Dear Parents/Caregivers and members of our school community,

I know that a lot of work has happened behind the scenes to help students be active learners and it is important to know that today’s students are wildly different in some ways, from past generations.

To write a message about “when I was at school” would not be scintillating information and I dread that you may put down the newsletter and shake your head thereby I digress to a wider view. After listening to and really enjoying the future student leader speeches on Monday parade and watching our students from Prep through to Year 6 sitting and listening, I think that you will agree that the following thoughts will resonate with your conclusions about the Gowrie students of the 21st Century who:

Want to have a say in their education. Our students at Gowrie respond better when their voices are heard.

Often have higher levels of digital literacy than their parents or teachers. They don’t know a world without computers. My daughter is often at a loss when I fumble on the mobile, really focus on the screen and spell aloud when I am texting.

Don’t talk as much about having a job as they do about making a difference. The very concept of a “job” has changed so much in the past decade, the future is about making a difference.

Want to connect with others in real time. The social and emotional skills of our Gowrie students is a proud aspect of our community which is evidenced on a daily basis in every class grouping in their self-awareness, self-management, social awareness and relationship building with friends and peers. Our students collaborate amazingly well. They love teamwork and figuring things out with their friends.

Really can multi-task and appreciate a “trial and error” approach to learning new skills. They learn by doing and have a “can do” attitude.

Know where to go to find information and are increasingly aware of the world around them. Yet they are well grounded and enact the basic values and character strengths that are nurtured at home and school. Everyday I witness this in our student’s environmental awareness and sense of civic responsibility which are critical lifelong skills. Our Monday parade verified our shared role in enhancing wellbeing so that our students can realise their full potential, cope with the stresses of life and participate fully in their community. My sincere thanks to Gowrie community.

Kind regards Mandy

Student Absence Line: 4698 6860
Open 24 Hrs
Please advise the school on the same day your child is absent.

TERM 4 AT A GLANCE

**18 Nov** Small Schools Volleyball Carnival

**24 Nov** Hockey Gala Day (Selected students only)

**1 Dec** Free Dress Day for Michael. Summer Theme

**5 Dec** School Awards Night

**6 Dec** Gold Pass Day

**7 Dec** Yr 6 Big Day Out

MILLION COIN CHALLENGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Coins</th>
<th>Uniforms</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>25.97</td>
<td>93.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>26.58</td>
<td>95.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>31.44</td>
<td>95.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3/4</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4/5</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>94.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>25.95</td>
<td>93.87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHOIR PRACTICE

EVERY TUESDAY

8.20AM
Our continuing conversation around spelling development. With many early years students progressing their literacy skills it is important to note that ‘Sight words’ do not become a ‘given’ as the child gets older. Consider the following research:

Between the ages of four and nine, your child will have to master some 100 phonics rules, learn to recognize 3,000 words with just a glance, and develop a comfortable reading speed approaching 100 words a minute. He/she must learn to combine words on the page with a half-dozen squiggles called punctuation into something –a voice or image in her his mind that gives back meaning. (Paul Kropp, 1996)

Preparation for 2017
As we continue our discussions around forward planning for 2017, it is important to notify the school office as soon as possible if your children will not be attending Gowrie State School next year. This helps greatly with our planning.

HEADLICE ALERT
We have had a reported case of head lice in Year 1. As the end of year is near it is a timely reminder to check your child/rens hair.
“Genuine Gowrie Grit”

Congratulations Jase, Dominic, Harrison & Nicholas you are our Gowrie Stars for this week.

Modelling personal responsibility for growing a positive culture of high expectations.

Students of the Week

Artists of the Week
The afternoons have been hot so the children have been choosing quieter activities – preferring to sit in the shade and talk. Magic tricks, scoobies and the games table have also been popular.

Yesterday afternoon the children enjoyed putting up the Christmas-Tree. We’ve also begun voting to determine what day our end of year celebration will be held. Parents are welcome to vote. Some have already been roped into voting for a particular day by their children.

OSHC accepts bank transfer deposits for account payments. We are a ‘Not for Profit’ organisation so please keep accounts up to date and remember to cancel unwanted bookings. If you require any information please contact us on 46 307 710 between 7:00 and 9:00 am and 2:30 to 6:00 pm. We have 101 message services and routinely check our messages.

Bookings - spaces are available each morning and afternoon this week. The OSHC team Lynell, Josie, Sharon and Lirissa truly enjoy working as a team with you and your children.

Congratulations to the Year 5 students who recited their speeches to the whole school yesterday, in their bids for leadership roles for 2017. You all did a wonderful job and should be very proud of your efforts. We acknowledge you all as the Writers of the Week!!

Please consider contributing to our shared responsibility approach to catering for this Friday’s small school challenge day. We are hosting a Volleyball Challenge event with students from small neighbourhood schools. Our menu has been innovated with the hope of your contribution.

**DONATION ROSTER**

**Prep:** Home made cakes and slices

**Year 1:** Crackers, dips and serviettes

**Year 2:** Carrots, celery, cherry tomatoes and strawberries

**Year 3/4:** Plastic cups, plastic cutlery, white or wholemeal bread

**Year 4/5:** Fruit, cordial and zip lock bags (snack or sandwich size)

**Year 5/6:** Homemade cookies, cling wrap and eggs

*Thank you to everyone who has already contributed. If you wish to bring in items early please bring them into the office.*

**LAST TUCKSHOP DAY FOR 2016—25th November —POT LUCK DAY**

No orders will be taken for next Friday. Just bring your money along.

Chicken Burgers & Sausage Sizzle (Plenty for everyone)

Assorted cakes & biscuits and sell out of remaining ice blocks & drinks.

Everything will be under $2.00
BANNOCK BRAE MEATS
CHRISTMAS HAM DRIVE
Each year we offer these hams to our community. Cost of the hams depend on size ordered. Bannock Brae usually contact each person to give an exact price of their ham prior to pick up day. Orders need to be returned to the office by 18th November with the school pick up on Friday 2nd December. Order forms are available from the office.

VACANCY
RELIEF CLEANER REQUIRED
We require a relief cleaner for Gowrie State School. If you are interested please register your name at the office.

2017 BOOKLIST
Booklists have been distributed to each child. Highfields News & Post Office are our suppliers again this year.
- Orders can be done ONLINE or in person at Shop 6, Highfields Village or 55 Highfields Road (Old Bowls Club)
- **Orders are not to be returned to the school**
If you return your order before the 1st December our school receives a benefit from them.
- Your order will be packed & delivered to the Gowrie School for collection from the ASSEMBLY HALL on Wednesday 7th December between 8am—9.30am

LOST PROPERTY
As the end of the year approaches it would be a great time to come and check our lost property basket. There are many items in their unnamed!!!!

COMMUNITY NEWS
Toowoomba Second Range Crossing Road Works
Nexus will be working on Gowrie Junction Road and Ganzer Road, Gowrie Junction. The works include:
- permanently realigning Ganzer Road and connecting it to Gowrie Junction Road
- constructing a four-lane bridge for the TSRC over Gowrie Junction Road
- Upgrading a section of Gowrie Junction Road and constructing a signalized intersection with the new Ganzer Road.
Works will be carried out from November 2016 until April 2017, Monday to Saturday 6:30am to 6.30pm.
For more information on road closures and traffic conditions for the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing Project, please visit www.nexustsrc.com.au or phone 1800 198 878.

COUNCIL—FREE PLANT VOUCHERS
If anyone has any vouchers that they would like to donate towards the “Gowrie State School Gardens” we would gladly accept them. They can be handed in at the office. Thank you