Primary
Taleeah Cochrane
Week 5

Secondary
Kayden Hooper
Week 5

Naioka Welsh
Week 4

Tyron Cochrane
Week 4

30 days until the Easter Bunny Arrives....
Yaama,

Firstly, I would like to thank all the members of the Goodooga AECG for their support during 2015 and I look forward to this support continuing in 2016. I believe the AECG has an important role to play in the school and community and I know that by working together we can achieve great things here in Goodooga.

2016 has begun in a great way at school. Some of the highlights so far have been:

Our first two staff development days: During these two days, school staff were involved in Professional Learning on Mental Health Trauma. This professional learning gave staff an insight into students who suffer from Mental Health issues caused by trauma. It also provided them with strategies with how to engage and cater for them in the classroom. We also had a presentation from Aaron Hughes from M Goals. M Goals is an initiative which is being taken up by many communities around NSW. It is a space where communities can tell and share their stories. It also offers teachers another way of completing their students Personalised Learning Plans.

The excellent behaviour of our students: Last year saw significant decrease in problematic behaviour from the year before. This mostly came about through implementing consistent behaviour management practices across the school and a rejuvenated merit system. This year has started even better. All classes have been able to focus on learning and the playground is a nice place to be. Even though there was a significant drop in misbehaviour from previous years, the school still imposed a total of 23 suspensions on 9 different students in 2015. This year I am confident that the number of suspensions can be zero or very close to this. However, there will still be no tolerance for swearing at or intimidating staff or aggressive and violent behaviour.

Attendance and Enrolments: Student attendance has been great to start the year. 92 % of our students are at school every day. I would like to remind the community however of the importance of getting to school every day and notifying the school ASAP of the reason behind any absence.

Uniform: Our students are looking great in their uniform. So far this year, I have not noticed a single student out of uniform which is a reason to congratulate all our students, parents and carers.

New Initiatives for 2016

- SISTA and Bro Speak
- Journey to Respect
- Big Picture
- Secondary Industrial Arts
- E-Beacon
- School Bus Run – Terms 1 and 4.
- Implementing the Dare to Lead Action Plan
- Implementing the School Plan

AECG Input

I am seeking representatives from the AECG in two forums. These are the school’s PBL Team and Finance Team. The PBL team drives welfare and discipline initiatives in the school. They meet 3 times per term on a Wednesday.

I also want to create a Finance team. I am hoping this Finance Team will create more openness, transparency and accountability into the schools finances. The team will meet once per term to look at the budget and ensure that spending matches our priorities.

Once again, I would like to thank the AECG for their support and I’m looking forward to the year ahead.

Yaluu,
Nathan Forbes Principal
Years 2/3/4

Welcome back to another fantastic year! We have all started very energetically this year in 2/3/4 and all students are keen to achieve their learning goals.

We have been reading books and talking about Vikings. They are really interesting and we found out that they did some terrible things. After reading about Vikings we made Vikings in Art. Hope that you enjoy looking at them!
The term co-curricular in an educational context has a range of different meanings depending on the school that your child attends. In some schools co-curricular often encompasses all extracurricular activities, and so sport will be considered a category of co-curricular.

The value of co-curricular activities is that it enables students to broaden their experiences outside the classroom and sporting arenas. The critical thing about co-curricular is that success in these areas does not depend on a student’s academic abilities or physical prowess. Rather success depends on developing an interest and being given a pathway to grow. Because of the diverse nature of Co-Curricular Programs, we find that a large number of students can find success which leads to a belief in their own abilities. The knock-on effect of this is that the confidence gained in the extracurricular can spread to both their academic work and sporting activities.

The essence of any co-curricular activity is to have both a defined skill development pathway, connecting to a leadership program and finally having a service component to enable children to ultimately give back to the community.

Today’s students will need a toolbox of qualifications and skills to be able to compete in the workplace. Children learning outside the classroom sets up an incredibly powerful ability for them to learn independently. The fact that a Co-Curricular Program does not have assessments to force the child to benchmarks, rather it has levels of excellence to achieve to move forward, allows for great personal growth. Students need to take full advantage of all opportunities offered at the school.

This week the school was visited by Big Picture Education Australia, the school was interested in this way of learning and will be attending further workshops on how we can make this work for our students. Below is summary of Big Picture Education.

We believe that true learning takes place when each student is an active participant in their education, when their course of study is personalised by teachers, parents and mentors who know them well, and when school-based learning is blended with outside experiences that heighten the student’s interest. In a country obsessed by 'test-score accountability,' we promote 'one student at a time accountability.'

The Big Picture Education design aims to address these needs, focusing on individual learning and engaging students on a personal level. While we are not suggesting that we are the only design that can make this contribution to education in Australia, we do believe that this is a design that works, and has been proven and demonstrated in schools across the USA and the Netherlands.

