



Governor Philip King Public School

Striving for Personal Excellence

Week 9 Term 1
22 March 2023

From the Principal...

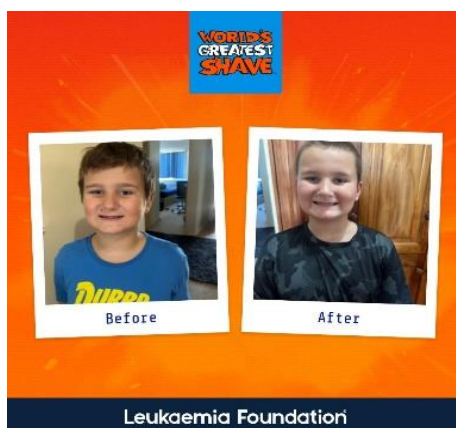
Welcome to Week 9 where we have had some very warm weather and are grateful for our classroom air conditioning! Hopefully the heatwave has now passed and we can enjoy some cooler days as we head towards the Term 1 holidays,

It's hard to believe this Term only has 3 weeks left. It has been a very busy start to the year, with some great learning, programs and initiatives taking place across the school. We are very lucky to have amazing staff and students.

On Wednesday 8 March we celebrated International Women's Day with a morning tea. It is a significant day to celebrate and recognise the amazing women in our lives and across our school. We used this event as a staff fundraiser. We were able to donate \$600 to ovarian cancer research.



Congratulations to Riley Woods in Year 4 who took part in the World's Greatest Shave last week. Riley raised \$659 for charity. A very impressive effort.



It was fantastic to have our Parliament Induction Assembly last week. Our parliamentarians and class representatives were extremely proud to receive their badges. We were very privileged to have Dai Le, Federal Member for Fowler, be part of our Assembly. She was very inspiring in speaking with our students and has promised to come back and visit a formal Parliament Session.



Please ensure if students arrive late in the morning that they enter the school through the pedestrian gate at the front of the school. Students need to proceed down the footpath that leads to the front office. I am asking parents not to open the side gate into the infants areas once the gates have been closed by the executive team in the morning. We need to ensure our students are safe, with the gates closed. We also need to know who enters the school site. These gates are only to be opened by executive staff.

Thank you to the parents who are assisting us with the drop and go protocols of a morning. We are trying to ensure our students are independent and socialising in the morning before class. It has been amazing to watch our kindergarten students demonstrate their ability to play with their friends, order lunch and head to class once the bell rings. Thank you to our community for supporting our initiative.

Congratulations to Mrs Stanger and her husband on the safe arrival of their daughter. Ava was born on Wednesday 8 March at 7.30am. The whole family are doing well. It's wonderful news to welcome a new addition to the 'Governor Family'.

Well done to our students in Year 3 and Year 5 who have sat NAPLAN tests. Tests will conclude this week. Thank you to Mr Samuel for his coordination and organisation which has ensured all testing sessions have run smoothly over the last two weeks. We are all looking forward to the 2 - 6 Athletics Carnival next week. Our carnival will take place on Wednesday 29th March at Rosford Street Reserve in Smithfield. Students will participate in a variety of activities throughout the day. All students 2 - 6 are expected to be in attendance on the day of the carnival.

Today we celebrated Harmony Day. This is all about celebrating our diverse cultures and what makes our school and community unique. The theme this year is 'Everyone Belongs', something that we do every day here at Governor.



IN BREAKING NEWS: Governor Philip King Public School has been nominated as '**Primary School of the Year - Government**'. This nomination takes into account every government primary school across Australia! This is a huge achievement which makes me very proud of everything we do here. I am sure we will be up against many other well deserving primary schools who also go above and beyond for their students. I will be able to provide extra information once the judging process is completed mid-way through the year. Keep up the amazing work GPK!

Jason Corcoran
Principal

Deputy Principal's Message ...

As we reach the end of Term 1 it is very satisfying to see the positive way our students, staff and parent body have demonstrated why GPK is an inviting and safe environment for all.

It was wonderful to see the turn out for our Meet the Teacher Community BBQ. The initial gatherings for stages were well received and gave staff an opportunity to outline the year ahead. GPK appreciates all who attended and would like to thank Mr O'Neill, Mr Hoyle and Mr Mills who cooked for our community.

PSSA has been one of our programs that has been impacted by events and weather in recent years. It has been great to see our students be able to play 4 consecutive rounds. They play Round 5 this week. At the beginning of Term 2 students in Years 3-6 will be able to trial for Winter PSSA. Sports will include Rugby League, Girls and Boys Football, Basketball and Netball.

We had a number of students represent at the Zone and Area Carnivals this Term. Well done to all participants who proudly represented GPKPS at these events. A number of students have also trialled for various zone teams and have been selected. We wish all of those students the best of luck at the various Area Championships.

Year 6 parents who are submitting paper copies of Expression of Interest for High School 2024 need to ensure that these are returned to the school by Friday 24 March. Those who are doing it online have until the 31 March. Thank you to all those who attended the information sessions about high school earlier in the term.

Once again, our community has shown amazing generosity with their support for the Easter Raffle with their donations. Please ensure that all raffle tickets are returned by Friday, 24 March. The raffle will be drawn in Week 10.

Stage 3 will be holding a Sausage Sizzle on April 5. Students have been given an order form for a sausage sizzle and drink combo.

Our 2023 Parliament met yesterday with the class representatives. Their discussion was to come up with ideas to reward student punctuality. Mr Mayhew was very impressed with the way our leaders expressed themselves. While Mr Young is on leave, Mr Hosking will assist with Parliament. The Clean Up Australia Day organised by School Parliament saw all students involved in looking after GPKPS.

This Term has seen a new initiative started with a Chess Club being organised by Mr Mayhew. Initially this will be for Year 6. It has proven to be very popular with our senior students. As the year goes on there are plans to open up the club to other children, 3-6.



Enjoy the rest of the Term.

Glenn Hamilton
Deputy Principal

ATTENDANCE

The punctuality of our students has been very good this Term. We look forward to this continuing throughout the year. We are asking parents/carers to avoid signing out students in the afternoon, between 2-3pm unless it is absolutely essential.

When students are absent from school parents have 7 days to provide a reason. The school may contact parents who haven't provided an explanation. Please be aware that if no reason is provided within the given time, the absence will be recorded as unjustified and will not be changed later on.

Parents, it is strongly recommended that if students are absent for more than 2 days that a doctor's certificate is supplied to explain the time away from school.

The school works closely with the Home School Liaison Officer and patterns of absence such as students being absent on Mondays or Fridays may be identified.

An example of this would be a student having a number of Fridays off without supplying a certificate. These would be recorded as an 'Unjustified'.

ATTENDANCE RATES

Grade	Attendance Rate	Students with greater 90% Attendance
K	96.2	90.8
1	90.4	75
2	95.3	86.4
3	94.3	80.5
4	95.5	81.5
5	95.8	83.8
6	94.8	81.4

Students with an attendance rate of 90% means they are missing the following:

5 days a term.

20 days a year.

140 days of their K-6 schooling.

260 days of their entire schooling.

Percentage of Students

Less than 85%	85-90%	90-94%	95-99%	100%
Extreme Impact on Academic Performance	Concerning Educationally at Risk	Needs to Improve	Good	Excellent
17%		19%	64%	

Everyday Counts, Every Minute Matters



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