Congratulations to all students who competed in the Mac Zone Athletics in Texas on Friday. It was quite a successful day with our students from across the Downs.

Welcome to Week 6 and the second half of an action packed and rewarding term. Congratulations to all students who represented us last week’s Athletics Carnival. We are very proud of their behaviour and great sporting determination in all events. Well done to all of those who now have the opportunity to represent our zone at the next level of competition.

Thank you to all who are supporting our Book Fair this week through direct purchases and/or helping with the “rush” during sales times. The excitement leads in very well to Book Week next week and the many activities we will have to celebrate the joy of reading, especially our Book Week Parade next Friday where students are encouraged to come dressed up as their favourite book character.

This Friday is also our Horse Sports day, with a large number of students from across the Downs. Thank you to all staff and families who are working to make this day another successful local event for our students. I look forward to coming out to see the students in action and celebrate with them a good day of competition.

This week we as a staff were involved in professional development about Indigenous history and language. Some students at our school have English as a second language which needs to be acknowledged about Indigenous history and language.

This week we as a staff were involved in professional development about Indigenous history and language. Some students at our school have English as a second language which needs to be acknowledged about Indigenous history and language.

This Thursday some of our students head to Kaloma to share our Eisteddfod performances with the Indigenous choir will not be performing .

Thank you to all staff and families also is another opportunity for our residents.

This is part of the celebrations of Seniors Week and also is another opportunity for our children to share their skills and the fun of being young with the broader community. I look forward to sharing in this excursion with our children. Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control the Indigenous choir will not be performing.

Year 4 students are invited to attend a 3 day camp at Leslie Dam near Warwick from 24 - 26 October. Leslie Dam is run by YMCA and involves a lot of outdoor activities. Students will stay in cabin style accommodation. If you would like your child to attend this camp we must receive a $50 deposit and the permission slip in the office by Friday 2nd September. Please note that deposits are non refundable.

Welcome to Term 3 Week 6

Welcome to Term 3 Week 6
**Music**

**Intrumental**

After a successful Eisteddfod Week, where our students performed outstandingly, we are putting heads back down for Semester 2. The beginner strings players have had their first rehearsal as a part of the GSPT String Orchestra and have kicked it off with two fabulous new charts; ‘Let It Go’ from the movie Frozen and ‘Roar’, a Katy Perry hit! It is important for all students to be attending both String Orchestra rehearsals on Thursday at 8am and Concert Band on Friday at 8am. These groups are a fabulous way to showcase the talent we have here at GSPT!

**Classroom**

Last week’s Newslink gave a report on our fantastic musical achievements at the recent Goondiwindi Apex Eisteddfod. Congratulations to all on these wonderful performances! Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control the Indigenous choir performance at Kaloma will not go ahead however all other performances will go ahead as planned. In classroom music, the children continue to explore beat, rhythm, pitch, structure, dynamics and tone through singing, playing and enjoying music. Our year 4’s have begun their study of the recorder while the year 5’s are continuing to learn more notes and expand their repertoire on this instrument. The year 6’s are learning more about the theory of music this term. Next term we look forward to our Musica Viva performance and the annual Music: Count Us In celebration.

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**From the Deputy...**

**Positive Behaviour for Learning Reminder**

This week classes are working from our BounceBack resources on the topic of bullying. I spoke on Assembly this week about the role a bystander can play if bullying occurs:

**Bystander**

Bullying situations usually involve more than the bully and the victim. They also involve bystanders - those who watch bullying happen or hear about it. An important new strategy for bullying prevention focuses on the powerful role of the bystander. Depending on how bystanders respond, they can either contribute to the problem or solve it. Bystanders rarely play a completely neutral role, although they may think they do. Hurtful Bystanders

Some bystanders ... instigate the bullying by provoking the bully to begin.

Other bystanders ... encourage the bullying by laughing, cheering, or making comments that further stimulate the bully.

And other bystanders ... join in the bullying once it has begun.

Most bystanders...passively accept bullying by watching and doing nothing. Often without realizing it, these bystanders also contribute to the problem. Passive bystanders provide the audience a bully craves and the silent acceptance that allows bullies to continue their hurtful behaviour.

