Welcome back to Term 2, to our new families, and to the electronic newsletter era. All newsletters from now on will arrive and be available electronically as our preferred method of operation. This saves us an enormous amount of time and cost. Plus, and more importantly, it means you can access the newsletter when you are ready and if you need to go back to previous newsletters they will be sitting waiting for you in the archive section. Yes there will still be copies available in the office if technology fails us or you are not on-line.

While on the on-line subject area please be aware we have now added a tweeter feed to our website. The main purpose of this is to keep you informed of current events and give reminders of up-coming events. We trialled it for Year 4 camp and you will see the messages on the right hand side of the home page under it’s own sub heading and below the Publications subheading. If you are using the Q-schools app to follow the latest events at our school you will also be able to track the tweeter feed. In the Quick links area of the website you will see another addition to the webpage: Great Results Guarantee is an initiative of various governments and is available for your information.

ANZAC DAY is a special day in Australia’s History. It was great to see parents and the community involved in the School Ceremony and the March. There were approximately 35 students and an almost equal number of their parents marching on behalf of the school and I know that other families were involved in marches at other locations. Well done and thank-you for your support and for taking the time to acknowledge those who fought so we could have so much! Thanks also to Sharon Becket and Julie Silva for their efforts both on and off site in organising the variety of activities we were involved in. There were a number of Year 6 and 7 students who played significant roles at school, Anzac Square, the March on the 25th of April and ceremony on the 25th of April. I was really pleased and proud to see that these students whether badged leaders or not rose to the occasion and did an exceptional job of representing themselves, their school and their families. I was very impressed.

NAPLAN practice test were undertaken this week. This is another step in preparing the children for the tests in 2 weeks time. As happened in 2013 we will be serving breakfast on the morning of the NAPLAN testing. There are also a number of steps as parents and families you can take. Please help your children perform to the best of their abilities during this time by making sure the students arrive at school well rested and well fed in terms of breakfast, morning tea and lunch on these days. The students also need to arrive at school in a relaxed, calm and ready to be involved. If this occurs then the children can give their best.

Recently we received a donation from Jason Woodforth our local MP. You will see and hear more about this on assembly in coming weeks. The donation is going to be used for the recognition of those students whose behaviour and attendance is of the highest level.

Congratulations to the P&C for their recent grant application success through the Kedron Wavell RSL. Well done to Kylie Johnson for her involvement in this.

It has been 12 months since I arrived at Geebung State School and it is timely that I seek some feedback on behalf of the school after this significant period of time. Previously we have sought input from various groups including parents and we have spent some time attempting to achieve a great many things that were identified as part of this process. We have also attempted to address the needs of the students, staff and Education Queensland. So in an attempt to get some feedback and some further direction I would ask that you respond via e-mail to the following questions, there are only 3. You are welcome to give as many examples as you wish.

1. What are you happy with that is currently occurring at Geebung State School and why?
2. What initiatives are occurring at Geebung that you find interesting and maybe would like to find out more about?
3. What are you unhappy about and how do you believe it could be improved?

Please respond to these questions to the following e-mail address: the.principal@geebungss.eq.edu.au.

School maintenance is very much a major part of school life for Matthew, Michelle Johnson (our BSM) Brett (our Schools Officer) and myself. We will have a great deal of work occurring in the coming months including building painting, concrete replacement, retaining wall reconstruction and tree removal just to name a few. It all aims to improve the learning environment of the school to make it brighter, cleaner, and safer for our students.

The vegetable garden is blooming literally. Well done to the students involved and Trudie, Kylie, Jason, Mark, Trish and Brett for their efforts so far. It looks great!

Stephen Auer
Principal
Welcome back to school after a wonderful Easter break. I can’t recall such a great run of perfect weather over the Easter break for quite some time.

Some “big ticket” items are ahead for our students and families this term. For our Year 3, 5 and 7 students we are well underway with preparation for the nationwide assessments. Parents this is a timely reminder that a well structured environment at home that supports good sleep habits and a good healthy breakfast will go a long way in helping students perform at their best every day at school.

Chaplaincy week will be recognised this term so look out for some activities shortly after NAPLAN. Athletics Carnival preparation is underway. Teachers will provide formal reports to families at the end of this term. Make sure you are in regular contact with your child’s teacher so that communication is two way. Active Travel To School continues to be a great success. We ask that if students are dropped to school, that they do not walk back down to the park. If parents wish for their children to travel from the park at 8:15am, then they must be dropped at the park only if a teacher is there to supervise. Of course parents, feel free to join us as we trek up the hill to school!

