

THE GOONELLABAH WAY

NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 4

Email: goonellaba-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Things happening this Term

Kindergarten Orientation
(Every Tuesday for 5 weeks)
21st Oct – 18th Nov – 9.30am – 12:15pm

SRC campaign begins
17th November

Swimming Carnival
11th December

Gold Award Celebration Day
16th December

Presentation Day
15th December

Parent/teacher conversations
16th December

Year 6 Farewell
17th December

K-2 Celebration Day
17th December

Year 3-6 Celebration Day
18th December

Last day of Term
19th December

School Access
THURSDAY 6TH AND FRIDAY 7TH
NOVEMBER

This Thursday and Friday, we will be having work completed on the school entrance way. This means that between the hours of 9.15am and 2.15pm the Pedestrian Gate on the Jubilee St entrance will be inaccessible.

To access the school on these two days, during these times we will need to use the bus bay gate entrance. Parents and carers will need to contact the school via phone to gain access, collect and drop children off. This gate is not automated and has no intercom system, which means a staff member will have to walk down to the gate and unlock it.

Please only visit the school if it is absolutely needed to minimise the movement in and out of the school during this time.

We do apologise for the inconvenience, however the safety of our students, staff and community remains our top priority during these works.

Thank you for your patience.





Canteen Change



This Friday, 7th November, the canteen will only be selling hot dogs (regular and vegetarian), drinks, chips, and ice blocks. All orders received will be changed to hot dogs. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Swimming Carnival

This year our Swimming will be held on *Thursday 11th December*. It will be held at the Lismore Memorial Pool.

We had such a good time down there last year and this day caters for all swimming abilities. We will have novelties events (not confident swimmers), 25m and 50m races in all strokes. In the next few weeks, we will send out nominations to be completed on School Bytes. Earlier this year, our students completed the ‘Swimming and Water Safety Program’ in Term 1. Each student received a certificate. On the back of that certificate it should indicate how far your child can swim confidently. You could use that as a guide if you are unsure.





100% ATTENDANCE FROM TERM 3



BEING COOL FOR BEING AT SCHOOL





BE AN ATTENDANCE HERO









HERO

- Here
- Everyday
- Ready
- On time

Register for the Parent Portal via the QR Code or visit
<https://portal.schoolbytes.education>



THE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Term 4 Expectations

As we progress through Term 4, it is important to remind our students and families that the expectations around safe, respectful, and responsible behaviour remain as vital now as they were at the start of the school year. Recently, we have held discussions with students in Years 3 to 6 about what it means to demonstrate positive behaviours while at school. This helps to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment for everyone.

Our staff will continue discussing with students:

- *Maintaining High Behaviour Standards Throughout Term 4*

Sometimes as the school year draws to a close, routines and motivation can change, but it is crucial that all students continue to demonstrate respectful and safe behaviours. This includes listening carefully, cooperating with teachers and classmates, and being mindful of how actions affect others.

- *School Behaviour Expectations*

We expect all students to:

- Show respect to teachers, staff, and fellow students.
- Follow classroom and school rules consistently.
- Use positive language and resolve disagreements peacefully.
- Take care of school property and personal belongings.
- Attend school every day, arriving on time, prepared and ready to learn.
- Avoid any form of physical violence, bullying, or threatening behaviour.

- *Addressing Challenging Behaviours with Updated Policies*

Our school is committed to strengthening our behaviour policy to better address serious concerns such as physical violence, bullying, and threatening behaviour. These behaviours hurt individuals and disrupt learning. We want all students and families to know that such actions are taken very seriously and will be managed firmly and fairly in line with NSW Department of Education policies.

- *Guidance from the Department of Education*

We follow the NSW Department of Education's Behaviour Code for Students and related procedures to handle incidents effectively and support students toward better choices. This includes:

- Early intervention strategies to prevent issues from escalating.
- Clear and consistent consequences for behaviours of concern.
- Support systems for both victims and those involved in inappropriate behaviours, such as counselling or behaviour plans.

- *Working Together with Families*

Today, with this newsletter, we have included a copy of the school's behaviour expectations and the NSW Education Departments Behaviour Code for Students for your reference. We strongly encourage all parents and carers to have a detailed conversation with their child about these expectations. Reinforcing these positive behaviours at home plays a vital role in student wellbeing and success at school.

Your ongoing support helps us build a safe, respectful, and engaging learning environment where every student can thrive. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for partnering with us to foster a positive school culture.

