

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

KINDNESS

WELLBEING

INTEGRITY

RESILIENCE

Hi Everyone,

I know we have waited quite a while for the junior rebuild to be completed but I have recently been notified that the expected completion date is **Monday 17th May!**

Despite a few setbacks, the rebuild is looking amazing. As you can see by the photos, the builders are just adding the final touches to the building and the F-2 teachers have already started to move furniture into their new surroundings!

We are hoping to have a 'Grand Opening' on **Monday 17th May at 8:10am-8:50am. But I will confirm this date with the school community early next week.**

To celebrate the Grand Opening of the Junior Section, we will have a coffee van and a few nibbles which will be set up out the front of the Foundation Area.

Again, I personally want to thank the whole school community for their ongoing support and patience with the rebuild.



Education Week

This year's theme of '**Building Connections**' recognises the importance of schools, families and community groups coming together to support learning. Building connections provides a richer and more diverse learning experience for all students.



To celebrate Education Week, we have organised the following events:

Tuesday 25th May at 2:30pm- 3:10pm- School Wide Positive Behaviour Workshop for parents/carers

Wednesday 26th May at 2:30pm- 3:10pm- Literacy Workshop for parents/carers

Thursday 27th May at 9:15am- 10:00am- Student Led Maths Morning

Friday 28th May at 9:10am-10:00am- Numeracy Workshop for parents/carers

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2021 tests for Year 3 and Year 5 students will be held online at school during the weeks of Monday 10th May 2021-Friday 21st May 2021. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, language and numeracy. NAPLAN test results will be distributed to parents/carers in Term 3.

Attitudes to School Survey

The AtoSS is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist your child's school to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, bullying and life in general. This year, the AtoSS will be conducted at our school for students in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 over the period Wednesday 28th April- Friday 4th June.

Foundation 2022

We have had many enquiries about enrolments for **2022**. If you know someone who lives in Gladstone Park and is interested in our school, please ask them to telephone the school office to book a place on one of our school tours. If you already have children at our school and have a Foundation student for next year, please make sure you come and collect the enrolment pack so we can add you to our list!!

Dates of Foundation Tours 2022:

Wednesday 19th May 2021 at 6:00pm

Thursday 3rd June 2021 at 10:00am (new date)

School Uniform

If you would like to order a winter tunic dress for \$49.00, please contact the office.

Thank you!

We had a very successful Mother's Day stall on Wednesday 5th May. A huge thank you to Amanda Mead, Gemma Hyland and the amazing ES staff who assisted on the day.

MOTHER'S DAY

A very HAPPY **Mother's Day** to all our wonderful mothers!

Have a great weekend!

Belinda Karlsson

Acting Principal



School Diary Dates 2021

TERM 2 2021

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra- Year 3 students- Friday 7th May 2021

Year 7 (2022) Transition Forms Due Back-Friday 14th May 2021

GRIP Leadership Conference -Tuesday 25th May 2021 (Year 6 Student Leaders)

Curriculum Days 2021

Wednesday 23rd June- Three Way Conferences (Reporting to Parents)

Monday 1st November- (no students at school)

School Camps

Portsea Camp, Portsea- Years 5 & 6

Monday 8th November to Thursday 11th November 2021 (3 overnight stays)

Arrabri Lodge, Warburton- Year 3 & 4 Monday 15th November to Wednesday 17th November 2021 (2 overnight stays)

Hi Boys and Girls

My name is Bill and I am 92 years old.

I am Lara's grandfather.

When I was your age WW2 began, it was 1939.

My parents, me and my brother were living in a 4 story apartment house in a big city in Germany.

Very often at night time there were air raids.

Loud sirens let us know planes with bombs were flying over.

There was loud gunfire heard from guns trying to shoot the planes down. Everybody in the apartment ran down the stairs to a place called the cellar, where it was safer.

At the end of an air raid these sirens gave the all clear.

These air raids happened so often that as children we were too tired to go to school.

Because of this the government sent us to safer areas in the country. These were camps, we had a teacher and a political leader.

We had no parents with us.

We had to look after ourselves and maintain the camp. We had to do all the cleaning. This was very hard, there was no hot water. In Winter the water in our enamel wash basins would freeze.

We had to make our own bed and every morning there was room inspections.

It was very strict, our beds had blankets with 3 stripes, these needed to be vertically lined up when made. Shoes were kept spotless with not one item of clothing out of place.

If you had a hole in a sock you had to sew it yourself. The camp had no kitchen. For our meals, twice a day we had to walk 20 minutes to a convent. In wintertime we had to walk in snow storms.

