Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome back existing families and to welcome our new families to the 2020 school year! I hope that the summer holidays were a time of rest, refreshment, celebration and the making of pleasant memories for you and your families. I would also like to thank you for having the children so well prepared for the beginning of the school year. As usual, our amazing staff have worked hard to prepare for the beginning of the year and, as you will see from the articles inside, we have had an exciting, productive start to 2020.

For those of you that were able to make it to our Welcome BBQ and Parent Information Night yesterday, I hope that it was an enjoyable, productive use of your time and we thank you for coming along. As usual, in the first instance, I would like to encourage you to contact your child’s classroom teacher early if you have any questions or cause for concern regarding your child’s schooling. Also, please speak to me if you have any broader concerns about the school, as I am always keen to find solutions to any challenges we might be facing as we work together for the benefit of the children in our care.

As the School Chat is one of the main ways in which we communicate with home, please read it carefully each fortnight so that you can stay up to date with things that are happening in the school. In this week’s addition you will find detailed information about our Gundhi After School Club, Homework Club for Year 3 to 8 students, our Puckapunyal Program and the events that we already have planned for Term 1.

Parent Volunteer Reading Program
Over the past few years, parent volunteers have worked together with teaching staff to read to our students during school hours, creating an excellent opportunity, particularly for our Year 1 and 2 students, to progress with their reading. This valuable program will be running again this year and next Tuesday 11th February we will be holding an information and training session for people who would like to be involved for the first time. The session will be held in the school auditorium and will begin at 9am. There is no need to RSVP and morning tea will be served.

Warm regards,

Chad Kentwell
LOUIS TENNIS ACADEMY

FREE JUNIOR TENNIS COMP COME AND TRY DAY & MEMBERSHIP SIGN UP
WOLSELEY TENNIS COURTS
FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY  6:30PM - 7:30PM
CONTACT CRAIG FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION  0409186419

If you are interested in our up coming junior tennis comp and would like to come and see what all the hype is about, come and join us for a free trial day and membership sign up.
*All comp players must be members of the Gunnedah tennis club.
GUNNEDAH JUNIOR COMP COMMENCES
FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY – 6:15PM SIGN IN

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON PICNIC & GAMES AT THE GUNNEDAH POOL COMPLEX

FREE FOOD  ●  FREE ENTRY  ●  FREE GAMES

All families from all backgrounds are welcome to attend a picnic & games in celebration of Grandparents Day 2023. Please join us to celebrate and recognise the very important roles that grandparents and carers have as key decision makers, child minders, leaders and teachers.

We invite you to come along and share a free afternoon picnic and have a yarn and connect with others in your community.
(Please note the kiosk will be in full rotation – costs will apply to all orders placed in the kiosk)

Grandparents & carers are encouraged to partner with a grandchild or child & participate in series of fun games and novelty races with prize ribbons up for grabs!

FRIDAY THE 7TH OF FEBRUARY
GUNNEDAH POOL COMPLEX
3.30PM – 6.30PM

Please contact us on (02) 6748 7938 for bookings and information or email us at admin@gunnedaunyah.com.au
Junior School Update

Junior School has had a terrific start to the school year! In the classrooms, teachers have been busy setting up good routines and activities for the year, and there has been an amazing sense of calm and readiness from everyone. It has been encouraging to see the new Year 4 students stepping up into their roles as buddies to the Kindergarten students by eating meals together and caring for one another on the playground. Our new Kindergarten students have quickly learnt their classroom routines and are already reading their first books! They will be presenting some of the songs they have been learning at our first Puckapunyal in Week 4. The playground has been buzzing as students reconnect with friends and classmates. Students have been kind and inclusive, welcoming new students and students from other year groups into their lunchtime games. It is a pleasure to watch! We look forward to the upcoming academic year and pray that it brings a wealth of opportunities in the classroom and on the playground.

Gumnuts and Prep

Well, what a fantastic start to the new year in Gumnuts and Prep. Our room has recently been repainted and had new flooring laid, adding a fresh, vibrant atmosphere. Lots of children arrived with big smiles on their faces ready for their new adventure. There were a few tears, but, overall, most of the children were happy to be here. The first couple of days have been about getting to know the teachers and new friends and for Prep to catch up with friends and settle back in. It is wonderful to see how well the children are all engaging with each other and in the program.

We have started the first few days with some popular activities such as playdough and paint. Playdough provides a great focus for the children to sit and chat to one another. This builds important social skills, which help connect us all to each other. Playdough also helps children develop fine motor skills, which is important for developing pencil skills.

KG

KG have had a great start to the year! The children are settled and excited to learn! We have already started reading our first sight words and are beginning to use them in story writing time. This term we are completing an author study on Eric Carle. The children had so much fun acting out the story, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, and thinking about the lifecycle of a caterpillar. The children are also studying their letter names and letter sounds, and are working very hard to remember them.

In Mathematics, we have begun practising writing numbers to 10. The children are working hard to recognise and sequence numbers as well. We have lots of fun counting to 100 in 1s and 10s, and sometimes even exercise while we do it!

