

## From the Principal

Recently, I have been having conversations with students about learning and reminding them that it can be difficult, challenging and uncomfortable but that we surround them with people and resources to support them in this work. Learning is not constantly repeating something already known because that is what has already been learnt. Learning occurs when tasks are in the “zone of proximal development” – the ZPD. These are tasks which are just beyond what is already known – tasks which are challenging but not so difficult as to cause frustration. Over time the learner develops mastery of the skill and it becomes second nature then a new challenge is needed. Maybe you remember learning to drive. At first it seemed nearly impossible. It was uncomfortable and you would have had to focus really hard to be able to use the accelerator, brake, indicator and steer at the right time. Over time it would have become much easier to the point you probably aren't even aware of the

complexity of the task you are undertaking. Also, have you ever had to turn down the music when you're looking for a new location? That is the challenge, discomfort and requirement for full concentration needed to achieve the task. Once you know where you're going, that music can stay on full volume!

If your children come home and say the work is hard, tell them you're pleased because their teachers are respecting the learning process and their ability. If they say it's too easy, please call the school to book a time to talk with the teacher. They may have a different perspective or may appreciate your insight.

### Staffing

Kate Taylor will not be returning to Gawler East this term. Kate has been writing curriculum for the Department for Education and they have been so impressed with her work that they have asked her to continue. Ms Oh will remain as the room

15 class teacher in her absence.

Ms Tree will return next week after her leave for the first two weeks.

This term we have welcomed the first of our student teachers. Myles and Lana are being supervised by Ms K in room 12 and Mr Asher on Fridays for PE, Krupa is being supervised by Ms Hall in room 11, Kaylie is being supervised by Mrs Marling –Bauer in room 17 and Daljit is being supervised by Mrs Thiele & Ms Laycock in Room 10. We wish them every success.

Kind regards

ALEC TIBBITTS

## Diary Dates

### 3rd August

Book Club orders close  
(Reminder—no cash payment at school—all orders/payment are online now)

### 10th August

Pupil Free Day

### 17th-21st August

Parent/Teacher interview week

### 7th September

School Closure Day



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Photo removed  
for internet  
publication

Today's recipients of certificates at our Student Assembly



Government  
of South Australia

Department for Education

## Curriculum Corner

Welcome back to term 3! Students were ready to go first thing last Monday morning and it was great to see the enthusiasm towards their learning. This term is a busy one again in the curriculum area with testing happening in all areas of the school.

Year 1 has Phonics Screening Check testing happening in weeks 5-7. Class teachers will be administering the tests. Thorough training of how to use the process was completed by teachers and leaders. Class teachers have worked very hard to explicitly teach phonics and phonemic awareness and we are hoping this will help our students achieve successful outcomes.

Later in the term Years 1-7 students will be

tested on their Maths and reading through the Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT). The results help us to plan and inform our teaching. This is complete annually by all students and again, class teachers supervise this online test.

### Pupil Free day

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August staff will participating in training about the theory of reading and how this develops a deeper understanding of how to teach and extend student skills and abilities. This is will be delivered by Jo Campbell, Project Officer for the Literacy Guarantee Unit and Christine Keynes, also from the Literacy Guarantee Unit. Staff will also be participating in Professional Learning

Communities which is ongoing commitment. We are excited about the learning this will bring for all of our staff which in turn helps all of our students become successful learners.

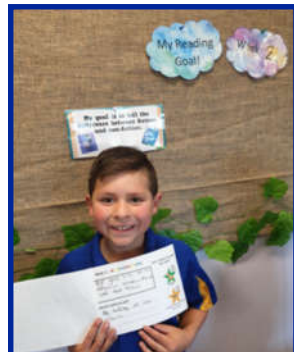
Please enjoy our learning stories from Miss Hamdorf's Year 2 class this week about their reading goals. They have been working hard about how they can make their learning rewarding. Well done and great to see active learners in our school sharing their success!

Enjoy the next two weeks!

Until next time,  
Leah Searle



## Learning Goals in Room 13



In Room 13, the students have a big focus on reading and Literacy. During Term 2 students will be taking ownership of their learning by choosing their own reading goals. The students document how they plan to achieve their goal and reflect on this at the end of the week.

## Book Week News

This year will be different as Book Week has been delayed until Term 4. CBCA Book Week 2020 will now be held in October: 17-23, Week 2 Term 4. These later dates will apply in 2020 only, recognising the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The theme this year is "Curious Creatures, Wild Minds" which lends itself to all kinds of costume thoughts. Weird and wacky animals, creatures from myth and legend, and fairytale creatures. Then there's inventors, scientists, explorers and other big thinkers. There will be a costume parade at the end of the week that will be held on the oval. The library will have its usual ex-library stock Book Sale, so save those 20 cent pieces. Competitions will also be running for prizes – more information closer to the date.



