

**KINDNESS**

**WELLBEING**

**INTEGRITY**

**RESILIENCE**

**TERM ONE**

<b>Thu March 21</b>	Family Night – Commencing 5.30pm
<b>Fri March 22</b>	School Assembly – 2.50pm in the gym
<b>Mon March 25</b>	Presentation – 3 to 6 ‘Being Brave’ (no cost)
<b>Tue March 26</b>	School Council
<b>Tue March 26</b>	Year Six Camp
<b>Wed March 27</b>	Year Six Camp
<b>Thu March 28</b>	Year Six Camp
<b>Thu March 28</b>	Prep BBQ – 5.00pm to 6.30pm (no cost)
<b>Fri March 29</b>	School Assembly – 2.50pm in the gym
<b>Tue April 2</b>	Colour Run
<b>Wed 3 April</b>	Tours for 2020 Preps 10am and 6pm
<b>Thu April 4</b>	School Photos
<b>Fri April 5</b>	Casual Day – Cuthbert House - Red
<b>Fri April 5</b>	Last Day of Term – 2.30pm dismissal

**TERM TWO**

<b>Tue 23 April</b>	First Day of Term
<b>Tue 23 April</b>	School Birthday Celebrations
<b>Thu 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
<b>Fri 26 April</b>	School Assembly – ANZAC Service
<b>Tue 30 April</b>	Tours for 2020 Preps 10am and 6pm
<b>Thu 9 May</b>	Mothers’ Day Stall
<b>Thu 16 May</b>	Curriculum Day
<b>Thu 23 May</b>	Casual Day – Newcombe House – Blue
<b>Thu 30 May</b>	Cultural Dance Performance (no cost)
<b>Mon 10 June</b>	Queen’s Birthday
<b>Thu 27 June</b>	Student Conferences
<b>Fri 28 June</b>	Last Day of Term

**Summer Reading Challenge**



In term four last year, Brett arranged for students to take part in the MyOn Summer Reading Challenge. All students received a challenge sheet, which also included suggested holiday activities.

The good news is that Gladstone Views was the runner-up in the challenge for schools in Victoria with:

- △ 451 books opened
- △ 197 books completed
- △ 7616 pages read
- △ 3812 minutes read

The school will receive \$100 of books for this wonderful effort. Congratulations and thank you to all those who participated in the challenge.

**Homework**

There seemed to be a lot of jubilation from students and concern from some parents last week when homework was ‘allegedly banned’. This is not true, we have an expectation that all students read at home every night for varying lengths of time dependent on their age and reading stamina. As of term two, students will also have access to an online program ‘Essential Assessments’ to use at home. This has replaced Mathletics as it provides comprehensive assessment material for teacher use. In addition to this, individual learning plans for students below or above the expected level will be forwarded to parents at the start of next term.

Homework is the subject of much debate. From a classroom teacher’s perspective, homework involves:

- △ organising work at different levels to suit the needs of individual students
- △ explaining what needs to be done (and catching up with students away on the day the explanation is given)
- △ correcting the work and providing feedback.

These are time consuming tasks, done by in class time and in the teacher’s own time. Teachers already spend an inordinate amount of time planning outside of their work hours.

From the point of view of children, the school day is busy and exhausting. Like many of us after work, the last thing they really want to do is more work. Children need time to relax and play.

Consideration also needs to be given to the point of view of parents who have differing views and schedules, and to the benefits of homework that can include:

- △ consolidation of learning
- △ preparation for learning
- △ development of independent learning and time management skills

Last year we did some research on the benefits of homework and talked to secondary schools about their expectations. Research indicates that traditional ‘homework sheets’ have little to no impact on student learning at the primary school level.

The expectation at secondary school generally seems to be that students complete a suggested average of one hour of homework each night in both year seven and eight. This tends to increase by half an hour in both year nine and ten.

Working backwards by half an hour from years seven and eight would make our suggested reading time of 30 minutes an appropriate step in preparation.

From talking to secondary school staff, the most important elements of preparation for secondary school are:

Organisation

Good organisational skills are essential for success at secondary school. Your child will need to be able to:

- ◇ keep their locker tidy
- ◇ manage books and equipment for different classes
- ◇ use a diary
- ◇ follow a timetable.

