Dear Parents, Children and Friends,

We have some outstanding stewards of the school’s charter of expectations for the 5R’s. Resilience, Respect, Responsibility, Rigour, and Relationships and outstanding mentors for active learning in each and every one of our classrooms. I know you join me in extending this acknowledgment of the hard work that happens behind the scenes. This not only includes the teachers, teacher aides, cleaning team, grounds officer, administration team and visiting support specialists but also the parents and caregivers and members of the extended family.

I am sure that there are similarities in conversations happening in the kitchens of the homes of our school community members when we say that the landscape of education is changing, has changed since when we were in school. Yes, the landscape may have changed (milk in bottles sitting in crates on the bitumen quadrangle is possibly not missed by all) however, the hard work happening behind the scenes is the same. There maybe moments of regeneration for foundation values and traditions but the essence of home and school relationship is still strong. The need for support in homework, pursuing outdoor activities, the enrichment of good manners and respect for adults and the elderly, care for the land, effort put into tasks, working together-these are not new. And, not surprisingly, these are actions and values that make an impact on our approach to future pathways.

These thoughts were evidenced last week when I took the opportunity to talk with the students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Specifically, the good manners and courteous voice of the students in Year 3/4 was the ‘icing on the cake’ when I was thinking about the hard work behind the scenes. These young students showcased the outcomes of all the hard work we all do, day in and day out. They upheld the standards that reflect the values:

Resilience, Respect, Responsibility, Rigour, and Relationships

Your efforts: supervising reading homework, making cupcakes for the ten dollar challenge, making a beautiful birthday cake for your child to share with classmates, making camp payments, finding the library book on library day, checking the times tables… they may seem routine but they are what keeps us on a steady course.

Regards Mandy

SUPPORT OUR P&C
Don’t forget to buy your tickets to our Sportsperson Dinner 13th August 2016

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TERM 3 AT A GLANCE
Year 1 & Year 2 Amaroo
Excursion  Thurs 4 Aug
Prep Amaroo Incursion  Tue 9 Aug
Inner Downs Athletics  Tues 9 Aug
Free Dress Day  Thurs 18 Aug
School Camp  22-24 Aug
Year 3 & Year 4 Amaroo
Excursion  Mon 29 Aug
Small Schools Science/Maths Challenge  Thurs 1 Sept
Father’s Day Stall  Thurs 1 Sept & Fri 2nd Sept
Year 5 & Year 6 Ravensbourne
Excursion  Tues 6 Sept
Swag of Tails Arts Council  Wed 7 Sept
Gold Pass Day  Thu 15 Sept

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MILLION COIN CHALLENGE
Total: 158 996

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Coins</th>
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<th>Attendance</th>
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<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>186</td>
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Student Absence Line: 46 986 860
This number is available 24hrs a day to notify the school when your child is away.

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Taking Pride in Ourselves, Taking Pride in Our School!
Voluntary Contributions (Photocopy in bold, reams of paper in italics)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep – Yr 6 Students at School</th>
<th>Voluntary Cont. Budget Required</th>
<th>No of Contributions Paid</th>
<th>Payments to date</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>171 students</td>
<td>$3,510.00</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>$2,325.00</td>
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<td>3 reams per student</td>
<td>513 reams A4 Reflex paper</td>
<td>Reams Collected to date:</td>
<td>338</td>
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</table>

Book Club

Orders and payment to be returned by Friday, 5th August 2016. You can place orders in the P & C drawer in the office. Any queries contact Debby on 0402 138 751.

URGENTLY NEEDED: Christian Religion Instructor

Do you have an interest in teaching children about the Christian faith? A new Christian Religion Instructor is URGENTLY required at Gowrie State School, for a combined Year 5/6 class at 11.40am—12.10pm on Mondays. The combined Ecumenical Churches of Toowoomba (through the Toowoomba Ministers Association and Christian Leaders Network) support this program in State Schools.

If you would like more information please contact Ingrid on 0408 878 325 (Work) 46 370 737 (A/h) or email steinhart93@bigpond.com

This Week’s Reading Habit

**PREDICTING is part of our lifestyle!**

Will I need a coat or jacket today? **BEFORE** I leave home! Will mum remember there is early hockey training this afternoon? **DURING** the day! Will they forget that I’ve lost my Ipad for a whole two weeks? **After** two days since I kicked the soccer ball inside and broke Dad’s trophy!

When reading, we also think about the BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER!!!

**Before reading:** Predict what the text is about.

**During reading:** Read a section of the text and predict what may happen next.

**After reading:** Predict what the sequel or follow up text may be about.

Parent Corner

The date is not too far off. The P&C fundraiser, an Evening with David Alley on August 13th. It is with pleasure that I will be part of the Gowrie State School presentation agenda with our Student Leadership Team presenting a reworked Banjo Paterson poem and a Gallery of Student Work will be on show. However, a little help is needed to prepare the display boards for the student work. We have free standing cardboard boths which need to be decorated with coloured paper, silhouettes of footprints (David’s running shoes) and bicycles.

