Greetings:

As we come towards the end of term 3, it’s time to start thinking about 2017. We need to review our site improvement plan for this year, thinking carefully about the events we have run, the student achievement data, the various school experiences children and families have had – have we reached our goals? Are there areas that need to be reconsidered? Are there things we have done particularly well in, and why, and are there areas where we need to do some more work?

To help, in the next newsletter, we will be sending out a link to a parent survey, which will hopefully give us feedback on our progress in 2016 from a parent’s perspective. This information is really important and valuable in helping us set goals for 2017. Please take the time to fill it in – it’s all online so does not take more than about 10 minutes. If online is difficult for you, let us know and we can give you a paper copy.

In addition, we will be holding a parent workshop early next term where we will look at student achievement data and the responses to surveys to also help guide us in writing our 2017 site improvement plan. It would be great if you could join us for that as well.

I am always extremely grateful and appreciative for the keen interest that GPS families take in their children’s learning and school experiences. We work together in partnership to build the best possible outcomes for your children.

Regards,
Ruth

Diary Dates

Term 3
Wed 31st Aug  Lockdown
Fri 2nd Sep  SAPSASA Athletics Selection Day
Mon 5th Sep  School Closure Day
Fri 9th Sep  Assembly
Mon 12th Sep  Governing Council
Thu 15th Sep  P&F Hot Lunch
Sun 18th Sep  Car Boot Sale
Mon 19th Sep  SAPSASA Tennis & Cricket Sel.
Thu 22nd Sep  SAPSASA Basketball Final
Mon 26th Sep  Athletics Country Champs
Fri 30th Sep  Assembly

Term 4
Wed 2nd Nov  School Photos
Thu 3rd Nov  Hot Lunch
Thu 10th Nov  School Concert
21st-25th Nov  Cricket & Tennis State Carnivals in Adelaide
Thu 1st Dec  Hot Lunch
Wed 14th Dec  Yr 7 Graduation

TERM DATES 2016
Term 3  25th Jul - 30th Sep 2016
Term 4  17th Oct - 16th Dec 2016

TERM DATES 2017
Term 1  30th Jan-13th Apr
Term 2  1st May-7th Jul
Term 3  24th Jul-29th Sep
Term 4  16th Oct-15th Dec

At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child’s success is the positive involvement of parents.
Jane D Hull
PLAYGROUND MATERIALS

Our imaginative play items are becoming a bit battered and broken, so we are putting out a call for any plastic or metal kitchen items that could be donated for our playground. Items such as saucepans, bowls, cutlery, cups etc that the children can use in their imaginary games. All greatly appreciated!

Parent/Teacher interviews

Available on request on Wednesday 28th September (week 10).

If you would like an interview with your child's teacher, please contact Sue at the front desk to make an appointment time.

SCHOOL CONCERT

Does anyone have any of the following ............?

- Cat In The Hat related costumes or props
- Coloured/glitter tutus, ties or hats
  - “Mad Hatter” hat
  - Coloured wigs
- Old white sheets we could use to paint a backdrop on
- Unwanted pool noodles

Can you please name and send to school as we would love to use them for the concert.

Thank you!

SCHOOL CONCERT

All students are required to wear black pants or tights and a white or black Tshirt (no singlet tops) Thank you

Geranium Community Library

NEW OPENING TIMES

WEDNESDAY 2 PM – 4 PM
THURSDAY 10 AM – 1.00 PM

Parent engagement helps children learn best.

Free parent information sessions to help you support your child’s learning. For more information visit www.decd.sa.gov.au/2016PIEWeek

PARENTS in EDUCATION WEEK

12–15 September 2016
The Junior Primary Class have been loving the beautiful sunshine outside this week and have been engaged in work on shapes, base 10, mixtures, people who help us, concert practise, word families, procedure and recount writing and learning about adjectives! Here are two big events from the last fortnight...

**JP Excursion to Pinnaroo!**

Last Tuesday we ventured to Pinnaroo with the Kindy students to see The Amazing Drumming Monkeys perform. We had a fantastic day stopping at the Pinnaroo Wetlands, watching the performance and enjoying lunch and a play at the local playground, while also seeing some Australian wildlife at the Pinnaroo Wildlife Park.

The Amazing Drumming Monkeys were spectacular. Students were engaged in a show full of rhythms, fun, stories and a message of recycling and sustainability. We even got to play our own little bongo drums and join in lots of dancing to help out the monkeys Congo and Bongo.

**All about mixtures!**

This week in Science we looked at the ingredient vinegar and have tested different ways vinegar reacts in mixtures. One of our investigations was to hold a Monster’s Tea Party. In previous weeks students asked lots of questions about what they wanted to know regarding mixtures so our focus this week was to answer: what happens if you mix things together like bi-carb soda and vinegar? Does food colouring change anything?

Students were set off to investigate once we discussed our science procedure and ingredients. We ventured into the beautiful outdoors to make a little outdoor kitchen and followed our procedure carefully to ensure our experiment would work. We found out that when you mix bi-carb soda, vinegar, water and food colouring together the ingredients in the mixture react and it all starts to, “bubble”, “fizz” and “froth” up. We tested using different amounts of bi-carb soda and vinegar and changing the colour of the mixtures with various colours. We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of sunshine and messy science as students broke off to use their mixtures to make mud pies, soups and juices for the pretend monsters (we apologise for any coloured shirts or students).
Later, we broke the steps of our investigation down to practise writing and drawing steps for a procedure on HOW TO HOLD A MONSTER’S TEA PARTY! On Thursday we investigated mixtures even more when the Kindy visited us and we recreated our Monster Tea Party, having some fun mixing things together to make pretend food, mixing colours to paint and watching vinegar create fizzy rocks and dissolve eggshells. It was all a blast! Why not have fun doing this at home too? Next week we are making OOEY GOOEY Oobleck!!