Safety: The turning circle is a busy area in the afternoon. Please make sure you remind your children of the correct pick up point for turning circle so that they are under supervision whilst waiting for you at the turning circle. ALSO, out the front of the school I have observed parents crossing Newman road either side of the lights. The modelling we must offer our students is to ensure that we cross Newman and Ellison Road’s at the lights or zebra crossing. Thanks in advance for your cooperation regarding this.

Uniform: As the days become cooler a reminder that we are a uniform school. Our school jumpers are green and the uniform shop has a range of new and second hand jumpers available. See the shop for opening hours.

Matthew Meharg
Deputy Principal
Promote your business to local school families in this space.
Contact the school for more details
Ph: 3623 8777
Info@geebungss.eq.edu.au

**Dates to Remember**

**May**

7  Cross Country District Trials, St Pauls School
   Parent Workshop No. 1—3:30pm Games Factory
8  Mother’s Day Stall
9  Gardening Meeting 8:45am under the figtree
13 7:00pm P & C Meeting - Library
13-15  Naplan Testing
14  Life Education payment due $7:00
16-21  Life Education Visit
23  National Walk to School Day
26-30  Chappy Week

**June**

9  Queen’s Birthday
11  Parent Workshop No.2 - 3:30pm Games Factory
18  Winter Showcase—School Hall
25  School Disco
27  Last Day Term 2

**July**

14  Term 3 begins
16  Athletics Years 4-7 Bowden Park
18  Final payment for Years 6 & 7 Canberra Trip due
23  Athletics Years 4-7 Bowden Park (if rained out on 16th)
30  Parent Workshop No.3—3:30pm Games Factory

**August**

13  Ekka Day
18-22  Years 6 & 7 Canberra Trip
25-29  Book Week

**September**

2  School Photos
19  Term 3 ends

**October**

6  Labour Day Public Holiday
7  Term 4 begins
8-10  Year 5 Trip to Currimundi
20  Student free Day

**November**

10-12  Book Fair

**December**

12  Last Day Term 4

**Weekly Events**

**Wednesday**

8:15am  Active School Travel—meet at 7th Brigade Park
2:30-3:00pm  Assembly in School Activities Hall
Uniform Shop

UNIFORM SHOP
The shop hours for term two will be Wednesdays 8:15-9:15am and Fridays 8:15-9:15am.

Eftpos is available on all purchases over $10.

Size 4 polos are in stock. If your child hasn’t received their order yet, please let me know immediately by leaving a message with the office or come in and see me on my open days.

WINTER Jackets and Jumpers. Currently the shop only has 1/4 zip jumpers in stock in all sizes except size 4. 1/4 zip jumpers are $28 (child 4-14) $32 (adult SML) and full zips are $30 (child 4-14) and $35 (adult SML)

I am placing an order for full zip jackets in the coming days. If you would like to place an order, please email your child’s name/class/size to gsspc.admin@bigpond.com or place an order in-store. Orders must be placed by Friday 9th May 2014.

Second Hand Winter SALE ... starts Wednesday 7th May 2014 until sold out. Winter jumpers and jackets with and without school logos plus some tracksuit pants. Grab a bargain ... prices start at $1.

LOST PROPERTY
Items are available for viewing on Wednesday in the shop or at the bottom of the stairs from the art room on Fridays.

Cheers,

Fleur Stanford—Uniform Convenor

Year 4 Camp

The Year 4s went on camp to Mapleton in March this year. We went there by bus and watched videos on the way. We had fun at all the activities and we made a fire. Even though it was raining a lot of the time we managed to make damper. Canoeing was fun except when I dropped my paddle in the water twice. The giant swing was the best but I was screaming a lot. I was the last on the swing and it felt like forever waiting for my turn. The swimming slide was fun but the water was a little cold for me. At the Beginner’s Camp we were hunting emus and berries. We saw a emu but it was too fast for us. Thank you to our parents for letting us go and the teachers who organised it and came with us – Mrs Newton, Mr Jackson, Mrs Joyce and Kerry Edwards.

By Edie S and Ashley S
HPE News

The HPE award acknowledges exceptional effort and attitude in HPE lessons. This week’s winners are Jasmine J (3B) and Eva M (4C) for an outstanding effort in CrossFit this week.

