Dear Parents/Care givers and members of our school community

Give time and privilege the conversations. A smart mantra. The other day I was yarning with Sharyn, a marvellous lady who keeps the school operations running smoothly with an uplifting approach to our daily work and she mentioned a television show that had caught her interest. Our conversation was interrupted but my interest was piqued. The show was about the emotional resilience of folks during the times of challenge and change. It got me pondering about a unique feature that makes Gowrie school community so original and that is the character strength of mindfulness.

Recently whilst on after school, front yard duty I witnessed this wise attention. Furthermore, the ensuing conversations that I encountered with a number of parents, added to the considered responsibility we invested in. The value of our collective responsibility for road safety was validated.

Our school community has accomplished a culture of sharing in common, home-grown beliefs such as the importance of road safety. I frequently hear parents talk through their expectations to their children about how to cross the road, use the crossing, hold hands when near the road, walking and not running, being aware and such like. The approach of ‘it takes a village to raise a child’ is most evident in the shared teaching and learning of road safety. It is a very obvious intent- our shared approach plays an important role in shaping the attitudes and behaviours of children and young people – ensuring they become responsible drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists. Thank you.

On another note, the responsible mindfulness of students has been demonstrated in the smooth running of our school swimming program. The students have taken an active role by recognizing they are accountable for their progress in the lessons, shared organizational matters and sense of accomplishment. It was with great pleasure that I gave time late last Friday afternoon to a conversation with Mrs Winter when she told me that the Year 5 and 6 Swim program is the best she has been involved in and the distinguishing feature was how our students conducted themselves.

I am going to end on this high note.

Many thanks.

Mandy
I have put together a Parent Brochure about supporting your child’s spelling development. I will make copies upon request and send home or if you drop by my office for a chat while I make a copy for you. Here is a snippet. (I had some déjà vu moments when I was reading back through some of the spelling rules and can recall sitting at the kitchen table going through the home work tasks.)

**Spelling and Word Confusion (MNEMONICS to help)**

**Accommodation:** There are two caravans and two motels. OR The motel has two cots and two mattresses

**Address:** You add your address

**Beautiful:** Big elephants are ugly . . . Tiful

**Because:** Betty eats cake and uncle Sam’s eggs

**Because:** Big elephants can always understand small elephants

**Brought / bought** If you bring it, you brought it. If you buy it, you bought it.

**Dairy / diary** In a diary you write about yourself, so ‘i’ comes first. Cows in the dairy love fresh air

**Desert / dessert:** When you eat dessert, you always come back for seconds

**February:** Br – there’s a breeze in February.

**Forty:** Naughty forty leaves ‘u’ out

**Friend:** Don’t fri the end of your friend

**Here/hear:** You hear with your ear

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I invited Sonya Watton, the visiting Special Education Teacher (every second Thursday) for some insight into Organisation Skills.

A few kids seem naturally organized, but for the rest, organization is a skill learned over time. With help and some practice, kids can develop an effective approach to getting stuff done.

They'll develop a sense of independence. Kids who dress themselves at age 4 feel like big kids. It's a good feeling that will deepen over time as they learn to do even more without help. From these good feelings, kids begin to form a belief about themselves — "I can do it."

**Easy as 1-2-3**

For kids, all tasks can be broken down into a 1-2-3 process.

1. Getting organized means a kid gets where he or she needs to be and gathers the supplies needed to complete the task.

2. Staying focused means sticking with the task and learning to say "no" to distractions.

3. Getting it done means finishing up, checking your work, and putting on the finishing touches, like remembering to put a homework paper in the right folder and putting the folder inside the backpack so it's ready for the next day.

**SWIMMING**

Prep, Year 1 and 2 commenced their swimming today (thankfully the weather warmed up slightly).

Year 3 and 4 have their second swimming lesson tomorrow (Wednesday)

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**Contact details up to date??** — If any details have changed please let the office know asap.

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**ROAD SAFETY**

Over the next few days and into next week it is our intention to undertake the following lessons on Road Safety that have being designed specifically and promoted by the Department of Transport and Main Roads. They can be found on their website.

Prep to Year 1: Little Voices-Big Choices. Year 2 and 3- Watching Me, Watching You, Year 4 and 5- Take a Walk in my shoes and Year 6- What about me.
“Genuine Gowrie Grit”
Congratulations Ruby, Sophie & Mackenzie you are our Gowrie Stars for this week.