The Big Picture’s rigorous and highly personalised approach to education combines academic work with real-world learning. It focuses on educating ‘one student at a time’ and inverts the traditional education design by placing the student, their passions and their interests, at the centre of the learning process.

Mr Banks
On the 23rd and 24th of February our Year 12 school Captain Kayden Hooper travelled to Mungindi to attend the the N.B.S.A. Get Together where they participated in an introduction to their Senior Study program with Ms Inglis and Mr StClair. The teachers were initially impressed because as they pulled up to collect Kayden from his house he sat waiting with his hat and kit ready (professional attitude and the attributes that will make him a reliable trades person). As I am new to the area and travelled to a few events coordinated by Ms Shelley Riddell, anything she has planned bares similar aspects: well organised with meaningful curricular, guest visitors, supportive and fun staff and healthy meals to support student focus skills. We started off with a speech over the VC from our very own Mr Crook relating to English, there were lectures on, “Stress Management and Well Being” and a talk from the New South Wales Police on “Illegal substances”. The teachers from other schools acted out various scenarios relating to work placements, they were excellent and I’m expecting to see Mr Kirkland to be on the academy awards on television. Ms Inglis was able to work with all of her Visual Arts students face to face for the first time. Above all else Kayden was able to mix with students of his own age and Mr Kirkland organised an excellent game of rugby league in the pool. Later on the first day Mr Kirkland and Mr Newman delivered an informative lesson on the “Coward Punch”. The more I have gotten to know Kayden the more impressed I have become. He was very reliable, has enough confidence to mix and have fun with other students and staff, and has a lot of potential to succeed in the future.

Mr StClair
### COMING EVENTS 2016

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>MID TERM BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 11th March</td>
<td>Moorambilla @ Lightning Ridge</td>
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<td>Tuesday 15th March</td>
<td>Royal Deaf &amp; Blind Visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25th March</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY - Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Monday 28th March</td>
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<td>Thursday 7th April</td>
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<td>Tuesday 26th April</td>
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### A Reminder:

All students are required to wear a hat at school. All students have received hats at school and are encouraged to leave at least one of these hats at school for school use. If students are not wearing a hat they are expected to stay in the undercover sheltered areas in the playground.

We are also encouraging students to drink lots of water at school. Packing sandwiches and fruit for their lunch and recess is highly encouraged to provide students with healthy energy for tackling daily school work.

### ATTENTION ALL PARENTS/ CARERS

If your child/children are absent from school could you please contact the school on (02) 682 96257 or send a note with your child to explain absence. This would be appreciated. Thank you!!

### Parents, Caregivers & Community Members

If you have the need to enter the school grounds for any reason including delivering lunch money etc, could you please sign in at the front office as part of our work place safety. Thank you!!
**MID TERM BREAK**

**Friday 26th - Monday 29th February 2016**

*School Resumes Tuesday 1st March 2016*

*Have an safe and enjoyable Break !!*

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**DOCTORS!!**

**Coming to Goodooga Health Service:**

Thursday 10th March
- Dr Kath Keenan

**Children Dentist - Early March**

**Dentist – Early March**

*Please see Health Service for Appointments!!*

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**SCHOOL BELL TIMES.**

**PRIMARY**

- 8.40am - 2.40 pm - School Hours
- 11.00am - 11.40am - Lunch
- 1.40pm - 2.00pm - Recess

**SECONDARY**

- 8.35am - 3.10 pm - School Hours
- 11.00am - 11.40am - Lunch
- 1.40pm - 2.00 pm - Recess

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

If you would like your Ads to be advertised in our school newsletter Please give your dates and articles to the school office by Tuesdays to include in Thursday edition.
**Primary Swimming Times**

*Please make sure that your child has their swimmers and towel on these days.*

**K12**
- Tuesdays: 2.00 – 2.40pm
- Fridays: 2.00 – 2.40pm

**2/3/4**
- Tuesdays: 2.00 – 2.40pm
- Fridays: 2.00 – 2.40pm

**5/6**
- Fridays: 2.40 – 3.10pm

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**Dhiiyan Guumali - Play Group**

On Monday 29th February is mid-term break so there will be no playgroup. Playgroup will resume Monday 7th March 2016

Play group is every Monday from 10 am-12 pm in the blue room down the back of the school.
Lunch is provided for the kids also, and little morning tea supplied for the parents.
Come along and watch your kids play and learn.

This week at playgroup the kids had many activities to choose from such as; painting, colouring, decorating, boomerangs and playing with the exciting toys that the Brewarrina mobile girls bring.

The Easter bunny will be here before you know it so leading up to Easter we will be starting some activities such as; Easter bunny mask making & colouring, basket making for the kids Easter eggs.