These aspects of organisation have been developed with your child throughout their time at primary school.

Parents/carers can provide support in this area by:

- ◇ continuing to encourage tidiness
- ◇ monitoring the use of the school diary
- ◇ ensuring students have the correct equipment
- ◇ discussing organisational strategies

Attendance and Punctuality

The importance of attendance and punctuality remains the same once children reach secondary school.

Often children are given more independence in regard to travelling to school once they reach the secondary level and this requires increased attention to time. Many parents start this process of allowing greater independence during their child’s grade six year, especially during fourth term.

The habits of attendance and punctuality start when children first start school. You can support your child to develop these skills by ensuring they are on time each day and explaining to them how being punctual is being polite in relation to appointments and every day activities. However, do not expect students to be at school when they are unwell

### Uniform

Uniform expectations are very similar between primary and secondary schools. Whilst the actual items may vary, the requirement to wear full school uniform every day remains the same. We don't foresee any difficulties with this for our students as they all proudly wear their uniform each day.

### School Rules

Whilst individual schools may have some local rules the main rules remain the same across primary and secondary schools.

### Routines

Routines in regard to bed time and use of technology start in primary school. Technology has become an intrusion in our everyday lives and children now often have access to an incredible amount of information each day, not all of which is positive. Restricting time on devices is a huge challenge that we all need to address.

### Advice

The following advice to students for success at secondary school applies equally to primary school:

**Strive to do your best every day.**

**Help others**

**Be cheerful and positive**

**Ask questions**

**Do what is asked the first time**

**Get involved in things that interest you – have passion.**

### **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)**

Parents who hold a current health care card may be eligible to claim financial support to assist with expenses for camps, sport and excursions. If you are eligible please contact the school for an application form. Parents who have already claimed this at Gladstone Views Primary School will not need to apply again however the school office will need to make a copy of your current health care card.

### **Questions / Comments / Concerns**



Parents/carers are invited and encouraged to ask questions, make comments and raise concerns. It is often best to address any concerns or issues early as this can prevent the situation from becoming worse.

Questions or concerns regarding aspects of classroom operations or student learning are best addressed by the classroom teacher. We ask that an appointment is made to ensure the teacher can give the issue their full attention.

You are also more than welcome to talk to myself or Suzy regarding any matters. We are in the playground each morning and are happy to talk then, and are often available throughout the day, however for more important matters an appointment may be more suitable

### **Prep Enrolments for 2020**

Our first school tours for parents of prospective 2020 Prep students commenced this week. Additional tours will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am and 6.00pm on both days.

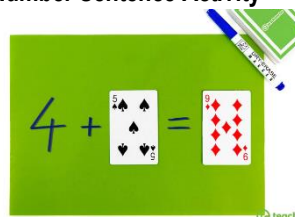


## **Curriculum News – Mathematics**

### **Nifty Ways to use a Deck of Cards at home**

Using a deck of cards for games and activities at home is a fun learning experience for children as well as being cheap and easy for parents! Here are some nifty ways to use a deck of cards to help build number fluency in mathematics.

#### **Number Sentence Activity**



The aim is to create number sentences when provided with two numbers. These can be addition, subtraction, multiplication or division.

#### **Twenty Questions Number Activity Hat**



Children will love this! Create a hat with strips of paper ensuring there is a space that will fit a card. The aim is to work out the number by asking 20 or less questions.

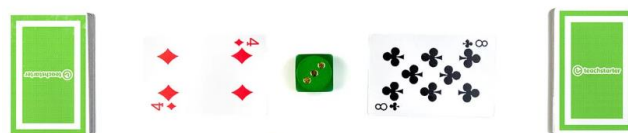
#### **Make 40**



Get the whole family involved with a great game to improve fast addition skills. The aim of this game is to add numbers until the total gets to 40.

#### **Addition or Subtraction Battle**

A great game for students to consolidate fast fact recalling with the aim to add or subtract simple sums and win as many cards as possible.



We recommend heading to one of those 'cheap shops' for a few pack of cards to have at home. Just sorting the cards and putting them in order is a terrific activity for younger students. Cards are a great way to get the whole family involved in an activity away from technology, build relationship, develop resilience and strengthen mathematical and thinking skills.