Principal's Message
Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Staff

Latest data indicates the Guildford Public School Skoolbag App has 434 users. Being aware of school events, the dates and times is a key strategy to feeling one belongs to a community. Guildford PS website can be accessed from the App when you are on the move.

The decision to place Years 1-6 students in their new class from the beginning of the year has had a positive impact. Students are settled, they are familiar with class routines and procedures, have quickly created new friendship groups and are engaged in their learning. Class teachers have cooperatively planned with teachers on their grade and with specialist teachers, the class program and learning outcomes for Term 1.

Specialist teachers have identified students who require extra support in Literacy, Numeracy and language development. Identified students will receive support in their home class or by means of withdrawal in small groups.

Reading Recovery continues in 2016 with six students attending one on one lessons with Mrs Byrnes or Mrs Edge. School Learning Support Officers (SLSO) have participated in training in the Literacy program, MiniLit. MiniLit stands for ‘meeting initial needs in Literacy’. MiniLit is an evidence-based early intervention program targeting young struggling readers to become successful readers.

Please feel free to make an appointment with your child’s teacher to discuss his/her needs. Appointments are best made for after 3.10pm.

Every Day Counts - Attendance
I regularly ask parents:

“What are your aspirations for your children?”

“What do you want them to achieve?”

The message is clear about school attendance – Every Day Counts. Every day a child attends school they are learning and increasing their likelihood of completing high school and university studies.

“In all analyses, average academic achievement declined with any absence from school and continued to decline as absence rates increased.” The University of Western Australia, 2013

How was your day?
The following questions will encourage students and parents to have a conversation about school. Thank you to Mrs Habib who recently shared this set of questions with staff.

1. What was the funniest thing you heard all day?
2. What was your favourite thing that happened today?
3. Did your teacher get cross today? What happened?
4. What subject was the most interesting today?
5. Was anyone away today? Did that make the day different?
6. What was something new you read today?
7. What happened today that you wish hadn’t happened?
8. What did you enjoy most for lunch today?
9. What are you learning about in science?
10. Did anyone do something nice for you today? Did you do something nice back?
Staff learning and leading

I’m pleased to announce the 2016 Guildford PS Wider Leadership group. Wider Leadership Group members will engage with leaders from across a community of schools known as @COSLead. The aim is to develop leadership capacity through professional conversation with colleagues. Members will receive professional coaching and participate in workshops and a conference. Following are members of the Wider Leadership Group.

Aspiring Leaders

Miss Jeanice Corso
Miss Marie Mete
Mr Bradley Kranenburg
Mrs Cevher Tanak
Ms Chrissy Ghassibe
Mrs Rita Edge

Assistant Principals

Miss Ayesha Ali Khan
Mrs Salam Haidar
Mrs Lakshmi Sekhar
Mr Pete Hanna
Miss Melodie Bryceland
Mr Chris Haberecht (Principal)

Student Representative Council (SRC)

On Monday, elected Student Representative Council members, Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects were inducted as the 2016 SRC. With this leadership comes responsibility, which I am confident the 2016 SRC will carry out with careful consideration and hard work. Mrs Belomesoff will be our courageous and committed SRC coordinator for 2016. Congratulations to students and their families.

2016 SRC members:

Captains:
Anna Chung and Mahdi Mansoor

Vice Captains:
Sarvin Emam-Naghadeh and Rahman Said

Prefects:
Pallavi Kamoda and Akanesi Matakaionga

Class Representatives:

2E – Reva Shah
2K – Hilal Abdulrahman
2N – Kiana Cogger
2O – Jasmine Needham
3/4B – Rees Exodus
3/4C – Danny Berisha
3/4EH – Charlize Krupowicz
3/4K – Zainab Hussain
3/4R Tayla Kanj
5J – Yusef Tarabiya
5T – Jana El Ramlawi
5/6C – Alphina Kanneh
6AK – Hanaan Alammery
6G – Jemima Kassem

3/4K - Joseph Walker (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Representative)

Communication

Meet the Teacher evenings provided parents with an opportunity to hear from the respective Assistant Principal and teachers about our class and school procedures. Thank you to teachers who stayed back at school until 6pm to provide parents with an insight into their child’s education.
Uniform update
Terrific to see most students wearing full school uniform, including the school hat. On excursions, it is absolutely necessary that every student is in full school uniform so they can be easily identified and supervised.

Student School Contribution (Fees):
No school fees are payable at Guildford Public School in 2016. However, there is an expectation that students will pay for and attend ALL excursions to support their learning. The only exception is the Years 5&6 overnight camp. We would also appreciate students provide liquid soap, a box of tissues and 2 glue sticks each term. Of course, you are welcome to send in extras if you please.

Excursions
Excursions are selected and organized to provide support for the academic, emotional, physical and social development of students. Teachers choose experiences that add value to student learning. Costs are kept as low as possible to ensure all families can afford payment. Again, all students are expected to attend excursions and school activities which require a payment. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, you can make an appointment to see me to discuss the situation. If this is the case, parents will be asked to provide evidence of their financial situation.