I will trace the outlines but I would appreciate a few parents doing the cutting out and pasting on. **Please come and see me if you can help.**
*Respect * Resilience * Relationships * Rigour * Responsibility* all lead to a great **REPUTATION**

Congratulations you are our Gowrie Stars for displaying “Genuine Gowrie Grit”

The meaning of ‘grit’ for these awards is about resilience; having an approach to meeting and welcoming people with a sense of optimism and conversations they have initiated or engaged in with me as I have moved around the school grounds and classrooms.

You should be proud of your Efforts

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!

Bria and Sean are Australian finalists in the Colgate “My Bright Smile” Global Poster Competition. They are 2 out of 12 children across Australia who have been chosen and their entries have been sent to New York to compete with other finalists from many other countries from around the world. If they are successful and become a global winner, their artwork will be reproduced in next year’s My Bright Smile Calendar to be distributed to over 50 countries participating in the “Bright Smiles, Bright Futures” program.

Bria and Sean – You are a credit to your school community!
At the last P&C meeting I spoke to school community about the school’s response to a change in managing student attendance. This action was in line with the advice and guidelines provided for Darling Downs South West State Schools around same – day notification of unexplained absences for children in out-of-home care. Outlined below is the relevant information that sits behind the school’s response.

The Department of Education and Gowrie State School are always seeking ways to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your children and with this in mind we have been advised of a new Departmental directive with regard to Unexplained Absences. From January 2017 all schools will be required to contact parents/caregivers to notify them if their child/ren has/have not arrived at school.

The Managing Student Absence and Enforcing Enrolment and Attendance at State Schools and Roll Marking in State Schools procedures were updated on 11 July 2016 to reflect same day notification of unexplained absences for children in out-of-home-care, effective immediately. Gowrie State School has implemented this procedure.

Gowrie State School will begin to introduce the steps to meet this directive this term, with a view to being fully compliant by Term 4,2016.

**Effective from Week 5 this term (8th August) we will be introducing the following policy:**

* All children must be present in their classroom for roll marking on the second bell at 8:50am
* Teachers will mark the roll. Any child not in the classroom will be marked as Absent.
* Children who arrive after the roll has been marked will be required to go to the office to collect a Late Slip for presentation to their teacher.
* Office staff will check and clear the Absence Line between 9:10-9:30am and a Daily Unexplained Absence report will be run.
* A phone call (at this stage the school is investigating the cost of SMS messaging system) will be made to parents/caregivers advising of their child’s absence and requesting an explanation.

* Update the parent/caregiver contact details. Provide a preferred current mobile phone number. If your number changes, advise us immediately.

**How you can help us to keep your child/ren safe and have a shared responsibility for positive student wellbeing:**

* Families with shared care arrangements will be required to advise the school and provide both parent/caregiver mobile numbers. In the event of an unexplained absence for a child in shared care, both parents will receive a phone call.
* Phone the Student Absence Line before 9:30am to advise of any/all occasions when your child/ren will be away from school. This is a 24hr recorded message, you can call it anytime (convenient if your child is up ill during the night). The Student Absence Line for Gowrie State School is 07 46986860, we suggest you store this number in your phone.
* If you receive a phone message regarding the noted absence of your child/ren, call the Student Absence Line on 0746986860 or the school 07 46986888 to explain the absence OR if you believe your child/ren should be at school contact the school office immediately to notify us.

♦ If you have any queries or concerns regarding this policy, please feel free to contact the office.

**UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS**

Please fill out & return to the office of you have any new contact details or email admin@gowriess.eq.edu.au

**STUDENT NAME:** ________________________________________________________________

**NEW CONTACT DETAILS:** ______________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
1 Week to go to purchase your tickets to our Sportsperson’s Dinner. David Alley, our guest speaker, has broken records and raised significant money for charity.

Dave will share his story of persistence, determination and sheer will which is guaranteed to make you laugh, cry and shake your head in disbelief. His story will appeal to all regardless of your passion and goals in life.

Dave is one determined but knock about bloke who has used his unique attributes to help others. He is currently employed within the police force helping disadvantaged and troubled kids make something out of their lives.

The P&C asks that you please consider attending this night for the benefit of our children’s education.

Tickets are available to purchase from the Gowrie One Stop, Highfields Newsagency or from the school office.

If anyone would like to pay via Direct Deposit into the P&C bank account you will need to contact the office on 46986888 for the bank details.

OSHC News

We’ve had fun with food, fashion and farts. Yes farts! Last week the children viewed the results of an experiment involving gas and somehow the topic of conversation turned to farts but this too was looked at in scientific terms. We learned some interesting facts.

This week however we are back to more hands on activities. Scoobies are back. We know how to do the original style but are looking for instructions on other ways to use scoobies.

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 in time to avoid being charged for them. If you require any information please contact us on 46307710 between the hours of 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 each afternoon this week.

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