The Cross Country last term was a winner. I would personally like to thank all of the staff and parents who contributed to the successful event. Congratulations to those students who will represent Geebung State School at the Bramble Bay Cross Country on 7th May at St. Paul’s School, Bald Hills. The students who have been selected should have received the required paperwork this week.

Finally, our school Athletics Carnival has been booked for Wednesday 16th July which is the first week in Term 3. The students are beginning to prepare for these events in their HPE lessons.

Leigh Stagg—HPE Co-ordinator

Money Collection

New money collection procedures

This term will be trialling a change to our money collection procedures. Money collection days will now be **Tuesday and Friday.** This will apply to cash and EFTPOS payments.

When bringing money to the school office please ensure money is placed in a sealed envelope with the student’s name, class and reason for the payment clearly marked on the envelope. The envelope can be deposited in the locked box in the office foyer.

Payments can also be made by direct deposit to the school’s bank account. Electronic banking is the school’s preferred method of payment. Please ensure that the student’s name and type of payment or invoice no are used as a reference. Bank account details are listed below:

- Commonwealth Bank of Australia
  - BSB 064 155
  - Account Name: Geebung State School
  - Account No: 00090029

Credit Card details can be given over the phone, however, the payment will not be processed until the next money collection day.

On Money Collection Day receipts will be issued for every transaction and these will be sent to the classroom for distribution to students.

For your convenience if forms are lost all activity/excursion notes will be available on our website.

We understand that implementing new procedures requires a period of adjustment, however, by Term 3 Tuesday and Friday will be the only days we accept cash and EFTPOS payments.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Michelle Johnson
Business Services Manager

Hassle-Free Mealtimes Triple P – Positive Parenting Program

Are you experiencing problems with your child’s eating and bedtime behaviour?

Eating and bedtime problems in children are common and can be improved. The Parenting and Family Support Centre at the University of Queensland is conducting research regarding the effectiveness of triple parents sessions for parents who are concerned about their child’s eating and sleep habits. If you are a parent of a 3 to 7-year-old child and are concerned about your child’s eating and sleeping behaviour, we would love to hear from you! For more information about the study, please contact:

Kristy Lawren
Liaison Officer
Parenting and Family Support Centre
School of Psychology
University of Queensland
St Lucia QLD 4072
Email: kristy.lawren@uniserv.com.au

CONFIDENT KIDS RESILIENCE PROGRAM

** Anxiety Buster-Confidence Booster**

Confident Kids and Teens is a fun, innovative small group program designed to enhance emotional & social skills, confidence and resilience. Run by experienced Psychologists. Medicare and private health rebates apply. Places are limited.

Visit www.confidentkidsandteens.com.au for full details and Book Online today. Or email us at info@positivefamilies.com.au. Positive Families Paddington is the exclusive provider of the Confident Kids program.
Hi, I trust that you had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

Last Wednesday five students from Geebung, Mrs Silva and I attended the ANZAC Commemoration Ceremony for Students at The Shrine of Remembrance ANZAC Square.

Once again this year Colonel Arthur Burke OAM (retd) took us on a journey back through time. This year we travelled back 98 years to a group of prominent leaders and people and their quest to keep the story of ANZACS alive in Brisbane. We also heard from Annabelle Locke who shared with us the story of her great Grandad Joseph and his experience in the war.

The students did an amazing job in their representation of Geebung State School and the school community should be very proud of them.

Once again this year The SEP Department and the chaplaincy service are hosting a light breakfast of toast, fruit and juice for the students in years 3, 5 and 7 for the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of NAPLAN. I would like to thank Woolworths at Chermside Market for their generosity in donating the bread fruit and juice.

I recently came across an article by Michael Grosse entitled 25 great parenting ideas. I have listed 13 and will list the other 12 in the next newsletter. Michael in his article suggests focusing on one tip each day. If you would like to view more articles by Michael Grosse they can be found at www.parentingideas.com.au:

1. Do more things with kids than for them  
2. If you want happy, resilient kids you go first  
3. Raise your small family with a big family mindset  
4. Make the most of the opportunity years (before teens)  
5. Work on your relationships as they give you leverage  
6. Expect kids to behave well  
7. Catch kids being resilient and persistent  
8. Attend to your kids’ mental health  
9. Don’t be a family that’s always on the go  
10. Make sure kids help at home without being paid  
11. Build scaffolds to independence  
12. Reward responsibility with greater freedom  
13. Build self-knowledge in kids

If I can be of any assistance to you please don’t hesitate to contact me on 36238777.