Every day we had school classes and sport. Each camp lasted a school year and in between camps we went home. In July 1943 when I was home between camps our apartment was bombed. The sound of the sirens indicating of the incoming air raid. I remember we were in the cellar and bombs were exploding very close to us. The sound was so bad and your ears felt like they were going to burst.

I was nursing my 2 ½ year old sister on my knees. All of a sudden, the lights went out, the house was collapsing. Smoke started to build up, we had to get out. People were panicking and running, you just followed the person in front to get out. Bricks were falling down around you, I ran 200 meters while carrying my sister to a bunker.

The bunker was shaped like a light house with thick concrete walls and a long ramp instead of stairs inside, winding itself to the top. Lots of people had run there to be safe. In the morning I went to look for my family as we had been separated during our escape from the apartment.

I wasn't sure if they were still alive. There was destruction of both property and life

scattered around me. There was great jubilation when I found them in an underground tunnel. We had to leave Hamburg as we had no where to live, only the clothes we were wearing. We went to stay with my Aunt in a small village in a different part of Germany. It was 400 kms away and we travelled there by different trains.

There was no high school there, so I was sent to another school camp. This was my 4th camp, it was in Grabsleben, the provincial High School was in Gotha 5kms away, a long way to school. We worked on a farm for half a day to pay for our food. The rest of the day we did school work and youth training with some army training. This was when I was 15 years old.

In the beginning of April 1945 when I was 16, a political leader said to us 'there are soldiers here in rehab and they need help'. We need you as young soldiers to help them to defend our country. Hurrah! No more school. Most of us were enthusiastic to be assigned to assist the regular Army. We were taken 200kms away to a place called Sonderhausen and that was where we saw action. Filling sand bags to build a protection wall was the first task. Action started that night. Around midnight the firing stopped but they bombed the town.

By dawn we were told to march to Berlin. As we were hiking through the forest the grenades were exploding close to us and we had to run very, very quickly to save ourselves. We left our weapons behind it was a frightful experience for a 16 year old.

At the end of the cliff we saw a road and a convoy of trucks and jeeps. We went towards them and realised that they were Americans. The people in the street told us to hide as we had our uniforms on. I decided to make my way home but a curfew stated you were only allowed 5km from home. I travelled cross country as a farm hand carrying a pitchfork. Luck held out until a few kilometres from home.

There I was detained by an American patrol. They asked for ID, which I didn't have for that village, so they locked me up for 2 days, there were lots of other people locked up as well.

The war was over.

After the war I was not happy and felt cheated. My childhood had been taken from me. I was fed up with Germany and what it had to offer me. Germany was always at war every 25 years. I looked at my dad and thought 'is this where I want to be in 25 years?'

An opportunity came up for trade people to work in Australia for 2 years, so I applied. That was nearly 70 years ago. It was this disillusionment with my life in Germany that I did not go back at the end of my contract. I chose for a better life in Australia and I have, Change For Better, I thought.

So just think how lucky you are to grow up in a peaceful country.

FUNDRAISING

The school Council fundraising committee is having a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle on:



Saturday, 15th May at Bunnings Broadmeadows,
9:00am-4:00pm

We would love your support on the day. If you are able to volunteer some of your time it would be greatly appreciated.

You can volunteer for ONE hour or for as MANY hours you're able too.

If you can't volunteer, but would still like to support the day, please feel free to donate any of the following: soft drink cans, water, napkins, tomato sauce, mustard or bread.

We would even appreciate if you could donate sausages!

If you can donate any of the above items, please contact the office on
9338 6083

Hope to see you all at Bunnings (Broadmeadows) on **Saturday 15th May, 2021.**



EDUCATION WEEK AT GVPS!



We're celebrating **Education Week 2021 from 24th-29th May**. This year the theme is about '**Building Connections**' between schools and the community. At GVPS we will be hosting interactive parent workshops throughout the week and a student led maths morning. **We hope to see you there!**

MATHS MASTERS (Learn from your kids!)

We will hold a **Student Led Maths Morning** in classrooms on **Thursday 27th May from 9:15 - 10:00 am** for parents/grandparents/carers where students will be teaching them a maths game!