Mrs Filson has been teaching the children about living things in Core Studies. They planted their own seeds to care for and it will be fun to watch the seeds grow. In PE, we are having cricket lessons. KG learnt a lot in their first lesson and are excited for next week. It has been lovely for the children to sit with and be cared for by their Year 4 buddies. Last week we even met together in the library to read stories.

KW

What a start to the new year! All children in KW have had a marvellous start to the term and have settled into their new Kindergarten classroom with their new teacher very well. The children have already proven to be so enthusiastic about their learning, enjoying singing the alphabet, reading stories, learning to write letters and numbers and becoming familiar with routines.

A handful of the highlights of Week 1 include learning our first sight words, ‘I’ and ‘am’ and using them in our handwriting and craft activities designed to develop fine motor skills. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning a song to help them form their numbers from 1 to 10. The crowd favourite so far has been number five - it goes a
Around The Classes

KW

little like this... “neck and a tummy, put on a hat...” I encourage you all to ask your child to show you how they form the numeral five with this little rhyme.

On Friday last week, we met our Year 4 buddies in the library, and each day we enjoy going to lunch and recess a little earlier with them to share a meal and talk about the ins and outs of the school day from some fabulous role models. Finally, the children have delighted in exploring the manipulatives in the classroom, whether it be for guided reading, mathematics play or inquiry time, all of which are incredibly valuable to this wonderful year we call Kindergarten. I look forward to the term to come.

Year 1

Welcome back to parents and students. It has been a very busy few days as we settle into new routines. We are thankful that this year our room is airconditioned, which helps to make our learning environment more comfortable.

During English, we have been reading Big Books together. We have enjoyed reading about Mrs. Grindy and her shoes, and about the sloppy tiger who can’t keep his room clean! From these, we have focused on correct punctuation of sentences and identifying nouns. We completed comprehension exercises and activities related to our focus points. We have also been reviewing our knowledge of sounds in preparation for formal Reading and Spelling activities that will commence next week.

Mrs. Chapman is taking my release time and has commenced a unit on Living Things. We have also commenced a Geography Unit titled Features of Places. In this unit we will look at places and the connection we have with them.

There was lots of excitement when we learnt that we will be having a guest teacher for PE for the next five weeks, and we will be honing our cricket skills. In our other lesson we are developing our gross motor skills. During Health, we will study how unique we are and look at what characteristics help enhance and develop positive relationships.

For our first week of Mathematics, we studied Whole Number. We studied numbers to 100, and looked for patterns on the number chart. This week we have moved on to Length, and were measuring in ‘dinosaur feet’, a hands-on and boisterous activity! We are learning how to measure accurately using informal measurements.

Creative Arts this term includes Drama, Choir, Music Room Program (where we initially learn about notes and beats) and a Visual Arts program based on Living Things from our Science lessons, as we learn about colour creation and patterns.

If you need any information, please use the Communication Book, or contact me through the front office or by email sandercockj@carinya.nsw.edu.au. I look forward to working with you throughout the coming year.

Year 2

Welcome to the 2020 school year! I’m so excited to be back with your children and anticipate a great year of learning and growing together.

PE

This term, students will have the opportunity to practise cricket skills on Tuesday afternoons under the guidance of experts. This will be held here at the school from Weeks 2 to 6.

Library: Borrowing and Returning Books

Students will be able to go to the library on Wednesday afternoons. In order to enjoy the many wonderful books, students need to bring a library bag each week. Please encourage your child to enjoy the books they have borrowed and ensure they return them so they can borrow more.

Book Covering

Thank you in advance for all your hard work ensuring books are covered and labelled with your student’s name and subject. Books will be sent home to be covered this coming weekend. Books must be returned the following Monday, even if they haven’t been covered, as we will be continuing to work in them. If you don’t get them all covered we can arrange another opportunity for you to take them.
Year 2

Parent Helpers
I love having you partner with me in supporting your children’s learning. One way you can do this is by volunteering to help. I have enjoyed having parents assist in the classroom with art, science and interest elective lessons in the past. If this is something you would be interested in, please contact me. Please be aware that there are forms that all volunteers are required to complete before this can begin.

Labeling
Please make sure that all of your child’s belongings are clearly labeled with their full name. It is amazing how things get lost easily and a name makes it much easier to find the owner.

Art
We have started a unit of work on the Elements of Art. Last week and this week, students focused on line as they created first a Koala and then a Kangaroo artwork.

Year 3

Welcome back to 2020 and another year where we are able to share in the lives and education of your children. Year 3 have had a very settled start to the year with 25 students. We have the privilege of having Mrs Belinda Sims and Mrs Robyn Willey as teacher’s aides in our class this year.

We have enjoyed looking at the features of narrative writing through our study of Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown, which is about the adventures of a boy who has become flat!

For the first six weeks of term, Year 4 has the opportunity to improve their skills in cricket. This is initially through activities with Miss Langdon, Mrs Willey and me, and will be continued to be taught by an external provider from this week until

Year 4

Welcome to Year 4 in 2020, which is the last year in Junior School. In the first week of term, we have spent some time reflecting on how we are wonderfully made in the image of God. We combined biblical teaching and mathematical concepts to make a birthday chart.