Kerry—Chaplain

Tuckshop

This Thursday—Pancake $1.20 or Pancake & Milo $3.00.

Alternate Thursdays: Muffin $1.20 or muffin & Milo $3.00.

Eftpos is available at Tuckshop.

Helpers are always needed—there are vacancies on Wednesday, Thursdays and Fridays. All donations of Long life milk, flour, sugar, popping corn, muffin mix are always needed.

Yearbooks are still available for sale at the tuckshop and cost $12.00.

Leanne & Helen  
PH 3265 5959
Book Club
The next issue of the Book Club has been sent home this week. Would families wishing to purchase books please put orders and monies in an envelope and place the order in the box at the Administration Office. All orders must be returned to school by 9.00a.m. Wednesday 7 May 2014. Payment can be made online or by phone. If paying by credit card, please follow payment instructions on the student order form and return the completed form to the Administration Office. Thank you to the school community for your support towards the Book Club, as our Library benefits from bonus points.

Book Donations
One of our school strategies included in the Great Results Guarantee is to improve the literacy of our students. With this in mind the school is in the process of establishing a before school “Reading Bin Program”, whereby students and parents read with the younger children before school every day to give the younger students an opportunity to develop and older students to improve their reading skill sets. Books that are no longer needed at home would be gratefully accepted for our Reading bins.

National Family Reading Month
The month of May is National Family Reading Month, which is designed to encourage more children to read with their families. Family reading time is a great way to grow a child’s interest into the wonderful world of books as well as an important factor in literacy development. At Geebung State School we are encouraging our students to GET CAUGHT READING with their family for at least 10 minutes per day for 5 days in May. Students who “get caught” may enter into a draw for a $10.00 Book Club voucher. The draw will take place during assembly. Completed entry forms are to be handed in at the Library. Entry form below.

Julie Silva - Teacher Librarian.

ENTRY FORM

Get Caught Reading

Student Name __________________________

has read with their family for 10 minutes per day for 5 days.

Class __________________________

Parent Signature ________________________
ANZAC Day School Commemoration Ceremony

On Wednesday 23 April, a group of student leaders: Loretta, Emma-Lisa, Josh, Harry and myself, Jessica, were given the opportunity to commemorate Anzac Day at the ceremony held at the Shrine of Remembrance, Anzac Square, Brisbane. It was an honour for all of us to be able to go and represent our school, but it was also a huge honour for Harry and I, as we were chosen to lay the wreath at the eternal flame. At the ceremony there were 140 schools attending. It was an amazing experience. Thank you to Mrs Silva and Chaplain Kerry for taking us. Lest We Forget.

By Jessica T, 7A.

ANZAC Day March

On Wednesday 23rd April 2014 Loretta, Emma-Lisa, Josh, Jessica and I got the privilege to go into the city for ANZAC Day. It was a very special day for me because I have had many family members who have been forced to participate in the war and therefore being selected to lay a wreath at ANZAC Square made me feel like I was representing my ancestors who have fought for our freedom and our peace. We should always remember the men and women who have given up their lives for our freedom and our peace. After the ANZAC service had finished we visited the external flame and we also had a look at some ANZAC pictures and all the people who had served in the armed forces. It was a great experience for me. Lest we forget.

By Harry S
ANZAC Day Celebrations at Geebung State School
Welcome back from holidays everyone. Term 2 is underway and the P&C is busy with Mother’s Day preparations.

Every student should have received a book of 5 tickets to sell for our Mother’s Day Raffle, there are more tickets available at the office if needed. All tickets sold and unsold are due to the office by 9am on Thursday 8th May 2014 with the raffle being drawn that afternoon. This year we have 10 prizes to give away, all of which have been kindly donated by the school community and local businesses. Prizes include - tupperware sets, hair vouchers, hampers, wine and a beautiful crocheted rug.

The Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Thursday 8th May 2014. The stall starts at 9am and is held during class time with each class attending with their teacher at a designated time. Gifts range from $1 to $10. Please ensure your child’s money is secure in a little purse or zip lock bag. If any parents are available to help run the stall on the day please leave your contact details at the office or the tuckshop and a P&C member will contact you. Thank you to those parents who have already volunteered.