INTERACTIVE PARENT WORKSHOPS

School Wide Positive Behaviour Workshop
Tuesday May 25th at 2:30pm

Parents/carers are invited to participate in a SWPBS workshop facilitated by Teagan Crane

Literacy Workshop Wednesday May 26th at 2:30pm

Parents/carers are invited to participate in a Literacy workshop facilitated by Samantha Steele where they can explore the English Curriculum

Maths Workshop Friday May 28th at 9:00am

Parents/carers are invited to participate in a Maths workshop facilitated by Michelle Rizk to explore ways to integrate numeracy activities within the home



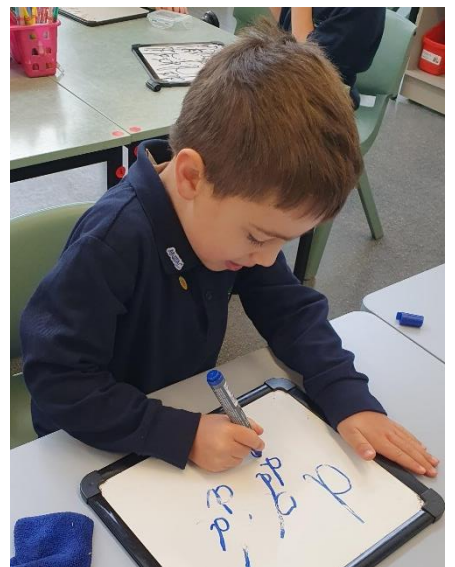
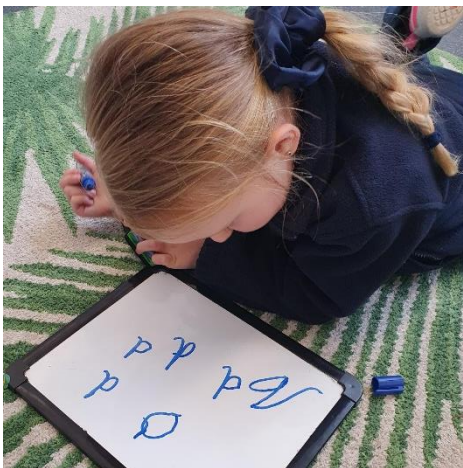
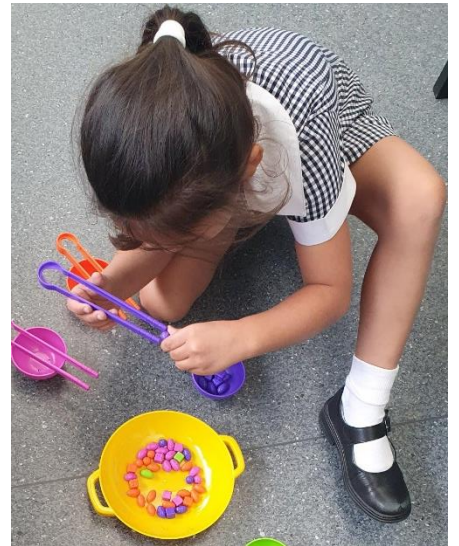
Fantastic Fun in FNJ!

FNJ has started Term 2 with a BANG!
We have continued learning sounds,
names of letters and the cued



articulation! In Maths we have been learning the days of the week and months of the year as well as making numbers up to 20. We have been playing lots of games, developing our fine motor skills and making wonderful new friends! We have also been learning that mistakes are ok! Mistakes are part of learning and everyone makes mistakes!





LUNCH TIME CLUBS

**LUNCH TIME CLUBS
PROMOTE FRIENDSHIP &
OUR SCHOOL VALUES:**

**KINDNESS
WELLBEING
INTEGRITY
RESILIENCE**



This term GVPS introduced lunch time clubs! Clubs are run by senior students for students in Grades 1 to 6. By running clubs, seniors develop their leadership skills while providing opportunities for GVPS students to build friendships through interest-based activities.

MORE CLUBS ARE COMING SOON!

SPORT UPDATE



During week 1 & 2 of Term 2, the Foundation-2 students have participated in an AFL Program ran by a number of coaches from AFL Victoria. The program aims to teach students the core skills of the game.

To find your local Auskick, click on this link:

<https://play.afl/auskick/2021->



SPORT UPDATE

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS ROUND 1

Well done to all of the 5/6 students who played their first interschool sports match against Tullamarine Primary School last Friday.

The results were:

Girls netball team: Won 18-0

Mixed netball team: Lost 1-16

Touch rugby team: Won 60-16

Girls European handball team: Won 18-3

Mixed European handball team: Won 15-2

Girls soccer team: Won 6-0

Mixed soccer team: Lost 0-2





INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY

On Thursday 29th April, the sun was shining and it was the perfect day for GVPS to celebrate International Dance Day. Staff and students danced to Miss Karlsson's favourite song, *'Footloose'* in their classrooms. At lunchtime, Mr John played some funky dance music at the Basketball Courts. Teachers and students had lots of fun dancing and grooving to the tunes, including many students who showed some impressive dance moves! Check out some of the photos below!