K-6 Assembly

Our next K-6 Assembly will be held on Friday 14th November at 9.15am. This will be one of the last opportunities for student's to hand in their awards for 2025.

Student Representative Council Nominations 2026

Year 5 students will be receiving information about how to nominate for the 2026 SRC/School Captains. They will have 2 to 3 weeks to campaign. The students will give a speech at the K-5 Assembly on Tuesday, 2nd December. Voting will happen straight after the speeches and the announcement of the SRC will be at the Presentation Assembly on Monday, 15th December.

Warren Rhijaan



The Goonellabah Way



Responsible Students

- Be prepared and ready to learn
- Care for property and the environment.
- Be honest and take responsibility for my actions
- Tell the T.O.D. if there is a problem or if you need help



Respectful Relationships

- Follow staff instructions
- Treat others respectfully
- Be a good listener
- Different staff member, same respect
- Use kind, respectful language to each other and staff
- Wait my turn



Safe Behaviour Choices

- Walk on hard surfaces
- Hands, feet, and objects to myself
- Be in the right place at the right time
- Use equipment correctly
- In and out with permission
- Tell the Teacher On Duty (T.O.D.) if someone needs help



Everyone Everywhere



NSW Department of Education

Behaviour code for students

Information for students and parents or carers

NSW public schools are committed to providing safe, supportive, and responsive learning environments for everyone across a range of settings. We teach and model the inclusive and safe behaviours we value in our students.

In NSW public schools students are expected, to the best of their ability, to:

- show respect to other students, their teachers and school staff and community members
- follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers
- strive for the highest standards in learning
- act in a courteous and respectful way that makes all members of the school community feel valued, included and supported
- resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly
- meet the school's agreed uniform policy or dress code
- attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- respect all property
- be safe and not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol, vapes, e-cigarettes or tobacco into our schools
- not bully, harass, intimidate, or discriminate against anyone in our schools.

Schools take action in response to behaviour that is detrimental to self or others or to the achievement of high-quality teaching and learning.

All students have a right to:

- safety at school
- access and fully participate in their learning
- be treated with respect by other students, teachers and school staff
- express their views, set goals and self-advocate.

The principal and school staff, using their professional judgment, are best placed to maintain discipline and provide safe, supportive and responsive learning environments and apply an appropriate action when students are not meeting these expectations.

The department is responsible for the provision of a policy framework and resources such as legal issues bulletins, access to specialist advice, and professional learning to guide principals and their staff in exercising their professional judgment.

In this context, the NSW Government and the Department of Education will back the authority and judgment of principals and school staff at the local level.

Behaviour code for students: Student actions

Promoting the inclusion, learning, wellbeing, and safety of all students in NSW public schools is a high priority for the Department of Education.

We implement teaching and learning approaches across a range of settings to support the development of skills needed by students to meet our high standards for respectful, safe and engaged behaviour.

To meet the expectations set out above, students in NSW public schools, to the best of their ability, should adhere to the following principles.

Respect

- Treat one another with dignity.
- Communicate and behave courteously.
- Act and work cooperatively with other students, teachers, and school staff.
- Develop positive and respectful relationships.
- Value the interests, ability and culture of others.
- Respect the learning needs of other students.
- Dress appropriately by wearing the agreed school uniform or dress code.
- Take care with school property and the property of staff and other students.