**Helpful Bystanders**

Bystanders also have the power to play a key role in preventing or stopping bullying.

Some bystanders ... directly intervene (NOT PHYSICALLY), by discouraging the bully, defending the victim, or redirecting the situation away from bullying.

Other bystanders...get help, by rallying support from peers to stand up against bullying or by reporting the bullying to adults.

**Preparing Children to Become Helpful Bystanders**

Adults can prepare children to become helpful bystanders by discussing with them the different ways bystanders can make a difference, and by letting them know that adults will support them, if and when they step forward. Adults can also provide examples of how helpful bystanders have shown courage and made a difference in real-life situations and in their own experiences.

**Cybersafety Parent Information Session**

Our P and C is sponsoring a Cybersafety Parent Information Session on Thursday 08 September at 6:00pm in our Library. The presenter will be Author and Cybersafety researcher Brad Huddleston, who will also be speaking to our Year 5 and 6 students earlier that day. Brad says:

"With all the positive advancements technology has bought us, unfortunately the misuse including cyber-bullying, pornography & excessive time online just to name a few, can negatively affect us with short & long-term consequences. The good news is these negative issues surrounding technology can be managed and bought under control. DSOT (Darkside of Technology) is committed to just that, empowering individuals and families to positively manage their way through the dark traps technology can catch us in."

Brad’s valuable advice on managing technology can be found on the website darksideoftchnology.com

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**CIC Mathematics Competition**

Eight students from Years 5 and 6 took part in the International Maths Competition, conducted by the University of New South Wales. The questions are quite challenging, and all students gave their very best efforts. How would you have gone answering this question from the test?

James has to visit the doctor twice. His two visits must be sixteen days apart. His second visit is the day after his first visit. How would you have gone answering this question from the test?

**STARs of the Week**

**Prep M** Bella Kable, Elana Axten

**Prep S** Thomas O’Sullivan, Nate Hamilton

**Prep T** Taleah Knox, Spencer Rhodes

**1C** Sam O’Sullivan, Levi Dillon

**1F** Wilco Smith, Gabrielle Callagher

**1HB** Dustin Jeffries, Jackson Yench

**2D** Tremayne McIntosh, Shae McGowan

**2H** Jamie Bartman, Darcy Bish, Molly Tanner

**2M** Nikki Keoller, Amelia Trebeck

Zane Uqurhat

**2/3G** Maya Coote, Lachlan Dayas

**3J** Seth Patterson

**3SY** Samantha Renshaw, Breanna Lloyd

**3R** Isabelle Smith, Logan Castle, Linley Duncan

**4H** Tyson McGrady, Edward Barton

**4M** Lilly Kopitkhe, Isha Politis

**4MB** Sheridan Brady, Setaya Dawson-Dray

**5A** Hailey Strong, Flynn Moller-Cole

**5BC** Caitlin Sneesby, Nicholas Smith

**5DM** Bella Hohn, Maddison Hallett

**6C** Patty Maxwell, Jessica Kopitkhe

**6M** Zac Lowe, Mea Herbert

**6V** Coopar, Brock, Joe, Tysharni, Tamiya, Brad, Seth

**MiniLit**

**3J** Jack Bish, Lachlan Hill

**3R** Eri Kriel

**3SY** Tristan Robinson, Breanna Lloyd

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**Community Notes...**

**Men’s Fishing Day**

Saturday 27th August 2016 from 11am - 5.00pm at Bethel Homestead (2552 Kiddonan Rd, formerly Kurrumbul) Bring: your mates, father’s bring your sons, sausages and soft drinks for a BBQ lunch

No motorbikes, no shooting— an alcohol free event

For more information please contact Don 0427754544

**Goondiwindi Motorcycle Club**

The monthly meeting will be on this Friday night at 7pm at the Vic Hotel. All welcome to attend.

Next practice day is on Sunday 28 August 2016 with sign on from 8am, riding from 9am. Weather is starting to warm up so should be a great day. Hope to see you all trackside!

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**Due to Circumstances Beyond Our Control the Indigenous Choir will NOT be performing on Friday at Kaloma. All other performances will be go ahead as scheduled.**

Low Verney