



Welcome Back to Goollelal Primary School

We would like to send a warm, welcome back to school to all our families, whether you are new or returning to the Goollelal community.

We hope you all had a relaxing summer break and enjoyed the time with your families. It has been a fantastic start to the year and it has been lovely to see so many happy, smiling children (and parents!) when we have been out and about in classrooms and chatting in the playground.

We have a busy Term 1 planned, including Parent Information meetings, our P&C Picnic Night, swimming lessons, photo day and other special events. Please refer to our newsletters which will come out on alternate Fridays starting on the 21st of February, as we always include lots of information and news for all parents and carers.

Parent Information Meetings

This week our teachers have started sending home notes and CONNECT messages about Parent Information Meetings. At these meetings our teachers will share a range of important information on how your child's class will function throughout the year. They also provide parents with an opportunity to ask questions and clarify any aspects which they are not sure of. It is the start of the partnership between home and school that is so important to a successful and happy school year. If you are unable to attend the meetings, an information pack will be sent home with your child.

New Siren Times

This year we will have different times for recess and lunch. The start and end of the day times will *not change*. Siren times for 2020 are:



8:50 Start of the day
11:05-11:25 Recess
12:55-1:35 Lunch
3:10 End of the day (2:30 on Tuesdays)



School Development Days 2020

Our School Development Days are used for professional development to ensure our staff are kept up to date with the latest best practice and research in education. On these dates, only school staff attend the school. This year our School Development Days will be on:

Term 1: Thursday 30th and Friday 31st January
Thursday 9th April

Term 2: No School Development Days

Term 3: Monday 20th July

Term 4: Monday 12th October

Friday 18th December (Last Day for students is Thursday 17th December)

Excursions and Incursions – Returning Permission/Payment Notes

This year each class will be enjoying a variety of incursions and excursions, including a Harmony Day Incursion on Friday the 20th of March and a whole school excursion in Term 4. To assist our office staff, we request that all parents and caregivers complete the online permission forms, on the school app, and make payments promptly. We would like to thank everyone who returned swimming forms and payments last year as it really was a huge help to our office staff.

Assessments- On Entry and PATS

Pre-primary and Year One students will soon begin On-Line Assessments (OLI) in Literacy and Numeracy. The main purpose of this assessment is to collect information on the essential literacy and numeracy skills and understandings of your child. Towards the end of term one, your child's teacher will provide you with a summary of your child's achievements and discuss ways you can assist your child at home.

Our Year 2 to Year 6 students will begin a variety of PAT (Progressive Achievement-Reading, Maths, Grammar and Punctuation) assessments with their classroom teachers. We call these assessments "diagnostic" as they assist us to create learning programs that are targeted to meet and develop each child's learning requirements.

Chicken Roster

Thank you to the Edery, Hermans-Kan, Merlo, O'Donovan, Whinnen, Baczek, Jewell, Solbakke, Bates, Wynne and Laforest families who helped care for our chickens over the holidays. Our chickens are all quite old and sadly, during the break, one of our old girls passed away.

Novel Corona Virus

We have had no reported cases of children or staff members who have come into contact with a diagnosed case of this virus. The Department of Health advises that the risk of transmission in Australia remains low; they are monitoring the situation closely and the Department of Education continues to provide schools with updated information. Please refer to the updates that have been posted on the Skoolbag app. or go to the [Department of Health website](#) or the healthdirect helpline on 1800 300 243 for more information on the virus and its symptoms.

Lynne & Kerry

Lynne Anderson | **Principal** Kerry Hartmann | **Deputy Principal**

