Student Wellbeing

Student wellbeing at Gulfview Heights Primary School encompasses a range of policies and programs aimed at providing a SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL staff, students and members of the school community.

Student safety, happiness and well being whilst at school is of paramount concern for all of us. The National Safe Schools Framework advocates for student’s ‘fundamental right to learn in a safe and supportive environment and be treated with respect’.

Our School Discipline policy based on the principles of Restorative Justice, along with our Anti-bullying policy and Parent Complaint Policy/Grievance procedures aim to empower individuals in responding to incidents of bullying and harassment. Collectively these policies outline our behaviour expectations, programs and strategies for behaviour education and how to manage inappropriate and unsafe student behaviour.

All students are well aware of their responsibilities in maintaining a safe environment for all. Members of our school community are also reminded of their responsibilities when raising concerns about their child’s safety and wellbeing. These are most effectively dealt with when:

- A time is made to discuss the matter with your child’s teacher in the first instance, and the Principal thereafter.
- Issues are raised in a non-judgemental and non-threatening manner.
- Open and honest lines of communication exist.
- A trusting relationship is existent between all parties.
- Confidentiality is maintained at all times.

Under no circumstances are parents/carers to ‘take the matter into their own hands’ and conduct any investigation or approach students about any reported incidents.

If once the matter has been investigated/followed up and you feel the matter has not been resolved you may make a time to discuss this with the Educational Director, Mr David O’Brien or the Education Complaint Unit on 1800 677 435 or DECD.Educationcomplaint@sa.gov.au

Copies of our Parent Complaint/Grievance Procedures can be obtained through the front office or alternatively on our website: http://www.ghps.sa.edu.au/docs.html and clicking on Parent Complaint Policy/Grievance Procedures. This outlines the process you need to follow when raising concerns.
School Banking

Please note that as of next term (term 4) school banking day will be Friday.

We will also be looking for a new volunteer banking co-ordinator to take over the role in 2017.

A huge thank you to Rachel Ridley (our current co-ordinator) for her time in this role.

Please contact Julie in the office (or by email at julie.hayward983@schools.sa.edu.au) if you are interested in taking on this role next year.

School Fees

Families are reminded that school fees are now overdue. If you have not paid or contacted the front office to organise a payment plan please do so as soon as possible.

If you are experiencing difficulty with fee payments please contact us or speak to your child’s class teacher. We are happy to negotiate instalment plans to help ease any potential financial burden on families.

School Closure Day

School will be closed on Friday 2nd September for our annual Royal Adelaide Show Day.

Our OSHC service will be open on this date - please phone 8182-6950 to make a booking if required.

Emergency foster carers needed

Foster care agencies are currently seeking emergency and short term foster carers.

What is emergency foster care?

Sometimes children need urgent placement with a foster carer because there are concerns for the child’s immediate safety. These placements can occur any time, day or night, including after hours and on weekends.

‘Emergency’ does not mean you start today. All foster carers receive thorough training and assessment to ensure the children placed with you are safe and that you have the skills needed to provide quality care.

For more information, visit the Families SA website.

Contact: Program Officer, Foster Care Services, Maria Krahling, phone 8226 6617
2016 GHPS PRODUCTION
Thursday 1st September at Dame Roma Mitchell Centre—Golden Grove High School

ORDER OF EVENTS
7.00PM—Welcome & Introduction to our 2016 School Production
• Acknowledgement of Country
• Australian Anthem - Choir

Item 1 - Ghosts - Miss Neumann

Item 2 - Werewolves on the loose - Mr Foley

Item 3 - Monster Garden - Mrs Gale

Item 4 - Dr Frankenstein’s Lab - Mrs Hancock / Miss Dani & Mrs Reed

Item 5 - The Witching hour - Mr Bayaziti

Item 6 - Slimer’s Food Party - Miss Parsons

Item 7 - Vampires - Miss S

Item 8 - Attack of the Stay Puft Marshmallows - Miss Francis

Item 9 - Heads will roll - Mrs Thames / Mrs P

Item 10 - Funny Bones - Miss Praehofer

Item 11 - Gym Monsters - Miss Newman

Item 12 - The Walking Dead - Mr Hoekman

Show will conclude by approximately 9pm. ENJOY THE SHOW
Cyberbullying

Although cyberbullying is frequently talked about in the media, specific examples of what it is are rarely discussed. I think this makes for some uninformed debate. So let's talk about some examples of what can actually happen when young people experience cyberbullying.

- Receiving malicious text messages, sometimes anonymously
- Having emails you privately sent to one person sent to many others
- Receiving threatening emails
- Having a group acting together so that you receive hundreds of demeaning emails or texts in one day
- Publishing photos of you on the web without your permission (sometimes digitally altering the images in some way first)
- Setting up websites designed to specifically humiliate you with the ability for people to vote on aspects of your appearance
- Being abused in instant messaging sites
- Being impersonating using a website or fake email address

These are just a few examples, there are many more.

When you read through this list, it becomes clear that cyberbullying is not the same as the bullying that past generations experienced. There are real differences.

First, there are more young people who are prepared to cyberbully than face to face bully, which probably also means more young people are being bullied. My surveys in schools say that half of teenagers admit to bullying via phone or on the net. Why is it that so many young people are prepared to cyberbully? Partly because anonymity is easy to achieve and so risks for the bully decrease. Partly because many young people themselves don’t recognise cyberbullying behaviour as “real” bullying. Partly it is because of the sheer number of hours young people spend cyber-communicating, meaning there is more opportunity for conflict to occur.

Second, the ability of the victim to “escape” the bully has changed. Cyberbullying is not limited to the playground at lunchtime, but can occur in any place where there is net and phone access. If a young person accesses the net and phone, they are able to be bullied wherever they are, at any time of day or night. I know young people who couldn’t sleep in their own bed at times for fear of an abusive text message coming through on their phone at 4am. And although the adult solution is “turn off the phone”, to teens that sounds like “give up the most important connection you have to your friends”.

The third difference between bullying and cyberbullying is regarding the increased power of the cyberbully to cause psychological damage. With the use of the net, bullies can provide malicious information to people worldwide rather than just one circle of friends at school. Overseas friends, grand-parents, friends from other schools, friends from sporting clubs are all potential receivers of humiliating information. Cyberbullies are able to disseminate visual, verbal and auditory abusive messages easily, quickly and at any time. They can attack reputations, friendships and relationships far more easily than before. Impersonation is simple and frequent.

Fourth, cyberbullying has the potential to have a more long lasting effect than other forms of bullying. Whilst the spoken word is sometimes forgotten, cyberbullying involves a potentially permanent record. Words can be printed, photos saved, and text messages kept. Reminders of cyberbullying can be found on the net sometimes years after it was first posted.

There are other differences between bullying and cyberbullying. But these four are enough to make me believe that we need to continue to pay attention to this issue. If we dismiss it as “just the old school yard tiffs that we went through” we seriously underestimate the potential impact of the problem to our young people.

Produced by Kirrilie Smout
Psychologist (Specialising in Australian Youth Issues)
We had a fantastic morning celebrating excellence in children’s literature and Gulfview Heights Primary School’s 40th Year of Education.

Before heading to the gym, students shared a book or two with their families and friends.

This was followed by all classes coming together to give us a preview of their favourite shortlisted book and to join in with the parade. A big THANK YOU to the wonderful families who supported their children to dress up for the day.

Thank you also to Mrs Fay Jeans, a former parent and teacher and Mr Connor Weste, a former student who shared their experiences  and cut our cake during the assembly. Both spoke fondly of their time here at GHPS and it was lovely to hear of the changes that have occurred over the