“Respectful and Responsible”

Their words and actions shape the culture of our school. When interacting with these students they remind me of the adage: Say what you stand for & stand for what you say. These students words & actions tell me that they want to accomplish!!

Congratulations to the Year 5/6 class on your smooth transitioning to swimming. You made the whole program run smoothly!! Wonderful effort to Mrs Winter & Mrs Lambourne as well!!!
Spring is in the air! Flowers everywhere! Sounds like Spring Fever, time to get outside. That’s exactly what we did all last week. We even did a spot of gardening. It must be the spring fever because it’s usually difficult to get more than 2 or 3 children involved in gardening – sounds like hard work and all that, dirty hands, you know how it goes.

Last week on Monday afternoon many children were involved in collecting and planting geranium cuttings being careful to collect cuttings from different plants for different coloured flowers. On Tuesday a small group of children planted a shrub, flowers and corn seedlings. One problem that we usually don’t have is enlisting helpers to water the plants.

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 but we are on or near our limit for educator to child ratios. If you know whether you need or don’t need bookings please let us know so that we can organise staff beforehand. Afternoon bookings – spaces are available each day.

The OSHC team Lynell, Josie, Sharon and Lirissa truly enjoy working as a team with you and your children.

BLUE LIGHT DISCO—Subway Orders due Thursday 20th October

BUNNINGS BBQ

We need helpers for our fundraiser at Bunnings on Sunday the 23/10/16. All you need is your charm to cook and sell some yummy sausages on bread and some soft drink for people to wash it down. But most importantly show the many people who shop at Bunnings what a great school Gowrie State School is! Just place your name in a time slot on the roster which will be placed on the Parent and Community Engagement Noticeboard (P.A.C.E) outside the office.

Our P&C are being creative and courageous in creating connections with community. 18th November 2016 is a date to mark in your diary. The schools days from 31st October through to 16 November are dates that you could mark off on your calendar. Why? (Which is a common question that may come your way from your young child as you are multi-tasking) Why? P&C is hosting the catering aspect of the Small School Challenge Day – Volleyball. It is predicted that we will host around 140 students from small schools within the Darling Downs region. Our tuckshop convenors – Michele Gascoyne and Sonya Careclas with the support of the P&C, are promoting a whole school approach to supporting this day. A “Donation Roster” is in place.

- Each class group is allocated types of items to donate towards the catering demands of the tuckshop on this ‘mega’ tuckshop day with the visiting small schools.
- The roster is attached for your consideration.
- There will be donation collection boxes in the office. The students enter the item into their class box. The class achieving the most impressive contribution total will be acknowledged and celebrated.

DONATION ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep:</th>
<th>Home made cakes and slices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1:</td>
<td>Crackers, dips and serviettes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2:</td>
<td>Carrots, celery, cherry tomatoes and strawberries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4:</td>
<td>Plastic cups, plastic cutlery, white or wholemeal bread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4/5:</td>
<td>Fruit, cordial and zip lock bags (snack or sandwich size)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6:</td>
<td>Homemade cookies, cling wrap and eggs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LOWES 15% DISCOUNT VOUCHER

Lowes have given us 25 vouchers to give out to parents. These will be given out on a first in best dressed basis. If you would like a voucher they are available at the office.

We also have a current pricelist for the Gowrie State School uniforms from Lowes available at the office.

BLUE LIGHT DISCO
6 – 9 PM
GOWRIE SCHOOL HALL
28 OCTOBER 2016

DOOR $5 ENTRY

PARENTS WELCOME!!
SUPERVISION REQUIRED FOR PREP – 3
ALL CHILDREN MUST BE SIGNED IN

Primary Aged Students ONLY

Lock in Policy

Halloween

The MANGO FUNDRAISER

Fresh North Queensland Mangoes
Direct from the farm to you!

Support Our Mango Fundraiser

If you love mangoes, here’s your chance to indulge in fresh juicy Kensington Pride mangoes and support our P & C fundraising drive to help pay for remaining classroom air-conditioning!

We are selling trays of mangoes picked and packed during the premium harvest.

Cost per Tray is: $25
Place your order by: Friday 28 October
For Further Information Contact:
Anne 0427 580 560
Trivia Night

2016

SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

INDIVIDUALS / COUPLES / TEAMS OF 6 - 8

ALL ARE WELCOME

$10 PER PERSON

MULTI RAFFLE

6 PM - LATE

BYO FOOD

CHILD MINDING IN LIBRARY

BAR

GOWRIE STATE SCHOOL HALL

KEEP CALM AND PLAY TRIVIA