



# Green Valley Islamic College

264 Wilson Road Green Valley NSW 2168 T: 8783 9188 F: 8783 9187  
Website: [www.gvic.com.au](http://www.gvic.com.au) Email: [admin@gvic.nsw.edu.au](mailto:admin@gvic.nsw.edu.au)

## GVIC

Respect

Ownership

Caring

Knowledge

Safety

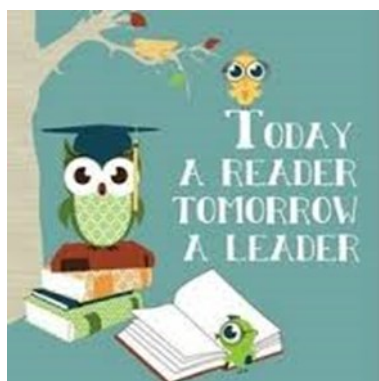
### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

#### March

- 1 School Photo Day
- 9 NAPLAN Information Session
- 18 Harmony Day
- 21-24 Exam Week
- 25 & 28 Public Holiday

#### April

- 8 Last day of term



## Deputy Principal's Message

'The mind is a narrative device – we run on stories' (Libby Gleeson). Despite this, we have often realised that some of our students struggle with writing. Major concerns are having limited vocabulary, lack of knowledge on language conventions, not being expressive enough to engage the reader and not extending beyond simple sentences. Other areas include; lack of flow in the story or use of disjointed sentences and not including all important parts such as sizzling starts and back fill for orientation, the tension as complication and the climax as resolution.

The next step is for us to question, how often do our students engage in writing tasks and what is the range or types of texts? It is common knowledge that the more they write, especially structured lessons, the more chances of improvement they have. One of the activities currently being used by our students is Journal Writing. Every morning as part of 'Drop everything and Write' (D.E.A.W) students write on one of the topics provided. This is marked and students are provided feedback. Ideally students would engage in providing feedback to peers. Apart from this activity, structured writing sessions based on a range of texts are conducted by the class teachers. The school now has a Curriculum Committee that will regularly review writing and other areas of concern in Literacy and Numeracy.

Libby Gleeson, a renowned author of children's book has suggested in her book 'Writing like a Writer' that students be given the '100 Word Challenge'. Each week a prompt can be given and students respond to that in one hundred words or fewer. Parents are encouraged to try this activity and feedback on writing can be sought from siblings or relatives. As recommended by Libby Gleeson, parents can help their children through constant exposure to literature (books) and other texts. This will provide opportunities for explicit teaching of vocabulary and the chance to discuss different types of sentence structures. Other tasks that can be explored include;

**Writing Circles** – Teachers can set up writing buddies (preferably with student's choice) for support and criticism of writing. Parents can extend this idea with siblings. Students can either jointly write stories or provide feedback to each other on individual written work.

**Book Reviews** – For class based literature units, start a review cycle where students share their views on certain characters or plot. Likewise parents can get involved at home with this.

**Daily diary entries** - provide an exercise book and encourage your child to record any interesting event of the day

**Penpals** – motivate and monitor your child's regular correspondence with a relative (preferably of same age)

**Post cards** – allow your child to write the message to grandparents. Students may prefer SMS or emails as well.

The following are some useful websites that can be used:

Vocabulary games [www.learninggamefor kids.com/vocabulary\\_games.html](http://www.learninggamefor kids.com/vocabulary_games.html).

Journal writing <http://itsmydiary.com>

Reading games [www.funbrain.com](http://www.funbrain.com)

## Kindergarten

A warm welcome to both you and your child. After only a few weeks we are very happy to see our newest students settling into Kindergarten .

We have been very busy in the classroom learning about forces (Science), our bodies (PDH), families (History) and numbers (Maths). We have also started to learn about hearing and manipulating sounds in words.

Please don't forget to check the Kindergarten noticeboard as we update this regularly. You can also see our weekly stars from each class!

We thank you for your support and look forward to working with you to help your children progress throughout the year.



## Year One

Year 1 teachers would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Grade 1 classes of 2016. Our students have all made a fantastic start to the year and we are looking forward to our continued journey of learning and growing together. In class this term we have been learning about families in the past and present and also about the different sounds in the environment. In Maths we are learning addition and subtraction. A lot of exciting and engaging activities have been planned to make learning enjoyable and interactive for our students. We would also like to thank parents for their ongoing support and help.



## Year Two

Welcome back to another fantastic year! This year will be a productive and memorable year for our Year 2 students. Students will be involved in a lot of fun learning experiences including hands on activities, excursions and most importantly preparation for NAPLAN. This term students will be undertaking a fun project where they will be creating their own toy and we are really looking forward to seeing their inner creativity and imagination. This year, we teachers and parents will work together to support the students to ensure a great learning year for each and every one of them.