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English 1

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



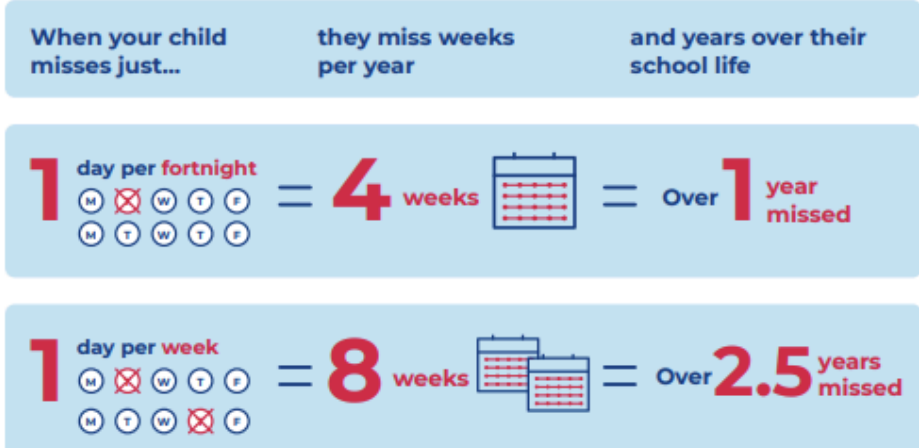
Make friends



Build skills through fun

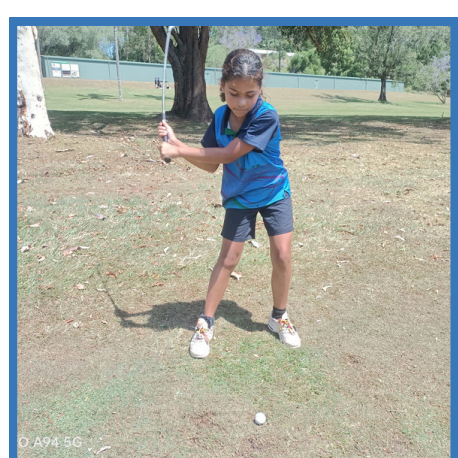
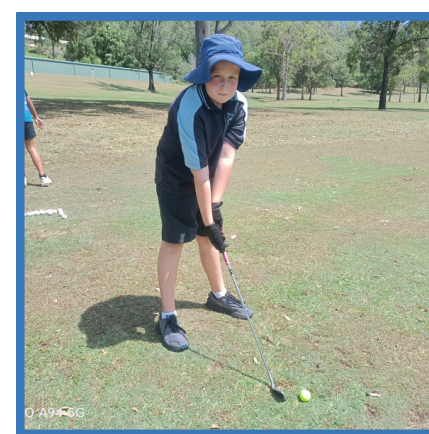
Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



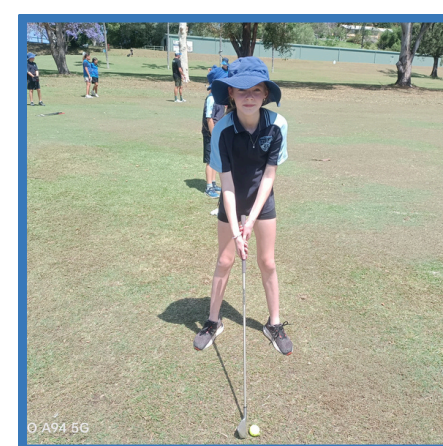
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Out of School Sport

We have now had two weeks of our sport electives. The reports back from staff and students has been very positive. This year we have students at GSAC (Basketball & Futsal), Golf, Skating and the new Skate Park in Lismore. We still have 3 weeks to go until the end of the program.



CONGRATULATIONS

3-6

Assembly

AWARD WINNERS

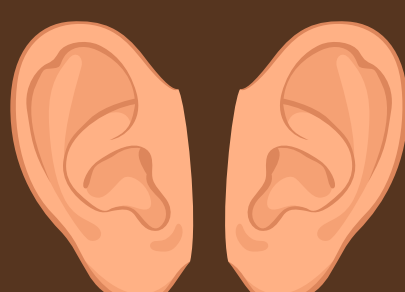


BUNGJALUNG WORDS OF THE WEEK

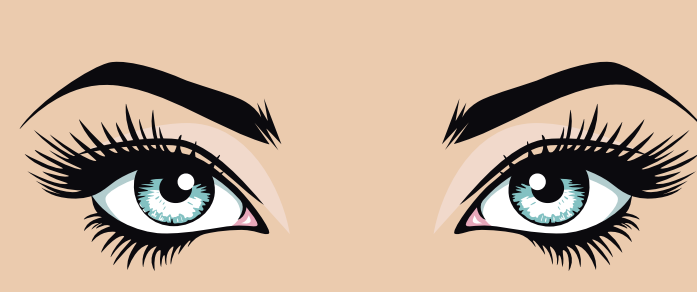
JUMBAY
=
HANDS



BINUNGS
=
EARS



GEOS
=
EYES



SOCIAL MEDIA AGE RESTRICTIONS

What you need to know.

From 10 December 2025, many social media platforms will be required to prevent Australians under 16 from creating or maintaining accounts on certain age-restricted services. The changes aim to protect children from pressures and risks they can be exposed to while logged in to social media accounts.

The eSafety Commissioner is leading the implementation of the law. They are responsible for identifying platforms and supporting the community with information and resources.

Under-16s will still be able to see publicly available social media content that doesn't require logging into an account. There are no penalties for young people who use age-restricted platforms or for their parents and carers as the responsibility is with the platforms.

We encourage you to access eSafety's resources and support for families on their website and register for one of the upcoming webinars [External link for parents and carers](#).