Parents & Citizen’s Association
The first P&C meeting of 2016 was held this week. In my address, we looked at how we will work towards achieving our three School Strategic Directions of Learning, Teaching and Leading.

On Monday morning we welcomed new families to our school community with a breakfast. Credit to our P&C leaders who approached business owners in Guildford requesting support for new members to our school community. Seventeen businesses in total made very generous donations of delicious breakfast food or lucky door prizes. Arriving in a new community presents challenges for parents and students. Existing families supporting newly arrived families helps build knowledge and skills. I encourage parents to support each other by having conversations about learning and community.

The P&C’s Facebook page can be found by searching for ‘Parents and Citizens Guildford’

Community Corner (news from Sajida and Asenati)
I encourage parents and carers to talk with Community Liaison Officers, Sajida or Asenati on Thursdays at school if interested in any of the following events:

- ‘English Classes for Parents’
- ‘Circle of Security’
- Parents and Citizens Association meetings

During the year, we will require parents to help with covering books, cutting out cards, pencil sharpening etc. Helpers can go to the ‘Parent Café’ (located beside the hall) on Thursdays.

Have a terrific week!

Kind Regards
Chris Haberecht

Useful websites

- **Miss Bryceland’s blog: ICT Discoveries**
  - (Displays student work across K-6) [http://missbryceland.edublogs.org/](http://missbryceland.edublogs.org/)
- **5/6C blog**: Education Adventures with Miss Currey [http://education-adventures.weebly.com/](http://education-adventures.weebly.com/)
- **Cybersafety** – (How to stay safe online K-6) [https://www.esafety.gov.au/](https://www.esafety.gov.au/)
STAGE 3 CAMP: Term 3

Teachers have organised a school camp for Students in Years 5 and 6 with the purpose to build confidence, communication and social skills.

This opportunity supports the learning across the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus and gives students new motivating, rewarding and exciting experiences which we cannot provide in our school setting.

This camp will be run by The Great Aussie Bush Camps and will take place in Term 3, Week 10, **Monday 19 September 2016 – Wednesday 21 September 2016**.


In preparation for this excursion, we suggest you consider payments in small instalments as the total cost will be approximately $300 prior to the camp date.

Further information about this exciting camp will be sent out later on in the Term.

Miss Bryceland and Miss Ali Khan
(Stage 3 Rel. Assistant Principals)

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**TERM 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DATES TO REMEMBER</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 February</td>
<td>PSSA Sport Starts Bus leaves 9:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>PSSA Training Starts 3-4pm (Mondays)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>SELECTED STUDENTS Soft Ball &amp; T-Ball 3-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>IN SCHOOL SPORTS Yrs 3 &amp; 6 Athletics 3-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>IN SCHOOL SPORTS Yrs 1 &amp; 2 Gymnastics 3-4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>CHOIR 3:10-4pm (Tuesdays)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>Merrylands High School Open Night 5:20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Thursday</td>
<td>English Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 – 11:15am</td>
<td>Circle Of Security 9:30-11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 March</td>
<td>Merrylands High School Open Day 10am–2pm Yr6</td>
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**Whispers from the Library**

*A message from the library*

Kindergarten students can start borrowing books the beginning of Term 2.

Also if you would like to buy a Library bag you can do so on Tuesday between 8:30 & 9am

Thank you © Mr Norambuena
(Teacher Librarian)
Student Leadership Team 2016

On Monday the 15th of February, we celebrated our student leaders’ for 2016 by holding a formal Induction Assembly. School Captains, Vice-Captains, Prefects and Student Representative Counsellors (SRC) received their badge. Students were also asked to recite their respective pledge. A special feature of the ceremony was the involvement of the parents and carers in pinning the badges on the captains and prefects. It is a great honour and big responsibility for students to take on these leadership roles at school.

A big thankyou to the P&C for organising afternoon tea for our parents/caregivers and students to enjoy. It was a great way to celebrate their success. Congratulations boys and girls and we look forward to an eventful year.
Student Leaders 2016

Captain
Anna Chung 6AK

Captain
Mahdi Mansoor 6G

Vice Captain
5arvin Emani-Naghadeh 6G

Vice Captain
Rahman Said 6AK

Prefect
Pallavi Kamoda 6AK

Prefect
Akanesi Matakaionga 6G
Student Representative Council 2016

Reva Shah 2E
Hilal Abdulrahman 2K
Kiana Cogger 2N
Jasmine Needham 2O

Exodus Rees 3/4B
Danny Berisha 3/4C
Charlize Krupowicz 3/4EH
Zainab Hussain 3/4K

Talya Kanj 3/4R
Yusef Tarabiya 5J
Jana El Ramlawi 5T
Alphina Kanneh 5/6C

Hanaan Alammery 6AK
Jemima Kassem 6G
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Representative
Joseph Walker 3/4C
Reconciliation
Action Plan at GPS

Acknowledging and Celebrating
- Purchase a Torres Strait Islander flag to be flown with the others.
- Celebrate NAIDOC week & recognise Reconciliation Week.
- Staff to be involved in Acknowledgement of Country.