## Who's Who on our Staff

Here are our next two friendly members of staff here at GEPS! I'd like to introduce you to Tracey Gregory and Alec Tibbitts.

**Name:** Tracey Gregory

**How many years have you been teaching?** 39 years

**What do you currently do at GEPS?** Year 3 class teacher

**What are your hobbies?** Reading and Gardening

**Where is your favourite holiday spot?** The river – it's so relaxing and peaceful. I feel at one with nature when I am there.

**If you had a super power, what would it be?** Invisibility! Oh the fun I would have sneaking up on people!

**What animal are you most like?** A bee – organisation and structure are my life.

**What do you love the most about teaching?** Being with the kids. They are amazing.



**Name:** Alec Tibbitts

**How many years have you been teaching?** 31 years

**How many years at GEPS:** 3 and a half

**What do you currently do at GEPS?** I'm the Principal

**Which AFL footy team do you follow?** The Power

**If you found a magic lamp with a genie, what would your 3 wishes be?** A babel fish, a self cleaning house and a live-in chef

**If you could rid the world of one thing, what would it be?** Hate.

**Where is your favourite holiday spot?** South Korea. The people there are so kind, the food is delicious and it's pretty cheap.

**What do you love the most about teaching?** The "Ohhhh" sound when students 'get it.'



## School Crossing

### Week 3

#### Morning

Madi Braun  
Mark Wasley  
Emily Hill

#### Afternoon

Lucy Jenkins  
Jack Jolly  
Kelsey Sweeney

### Week 4

#### Morning

Caitlin Walker  
Sienna Gaspari  
Lexi Maitland

#### Afternoon

Blake Riches  
Kiara Macdonald  
Lilly Gooley

**ENROL NOW**  
IN PRESCHOOL



Going to preschool helps your child to learn new things,  
make friends and develop confidence.

Children who turn 4 before 1 May can start preschool at the beginning  
of the year before they start school.

Families are encouraged to enrol now

Gawler East Preschool  
phone 8523 0166  
email: dl.2691.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au



Contact your local DECD preschool for more information [www.decd.sa.gov.au/locs](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/locs)



## Social and emotional learning at GEPS

Our school is full of young learners. Students in all classes are developing, having a go and experimenting to help them learn. Just as they learn to read and write, our children also learn and develop their social and emotional skills. This social and emotional learning has a big impact on the relationships that children are able to develop with both their peers and the adults in the school.

To help develop these skills, this term all classes are participating in a series of lessons on relationships. Our reception children are having lessons on things like

- ways to make and keep friends,
- ways to listen to each other and
- ways to help around the school and the classroom.

The skills develop age appropriately across the year levels with our year 6/7 students learn concepts like

- investigating the effects bystanders have on bullying
- investigating strategies to respond to bullying situations if you're a bystander

- identifying bullying online

These lessons are from the Friendly Schools Curriculum, a whole school program we are currently implementing to support the positive development across our school. Having a whole school approach with common themes and language is helping with the positive feel that is evident across the school. Drop me a line if you'd like to know more about the program.



Krupa, Lana, Myles, Kaylie and Daljit—some of our current Student Teachers from University of South Australia





### SOUTH GAWLER NETBALL CLUB

Is your child interested in learning to play Netball?  
We're running the NetSetGO program and have spots available!

**NET -** Children turning 5 & 6 years old in 2020 (born 2014 & 2015). Teaching basic movement & ball skills to incorporate into fun ball games.

**SET -** Children turning 7 & 8 years old in 2020 (born 2012 & 2013). Learning intermediate movement & ball skills and playing in practice matches.

'Net' Sessions: Thursday's 4:30 - 5:15pm, running from 13 August - 29 October.  
'Set' Sessions: Thursday's 5:30 - 6:15pm, running from 13 August - 29 October.

\*Registration Fee: \$100 (SA Govt. Sports Voucher can be used)\*

Contact us via [southgawlnetball@gmail.com](mailto:southgawlnetball@gmail.com) or message our Facebook Page to enquire.

### Medication at School

Any medication required to be given at school must be notified via the Front Office. A Medication Agreement form will be provided and must be completed by a GP or Specialist. Staff are not able to administer medication unless this form is provided to us. Medication must be provided in original pharmacy packaging—clearly labelled. **Forms available on our website or Skoolbag.**

Asthma Care Plans must be provided even if students keep their Ventolin for use themselves. Asthma medication will be kept in the class room by the Teacher if required (under supervision). School Ventolin is available for students at recess or lunch time if required (an Asthma Care Plan is needed). If your child has a Non-specific health condition that requires additional care then a time must be made with the Principal to discuss the needs of the student and forms completed.

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