5)

We look forward to helping the students select a fun gift to help make Mum's day special!



GOWRIE P&C CAKE STALL FUNDRAISER FEDERAL ELECTION, 21st MAY 2022

As you will be aware, a Federal Election will be held on the 21st May 2022 and Gowrie Primary School will once again be a polling station. The Gowrie P&C is running a series of fundraisers at the school on election day. All money raised will contribute to significant playground equipment upgrades, for the benefit of the students.

Calling all bakers!!

We are seeking donations of biscuits, cupcakes, cakes, slices, cake pops, lamingtons, gingerbread, rocky road and more, to be sold at the P&C Cake Stall.



We need your help!!

We also need helpers on the day to assist with running the stall. Information will be sent out with a link to register for shifts.

If you can help by baking something delicious, please email:

Natalie Roseworn (natalie.roseworn@gmail.com) or
Sheridan Williams (sheridan.johnson83@gmail.com) for further details.

All baked goods must be prepared, labelled and packaged in line with ACT Food Health Standards. We will email further details to our volunteers about packaging, food safety and baking suggestions.

Information about food safety is also available here:

<https://www.health.act.gov.au/businesses/food-safety-regulation>



Even if you can't bake, never fear! There are other ways to help us with Election Day fundraising activities

Volunteer for a shift helping out on the cake stall
or dishing up democracy snags on the BBQ!

Volunteer opportunities for 'Gowrie Primary School Election Day Fundraising 21st May 2022' are now open.

Please click on the following web link (or copy it into your web browser if clicking doesn't work) to go to the signup sheet:

volunteersignup.org/B3TFM

To sign up, just follow the instructions on the page.



Donate blocks of chocolate



On election day, we will also be hosting Trailer Toss, a fun game where you toss a coin and try to land it on one of the blocks of chocolate. If you do, you win the chocolate! To support fundraising efforts, we would greatly appreciate donations of family block (or similar) size chocolate blocks.

Come along to Gowrie to vote, spend and have fun on the day!