Building Partnerships
- Make connections with community Elders and representatives.
- Classroom teachers to meet with ATSI parents each year.

Meeting Individual needs / Setting High Expectations
- Purchase a range of quality ATSI texts for the library.
- Begin process of setting goals to monitor IEPs.

Strategic Planning
- Professional learning about the 8 ways of learning.
- Implement a scope and sequence for Aboriginal perspectives linked to the new curriculum capabilities.

Promoting understanding
- Include an Aboriginal focus for Multicultural Day
- Story telling in classrooms for all students.

Leading
- Continue meeting the needs of ATSI students in the school plan.
- Meetings are held with community members and staff.

Encouraging mentors and models
- Invite successful ex students and community members to come and speak to students.
- Encourage ATSI students to be active citizens in the school community. Have an Aboriginal student in the Student Representative Council.

Promoting Wellbeing
- Professional development in Health and Wellbeing.
- Student engagement committee to include a health and wellbeing focus.

Developed by the Aboriginal Education Committee 2015.
MERRYLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

2016 Open Night

We invite everyone, especially families and students of Years 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, to discover all you would like to know about succeeding at High School.

- Be greeted by our fabulous students
- Experience Innovative Technology and Learning
- Experience mini lessons as you explore our facilities
- Be impressed by our dedicated staff
- Learn about our national and international leadership and educational successes
- Enjoy a sausage sizzle

Tuesday, 23rd February 2016 – 5.20pm
Merrylands High School – School Library
Cnr Bristol St and Sherwood Road Merrylands

“THE LOCAL COMMUNITY’S SCHOOL OF CHOICE”

Merrylands High School looks forward to welcoming you as we prepare our young people for future success.
Impetigo

What is impetigo?

Impetigo, sometimes called "school sores" is a bacterial infection of the skin. The main causes are strains of staphylococcus aureus (known as ‘staph’).

What does it look like?

Impetigo occurs in two forms, blistering and crusted.

In blistering impetigo the blisters arise on previously normal skin and grow quickly in size and number. The blisters quickly burst and leave slightly moist or glazed areas with a brown crust at the edge. The spots expand quickly even after they break open and can be many centimetres wide. They are sometimes clear in the centre to produce ring shaped patterns. They are not usually painful but can be itchy.

Crusted impetigo has a thick soft yellow crust. Beneath this crust is a moist red area. Crusted impetigo spots grow slowly and are always smaller than the fully developed spots of blistering impetigo. They are not usually painful but can be itchy.

Impetigo can occur on top of other skin conditions, particularly itchy ones. When the skin is ‘scratched’ the infection can enter through the broken skin. Some of these conditions are atopic dermatitis (eczema), scabies, insect bites and head lice.

How is it treated?

Impetigo is very easy to catch from other people. If possible, your child should be isolated until the blisters have dried out. Bathing the blisters with salty (saline) water will help to dry them out. Encourage your child and family to wash their hands frequently, and especially after touching an infected area. To prevent spread don’t share clothes, towels, bed linen, nail scissors, tweezers, razors or toothbrushes.

It can be treated with antibiotics. Your doctor should take a swab from the spots to check which antibiotic to use. The result of the swab takes several days. Depending on how bad the infection is your doctor will start either an antibiotic cream or a medicine. If your child starts on antibiotic medicine it is important to finish the whole course of treatment (usually 5 days) and not stop when the impetigo starts to clear. If other family members have skin lesions they should also be treated.

Remember:

- Impetigo is very easy to catch from other people
- If prescribed antibiotics it is important to finish the whole course to make sure the impetigo will not recur.
Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed your consignment of School Opal cards for eligible students enrolled at your school.

These School Opal cards are for students who had a pass in 2015, and are eligible for travel in 2016 under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS).

Other eligible students, including new applicants and students changing school or campuses, updating their personal details, or going from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7, who have already applied or who still need to apply, will have their School Opal cards posted to their home address in the first two weeks of term one 2016.

Students who have been approved to travel on more than one operator or to more than one home address, for example where there is shared parental responsibility, should only receive a single Opal card.

This box includes:
- envelopes with a single personalised School Opal card for each eligible student, sorted by grade and last name
- a distribution list providing detail about the student grade, last name, first name, and School Opal card number. It will help you with distributing cards to students.

Following this consignment delivery, Schools should no longer receive School Opal cards for distribution, as all new School Opal cards will be sent directly to the student’s nominated address.

**What you should do**
- Please issue one School Opal card for each eligible student
- Return any cards unable to be issued two weeks after you receive your School Opal cards to:
  Transport for NSW
  Locked Bag 5085
  Parramatta NSW 2124
- Direct parents, guardians and students who are eligible for SSTS travel and have not already received a card sent to their home or school to apply online at transportnsw.info/school-students

To report a lost, stolen or damaged School Opal card, customers should phone 131 500 or visit transportnsw.info/school-students

Sincerely

The Opal Team