The Swimming club have set a date for the Annual Trophy Presentation and Annual AGM. It will be held on Saturday 17th May 2014 from 1.30pm and will be held at The Geebung State School Swimming Club. We invite all swimmers, parents and caregivers to come along and join us for the celebration. An email with the details has been sent to all members this week.

There are still some 2013 Year Books available – the price has been reduced to $12 per book or 2 books for $20. Please see the tuckshop to purchase these.

The next P&C meeting will be held Tuesday, 13 May 2014 at 7:00pm in the Library – all parents and caregivers are very welcome to attend.

Leanne Hayden—P&C Secretary

Music

Welcome back to Term Two! I have some exciting news for my music students – our virtual classroom is set up and ready to go in Essential Elements Interactive (EEi).

You should have all received an information sheet with your log on details by now. There is a student log on and a parent log on. Your child will need to register and log on before you can start. Please take some time together to explore the options online with your child. There is so much to do and I guarantee it will be heaps of fun! Students can even record themselves and send the recording to me for comment. Practice logs are also available online. Once you have entered your practice, I can see it straight away. I look forward to hearing all about what you have discovered.

All the very best for Term 2,

Ms V.

Welcome to Term Two, the Choir program is now rehearsing in earnest for our Winter Showcase Concert that is on Wednesday June 18 2014 from 6pm in the Hall. We are combining with the instrumental program to bring you a fine night of entertainment. It is something to look forward to as it is such a positive experience for choir members to have performance opportunities.

Choir rehearsal times for this term are that Senior Choir rehearses both on Monday at first break and Tuesday at second break. Junior Choir rehearsals remain on Monday at second break. If you are interested in the Choirs and haven’t joined us yet you are welcome to come along.

On a final note, I would like to thank Jessica T and Jeffrey W on representing Geebung State School in the Metropolitan Region Honours Choral Honours Program for 2014. I sat in on rehearsal on the final day and saw them in concert. It was a wonderful event and they did Geebung proud with their enthusiasm and commitment. Well Done!

Jeffrey W and Jessica T pictured before their performance at the Metropolitan Region Honours Choral Honours Program Concert 2014.

Yours in Music,

Julie West—Classroom Music Specialist and Choral Conductor.

“We are the music makers, and we are the dreamers of dreams.”

Arthur O’Shaughnessy
We are changing our method of distributing the school newsletter. Hard copies of the newsletter will no longer be sent home as in previous years. Next term editions will be electronic, coming to you via email and also through our school website each fortnight. This exciting new innovation will allow you to access school news as well as images, providing a more vibrant and dynamic form of communication.

Gone are the days of digging crumpled bits of newsletter from the bottom of our children’s bags!

We are hopeful that we can enhance our communication to parents and perhaps reduce the need for paper based communication. Reduction of paper is consistent with our endeavour to model responsible environmental action.

Our school will focus on developing our E-Newsletter to maximise its useability but we will still make available a print copy for those parents/guardians that do not have internet connection or an email address. This is collectible from the school office.

Please complete your email details on the tear-off slip below and forward to the school office, or alternately you can forward a email to info@geebungss.eq.edu.au.

Stephen Auer
Principal
Please be aware that school banking day has changed to Tuesday. For your information the banking process at the school occurs as below:

- Bank books are received from the classes and brought to the Office for processing by the School Banking Volunteer and then returned to classes usually by the next day.
- Every time your child makes a deposit at School, they will obtain a “reward point”.
- Tokens were issued to each child when they made a deposit, however, this year the Bank has decided to phase this out. This does not affect your child’s rewards in any way.
- You do not require a “token” to obtain a “reward point”.
- The process of collecting reward points has not changed.
- After 10 reward points are collected, each child is eligible for a School Banking Prize. (These can be seen on the Coupon Sheet.).
- All rewards are only available during the dates listed on Coupon Sheet. E.g. The Handball is available Term 1 & 2 2014.
- Only one of each reward is available per student.
- You must include your reward coupon with your Bank Book to redeem your reward.
- It may take up to 2-3 weeks to obtain your prize – this will also depend on demand and availability.
- If at any stage your prize is not available, you will be informed immediately.
- Reward points are not transferrable between students.

If your child is interested in doing school banking please collect a school bank pack from the office.

Louise Howarth—School Banking Volunteer