## Year Three

A very warm welcome to 2016. Year 3 started off with a very exciting day on Health and Safety Day. Students had lots of fun playing netball, listened to a special talk by Mr Dannaoui on healthy eating and ended the day by taking part in the Jersey designing competition. All students settled in well and are working towards a very fruitful year. Year 3s will sit for the NAPLAN exam this year in May. In Science students are learning about life cycles where they will be experimenting on growing their own bean seeds. All the best to students in their NAPLAN.





## Year Four

Year 4s have embarked upon a very busy and important year of their school life. This term year 4s are looking into British Colonisation for History and English. Creative Arts is also closely linked with these two units where students learn about the work of an Aboriginal Artist. To further consolidate their learning students will be going on an excursion to Hyde Park Barracks and Museum of Sydney. In PDHPE students are learning about Systems of the Body. The topic for Science Is Build It Up where students will design and make an amusement/theme park. In order to provide differentiated curriculum, Guided Reading is carried out in streamed classes. We have also started with a lot of exciting and engaging programs planned to make learning enjoyable and interactive for the kids.



## Year Five

Welcome back to school! Our students returned to school this year rejuvenated and ready for grade five at GVIC. We jumped straight into it because before we know it the NAPLAN exams will be here. The teachers have been busy trying to prepare the students as best they can and have even been running after-school classes so the students can squeeze in that extra bit of practise each week. We would like to say a huge thank you to the parents for their support regarding this. Apart from working hard in class the students have also enjoyed school events such as Health and Safety Day. We would also like to congratulate those students who were successful at becoming SRC members this year.



## Year Six

What a great start we have had so far! It was nice meeting parents at the Parents Information Session. Thank you for attending.

Year Six students enjoyed fun filled educational activities such as designing jerseys, playing games, attending a Healthy Lunchbox presentation and meeting a couple of West Tigers players on Health and Safety Day. The sausage sizzle was also a success. We thank everyone who supported our first fundraising for the Year Six formal at the end of the year.

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, an excursion to the Cumberland State Forest has been arranged for Year Six to consolidate their learning about Rainforest Sustainability in English.

Year Six will be busy learning about Communication in PDH and Earthquakes in Science and Technology.



## Sport

### Health & Safety Day

Health and Safety Day was a fantastic way to start the year. The day was filled with games and activities which encouraged our students to make healthy food choices, maintain personal safety, and to keep physically active. We had special visitors on the day who spoke to our students about the importance of health and safety. Our school was lucky to have Tyler Casell and Josh Aloiai from the West Tigers speak to our students about hydration, sleep and belonging. Selected grades also met Laura Abrahams (One Netball Coordinator) and Mo'onia Gerrard (One Netball Ambassador), who taught our students some netball skills. Mr Dannaoui held a presentation about healthy food choices and the importance of bringing a healthy lunchbox to school.

### Sporting Competitions

Selected students from year 6 will represent the school in the 'Cops vs Kids Oz Tag' competition organised by the NSW Police. The competition will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> April, and results will be provided soon after.

### Lunchbox snack foods

Children need to eat a range of different foods to provide nutrients to meet growth and energy needs. Snacks need to be 'everyday' foods rather than 'sometimes' foods.

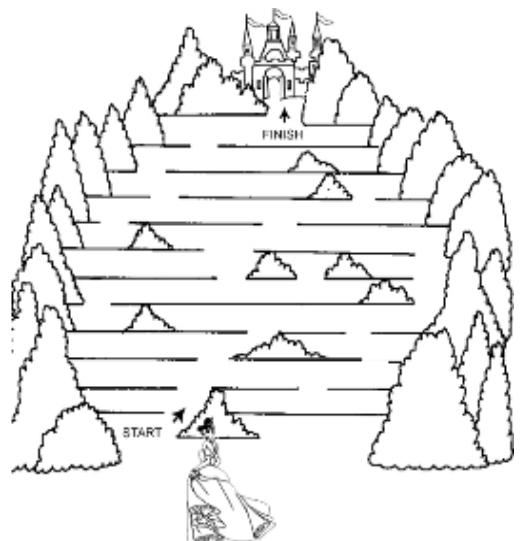
Everyday Snacks	Sometimes Snacks
fruit loaf	muesli bars and dried fruit bars
plain popcorn	potato crisps / chips and corn chips
plain or fruit yoghurt	lollies and confectionary
cheese and crackers	chocolate
fresh fruit or canned fruit	cordial
dried fruit and cheese cubes	cakes and muffins
wholemeal biscuits or crackers	soft drink
vegetable sticks and dip or salsa	
corn or rice cakes with or without spreads	
celery, cherry tomatoes and carrot sticks	

You will not attain righteousness till you spend in charity the things you love (The Quran, Chapter 3, Verse 92)

1) What has to be broken before you can use it?

### **Tongue Twister**

A tidy tiger tied a tighter tie to tidy her tiny tail.



2) What goes up and doesn't come down?