



Dear Junior School Parents,

Welcome back after what we hope has been a lovely holiday break. We trust you and your child are rested and ready for another busy term. Our second term focus for Inquiry will be "Digital Technology". Students will explore different forms of technology. They will develop their understanding of computer hardware and the skills required to use computer software. Students will also explore various aspects of networking and internet safety.

### **MORNING ROUTINE**

The school bell continues to ring at 8:50am each morning. When this bell rings students are able to move straight into their classrooms and get organised in preparation for the start of the day. Between 8.50 and 9am this is a time where students can change readers, go to the toilet and have a drink prior to class starting. Please do not enter the corridors prior to 8:50am, unless you need to make contact with the class teacher. If you arrive after 9am please accompany your child to the office to sign your child in.

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

The whole school will take part in cross country on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April at Greythorn Park. We look forward to all students participating on the day. If you are able to help on the day please let your classroom teacher know. Students may wear their house coloured t-shirt on the day. Year 1 and 2 students will be running 1 kilometre.

### **SWIMMING**

The Junior School two week swimming program will commence this term.

**Year 1:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

**Year 2:** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Epipens, asthma puffers and other medication located at school will be taken to the pool by the classroom teacher. If your child does not regularly require medication, it is important that you provide his/her teacher with the necessary medication when attending pool sessions e.g. Asthma puffers. You will find more information about the swimming program on Compass.

### **HOMEWORK**

Students will continue to receive homework tasks that align with their learning. Please make sure this is completed when sent home and returned to the classroom teacher by the required date.

### **READING**

Children have the best chance to grow as readers when they have opportunities to read books at their 'just right' or independent reading level. A 'just right' book is one that the reader finds interesting, can read independently with a limited number of words that they need to problem solve, understands and can talk about in detail, and can read fluently. Here are some strategies that you could use when your child reads to you at home;

*Before reading* - talk about the cover, the title, the pictures, and discuss what the book may be about.

*During reading* - discuss what has been read up to that point, and imagine what will happen next time.

*After reading* - retell, talk and ask questions about the story and the pictures.

### **JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT**

Junior school students will participate in sport on a **Wednesday afternoon** starting **Week 2**. If your child has a GPS house colour t-shirt they will be allowed to wear these to school on this day.

### **BLUE SACHELS**

Please make sure your child brings their blue satchel to school each day. Satchels are used to carry readers and important notices to and from school.

### **ALLERGIES and ANAPHYLAXIS**

Please note that we have students at this level with Anaphylaxis and food allergies. Please refer to 'Medical Matters' on the GPS website [here](#) or the Parent Handbook for more information

We are looking forward to a great term with you and your child.

Yours sincerely,

Junior School Team