Dear Parents/Care givers and members of our school community,

This is the last newsletter for 2016 and we have made it a bonza edition. I am sharing the story that I presented at our recent Awards Night as it gives a good picture of my reflection on my short time here at Gowrie. As well, it gives credence to the Gowrie story that was told last night. The evening’s storytellers were our 2016 Student Leadership Team who not only hosted the program but also were custodians of the our traditions and innovations.

It went like this: I feel very fortunate to have found my pathway to Gowrie State School to follow the things I enjoy and have a passion for, being part of a community, making a difference in teaching and learning, caring about forward thinking, believing in shared responsibility and nurturing a culture of belief in aspirations and imagination.

It has been a simple but profound case of doing what’s inside you— the idea of opportunity. Gowrie State School has no poverty of opportunity as the community cares about education and this is a wonderful testament to the future of our school.

I pay homage to the principalships before me and hope that my principalship will be as enriching and empowering. Opportunity is often disguised as hard work, a key feature of the foundation of our daily life at school and at home. I acknowledge the quality we have in our staff— teachers, teacher aides, administration, grounds and facilities who work together to build the strong pride of our high expectations and student centred focus. It is rekindled in many ways and in many moments. Gowrie is definitely the place to go to grow.

My thanks to the P&C for their support, to the staff for their wisdom and work, to the community for their partnership and the students for their investment in learning. I hope that you are enjoying the evening and wish you the best for the remainder of the year.

On behalf of the staff and students, I wish you a safe and healthy holiday break.

Kind regards,
Mandy

TERM 4 AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 6 Big Day Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>Break Up Day and Free Dress Day (Festive Theme) *** Shared Lunch*** We ask Prep to Year 3 to bring something savoury &amp; Year 4—6 to bring something sweet to share.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>Clean Up Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONGRATULATIONS to Year 4/5 for collecting the most 5c coins in Term 4 & Year 3/4 for winning School Pride for Term 4.

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

SCHOOL WATCH
131 788

NEEDED—CHRISTIAN RELIGION INSTRUCTOR
Christian Religion Instructor (Ecumenical) required at Gowrie State School, for either a combined year 3/4 or 5/6 class at 11:40—12.10pm on Mondays starting in 2017.
If you would like to help with this volunteer role or would like more information please contact Ingrid on 0408 878 325 (Work) 4637 0737 (A/h) or email steinhardt93@bigpond.com
Congratulations to our Nominated & Award Winners from our Awards Night

**Cultural Award** - Nominees– Bria Stefanowicz, Zoe Bullen, Ella Lamb, Tiahna Robinson, Zenna Chavasse, Amy Tudman-Hook, Lara Malli **Award Winner— Bria Stefanowicz**

**Gowrie ICT Award** — Nominees– Jonathan Zischke, Ruby Pascoe, Lara Malli **Award Winner— Lara Malli**

**The Pat Weir Award** - Nominees– Amelia Westcott, Kian Verrall, Sam Bullen **Award Winner— Kian Verrall**

**Sports Star of the Year** - Nominees– Ryan Bidgood, Brayden Ruming **Award Winner— Ryan Bidgood & Brayden Ruming**

**Citizenship Award** Nominees– Bob Judge, Caleb Suhr, Zenna Chavasse, Paige Rothwell **Award Winner— Junior Award— Zenna Chavasse  Senior Award— Paige Rothwell**

**Graafland Overall You Can Do It**— Hayden Macready
You Can Do It Award for Prep — Maddison Kiely
You Can Do It Award for Year 1 — Lea Malli
You Can Do It Award for Year 2 — Charlotte Skuse
You Can Do It Award for Year 3 — Hayden Macready
You Can Do It Award for Year 4 — Lyndsay Hales
You Can Do It Award for Year 5 — Brayden Tootell
You Can Do It Award for Year 6 — Amy Tudman-Hook

**100% Attendance** — Cooper Ballini, Quinn Stefanowicz, Klarissa Summers, Cooper Rossow, Samantha Hogan & Jase Rossow

**Duke of Ellington Instrumental Award** — Nominees– Kian Verrall, Sophie Skuse, Alexander Theodosis, Neve Chavasse **Award Winner— Neve Chavasse**

**Lote Award** - Nominees– Tiahna Robinson, Paige Rothwell & Alexander Theodosis **Award Winner— Alexander Theodosis**

**Gowrie State School Academic Award** — Nominees – Amy Tudman-Hook, Jack Kemp, Kian Verrall, Lara Malli **Award Winner— Lara Malli**

**Student’s Student Award** – Nominees– Kirra Coupe, Alesha Hartley, Paige Rothwell, Zoe Bullen, Sarah Carter, Amy Tudman-Hook **Award Winner— Amy Tudman-Hook**


**Gowrie Rising Star Award** — Nominees– Sophie Fowkes, Amza Fleming, Erin Siebuhr, Cooper Leslie **Award Winner— Sophia Fowkes**

---

**Farewell to Mrs Stephanie Jones**

We have enclosed in this newsletter our thoughts and messages around the retirement of Mrs Jones. This story is the result of interviewing colleagues of Mrs Jones which provided a testimonial to the starlight teaching career of Mrs Jones. It is my privilege to talk with you about a teacher-Mrs Stephanie Jones who has taught at Gowrie for many years and has decided to retire and seek deep satisfaction in other pursuits just like she has gained and given whilst being a teacher.

This moment in our Awards Night is rather fitting as it properly expresses our gratitude and shows our appreciation of Mrs Jones, a teacher who has followed through on a vision of teaching that is clear as crystal that you need to love what you do and care about life-long learning.