Until next time,

Miss. Lorelle Barton
Last Thursday the Year 3 – 7 class visited Coomandook Area School to support our learning in Design and Technology about how food and fibre is produced on farms. The students had a wonderful time enjoying hands-on activities with many of the different agricultural enterprises at Coomy.

At Coomandook we had recess there and then we went into the garden and cleaned it up and then we weighed the pigs and the other guys washed goats.  
Tonisha

On 1-9-16 we went to Coomandook to do some Ag, food and fiber things with some of the student which was lots of fun. My favorite part was when we did the goats with Miss McGinty we got to wash them condition them shampoo them brush them and walk them which was lots of fun.  
Lilly Harvey

At Coomandook the Year 3 and 4’s went to the pigs and we had to weigh them. One pig stepped on my foot and it weighed 85 kilos and it hurt but it was fun. After recess we worked in the garden and I helped cut some bushes.  
Jade

We all had a turn walking the goats (they were fast!) Then we took them to a place where we washed them. First we put shampoo on our hands and rubbed it all in. After we rinsed them we put conditioner on them and then rinsed it out with cold water. Then we thoroughly dried them with a towel and then a blow dry thingy. Washing the goats was my favourite thing.  
Olivia

On Thursday we went to CAS and I got to smack the pigs to get them moving. My favourite pig was Buttermilk Bob.  
Jessica

On 1-9-16 we went to Coomandook and we saw pigs, cows, turkeys and chicks and goats. We had recess with the Coomandook kids.  
Sophie

On the 1st of September 2016 we went to Coomandook Area School to see their agriculture area. When we got there we met Mr Roberts and then we went and looked at their 4 steers. Then we met Miss McGinty and we went and saw the goats and then we had to wash them. 
After recess we went to their kitchen garden and I watered the garden beds with Seasol and water. Then it was time to go back to school. When we got to Peake we saw an echidna crossing the road.  
Harrison

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Lilly Harvey
Kind regards,

**Kathryn Roberts and the MUP Class.**

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**PCW CORNER**

I have been having **Tea Parties** with the children at recess and lunch times. This is lots of fun, a great way of connecting with the children and AND delicious! I have been giving tea party vouchers to the children at **What’s the Buzz** sessions and will hand them out to the ones who did Buzz last term so that they don’t miss out 😊

This week’s **“What’s the Buzz?”** sessions have focused on Feelings and Thinking Positively. We never seem to have enough time in the lessons as the children have so much good stuff to share! I’m sure you would be proud if you could hear the conversations we have. Quite mature little thinkers here at GPS...

Continue to talk and listen to you children about what they’re learning.

Last week I attended a **Seasons for Growth** training update which was really worthwhile. (“Seasons” is a programme that helps children to work through any loss, change or grief in their lives.)

Later this month, (Wed 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Sept) the PCW Support Group and I will be running **cup cake** making sessions at Recess and lunch.

I’ll finish off with a few **OPTOMISTIC** sayings from “**What’s the Buzz?**”.

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In the garden at Coomandook I learnt to get the moth eggs and snails and slugs off the leaves. I liked the pigs the best. Libby

At Coomandook we learnt how to weigh pigs which was fun. I got to use a giant sack trolley to move the scales. Jack

After recess we went to the kitchen garden and Amy, Jessica and I picked snails off the plants. My favourite part at Coomandook was washing and walking the goats. Tracey

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Maybe you and your children could pick one to focus on for the next week!

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.” (Winston Churchill)

“I had the blues because I had no shoes until upon the street, I met a man who had no feet. (Ancient Persian saying)

“I don’t like that man. I must get to know him better.” (Abraham Lincoln)

“Attitudes are contagious. Are yours worth catching?” D & W Mannering

I continue to keep all staff and families of Geranium Primary School in my prayers,

Margaret Smith (Pastoral Care Worker PCW)

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**Emergency foster carers needed**

Foster care agencies are currently seeking emergency and short term foster carers.

What is emergency foster care?

Sometimes children need urgent placement with a foster carer because there are concerns for the child’s immediate safety. These placements can occur any time, day or night, including after hours and on weekends.

‘Emergency’ does not mean you start today. All foster carers receive thorough training and assessment to ensure the children placed with you are safe and that you have the skills needed to provide quality care.

For more information, visit the Families SA website.

Contact: Program Officer, Foster Care Services, Maria Krahling,
Phone 8226 6617
We have decided that we will hold a stall in the Geranium and District Bowling Club Buy, Sell or Swap, on Sunday 18th September 2016, at the Geranium Town Oval. The Middle and Upper Primary students have decided they would like to raise money to go towards our school concert costumes and props. Each class will make items to sell, and the Middle and Upper Primary students will be able to help run the stall, if their parents give permission and can transport them to and from.

The event officially starts at 10am, but we will need the first people rostered on to be there from 9am. We will be packing up by 1pm.

We are asking for people willing to be rostered on to help us run the stall. If you think you would be able to help us out, please fill out the slip below, and return it to school before Monday 12th September.

If your child is in the Middle and Upper Primary class, please let us know whether or not they have permission to be rostered on as well.

Name: __________________________________________

☐ I am willing to be rostered on to the stall on Sunday 18th September, between 9am and 1pm.

The times I would be available are: ________________________________________________

I do/do not give permission for my child __________________________ to be rostered on to the stall.

☐ I can transport them to and from the event.

The times they would be available are: _____________________________________________
HOT LUNCHES – 15 SEP 16

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Pumpkin soup $1.00</th>
<th>Toasted cheese sandwich $2.00</th>
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Please return order form and money to the school by Monday 12th September.