Her philosophy about teaching is that she meets students where they are in their learning. She sees a grace in them, and she sees a possibility in them. And because she sees it, they start seeing it. From talking with her colleagues the way I see it is that Stephanie’s legacy to the Gowrie school community is she has taught students how to be curious about the world and how to care for the people around them, and how to analyse facts and evidence, and how to tell stories, and how to believe in their ability to shape their own destiny.

Thank you Mrs Jones.
“Genuine Gowrie Grit”
Congratulations Linken & Louie you are our Gowrie Star for this week.

“I have enjoyed watching these two young students give determination to their sense of wanting to strive to give stronger effort and working with their teacher and peers to build stronger shared responsibility for learning”.

*Respect * Resilience * Relationships * Rigour * Responsibility* all lead to a great * REPUTATION *
This week, being our last week for this year, educators will be focusing on helping the children to relax and enjoy each other’s company especially those who will be leaving us. The week began with a pancake breakfast for the morning children and will continue with Christmas activities and time to just sit and talk which has been a popular activity lately.

We also take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support throughout the year. We have received many donations, kind words and help in various ways. As always we are sad to see children leave but wish them and their families all the very best for the future.

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. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

**Tuckshop News**

**THURSDAY 8th December—BREAK UP DAY**

It has become a tradition at Gowrie that on the last Thursday of the year the Year 6 students serve the entire school with a shared lunch.

*We ask that each child brings along an item as follows: Prep-Year 3 Savoury, Year 4-6 Sweets*

Thank you to the ladies who have volunteered their time once again to help with the organising of shared food onto plates, cut up, clean up etc. This is a wonderful help to our tuckshop ladies and shows respectful acknowledgement of their year long tireless service to our students/community.

**Lost Property**

As this is the last week of school all items left in the lost property basket will be washed and given to the Uniform Shop on Friday as all items are unnamed. If you have lost something please come & check before Friday afternoon.

**A Window into 2017 at Gowrie**

Prior to the start of the school year, staff return to school for a number of Student Free Days for professional development and dedicated time for preparing the school teaching and learning agenda from a whole school approach.

*We have decided to take an opportunity to offer a “Pop in and Meet” with staff. On Wednesday 18th January 2:30—3.15pm we invite each of our Gowrie families to pop in & meet the staff, drop off the school books (quite heavy at this stage), see the classroom & have a chat with other parents & classmates. It is a relaxing time as there is no rushed first morning of school to drop off books, meet & greet. So pop in on Wednesday 18th January from 2:30—3.15pm. The uniform shop will also be open. We welcome your company & look forward to showing you our classrooms & our school.*

**BOOK CLUB**

Thank you to all the staff, parents and students who made purchases this term. A total of $1,417 was spent, raising $283.50 for the school. A wonderful effort!!

As a total for the year, Book Fair and Book Club have raised $1,216 for the school. The purchases made from this money, allow our school to provide our kids with necessary and relevant resources.
PREP 2017
Prep shirts for 2017 have arrived. If you ordered a shirt/s you can collect them and make payments at the school office.
Next Blast Off Day: Wednesday 7th December

Gowrie Junction Progress Association Inc. Presents a Santa Visit and Movie Night
When: Saturday 17th December 2016
Time: 5:30pm Santa will arrive in town and will be going around the streets on a Santa sleigh.
6:30pm Santa will arrive at the community hall, at this time there will a photo opportunity with Santa inside the hall.
7:30pm a great G Rated Movie will commence.
Please come along to this free community event. Including sausage sizzle, popcorn and drinks.
Guaranteed to be a great family night out. Keep an eye out for the flyer with all the information and Santa route being delivered to your mailbox next week. Feel free to also drop us a post on Facebook!

SCHOOL WATCH 131 788

CHRISTMAS CHURCH TIMES for Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Gowrie-Glencoe Road—Sunday 18 December 10.30am
Children’s Christmas Program;
Christmas Eve 24 December 7pm
Carols Service;
Christmas Day 25 December 8am
Everyone Welcome

COMMUNITY NEWS

Gowrie Junction Progress Association Inc. Presents a Santa Visit and Movie Night
Meet the Camp Cooby, Reflections team
Sean Tanya Chris Liz McFarll

CAMP COOBY HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
“What do the kids say about Camp Cooby?” “Can I come back tomorrow?” “Best Camp Ever!” “Thanks you! You exhausted!”

ROCK-CUMING - BRAHIND - CAMDEN - ECO-WALKS - STARTUPS - AQUAPLACE - HIGH-ROPS
ONE DAY ONLY, WEEKDAYS, FULL WEEK CAMP + NIGHT STAYS
YOUNG PEOPLE 6 to 13 years of age + ALL FOOD INCLUDED + EXPERIENCED FACILITATORS
ONLY 10 MINS DRIVE FROM HIGHFIELDS - NIGHT STAYS AVAILABLE + ECO-EXPERIENCES
(07) 4636 6244 / campcooby / campcoobyfun


HOCKEY2

Come & Try

Length / Hour: 
Cost: RED

CENTRE: Toowoomba Hockey Association Inc.
Contact Name: Toowoomba Hockey Association
Contact Number: (07) 4633 1229
Location: Clive Park, 564 Boundary Street, Toowoomba, G.L.D. 4350
Start Dates and Times:
Monday 30th January 2017
Saturday 4th February 2017
8am - 11am; Sunday 5th February 2017
Registration Fee:
Inclusions: Participants will be introduced to the rules of the game and get a chance to try out what it’s all about.

HOCKEY2

Hookin2 Hockey

EMAIL: office@toowoombahockey.com.au
WEB: http://www.toowoombahockey.com.au
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: To register your interest visit www.hookin2hockey.com.au and enter 4350 into the program finder