In English, we have been working on the book, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We were Word Detectives and looked for words with “e” sound. Then, based on the word collection, we worked in pairs and made up some sentences. We wrote about ourselves and ‘Charlie’s Family’ as informative text practice.

In Geography, we showed our concern about our environment and shared ideas to protect our earth, as we are responsible for God’s creation. We also celebrated Chinese New Year with writing Chinese characters.

Furthermore, we are developing our skills as Junior School leaders as we are buddies with Kindergarten children and learn to care for the little ones.
Middle School

Well, school is well and truly back for the year! Students are settling in well to their classes across Middle School, and there is a great ‘buzz’ in the air with the excitement and sense of expectation that a new year brings! As we continue to seek to partner with home and school, parents and caregivers might be interested in this article from The Conversation, 5 tips to help ease your child back into school mode after the holidays. The advice from educational psychologists who write in this article offer much input and suggestions of great value. I particularly like the advice of the final point ‘Encourage Questions’, where it goes on to say, “Most importantly, let your child know nothing is off limits to talk about.”

Thank you for entrusting your child with us here at Carinya, but especially in Middle School. Navigating this time of pre-adolescence can be challenging, but know that they are in the best care and in a wonderfully supportive environment.

Year 5

It is the first year in the history of Carinya Gunnedah that we have a single Year 5 class in Middle School! I would like to extend a warm and hearty “Welcome” to two new students who have joined us this year.

It has been a quick and smooth transition from Primary into Middle School amongst our students, and we look forward to a very fruitful and enjoyable year.

In English, we are concentrating on a novel study called Rowan of Rin, and will be writing our own fantasy stories towards the end of term.

In Mathematics, the students are working diligently on Numbers and using different measuring devices to calculate the length of various given objects.

During PE, students are given the opportunity to improve their skills and are admiring the sports facilities in Middle School.

It is my prayer that all our students will grow spiritually, academically and emotionally to overcome any challenges that they might face during this year!

Year 6

It’s great to be back! We hope you’re looking forward to another year at Carinya.

It’s wonderful to see students launching into their learning with whole-hearted enthusiasm. Week 1 was spent setting up routines, organising ourselves and introducing our first topics. We have really appreciated the support from home with the covering of books and communication in student planners.

In English, we have begun our reading and study of C.S.Lewis’ The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe and will launch into our Literature Circles wide reading program from the end of this week. Likewise, all other subjects have kicked off well, with the exception of Science, which begins this Wednesday.

We are really looking forward to having you on board this year. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns or questions.

Year 7

We have had a fantastic start to Year 7! There are so many exciting things happening, new teachers, new classmates, and new learning experiences!

In English, students have begun their unit on ‘Telling Our Stories’, with time in History ‘Investigating our Past’.

A highlight for many students has been Technology with Mr Chapman. In this subject, students have begun their Agriculture and Food Technologies unit, in which they will learn about the integrated process of producing an agricultural commodity. They will also be tending the school’s garden beds, and, when opportunity presents, using what they grow in the kitchen. A lesson this week involved making carrot cake, and tomato and cucumber salad from produce planted in Term 4, 2019, with some very good results!

Year 8

Year 8 has begun the year in their new homeroom J7. There are several new teachers taking Year 8 specialist subjects, including two from Carinya Tamworth. Mrs Ferguson will be over on Wednesdays for Music’ and Mr Weekes on Fridays for PDHPE. We began our first day by sharing our holiday highs and lows during our pastoral care time. There were holiday trips, binge-watching of TV series and broken sports equipment to name just a few holiday memories.

Year 8 will also be taking language for the first time this year, and their very first lesson in Mandarin, with Miss Moss, concluded with the class singing happy birthday to Chelsea in Mandarin.

Mrs James has been teaching some interesting Science lessons. Parents, your children should be able to advise on which brand of paper towel to buy.

We also have our swimming fun day coming up next week and later this term the Year 8 camp will be held the Christian Youth Centre at Scotts Head over on the coast.

Year 8 has begun their second Digital Technologies unit, in which they’ll be building on their introduction to coding and electronics from Term 4, 2019.
Term 1 2020 Calendar

February
11th  Parent Volunteer Reading Program Training
13th  Swimming Fun Day
18th - 21st Year 7 Camp Elim
20th  Puckapunyal - Kindergarten, Years 1, 3 and 5 presenting items
      2:10 pm in the Auditorium, afternoon tea served from 1:40 pm
      Primary Zone Swimming Carnival

March
2nd - 4th  Year 6 Camp Echidna Gully
3rd  Year 7 Immunisations
5th  Secondary Zone Swimming Carnival
9th  CSSA Primary State Swimming Carnival
10th - 13th Year 8 Camp Scotts Head
12th - 13th Year 5 Camp Lake Keepit
12th  Puckapunyal
17th  NRMA Bus Safety Program Kindergarten
20th  NDA Against Bullying and Violence
23rd  CSSA Secondary State Swimming Carnival
24th  Year 7 History Excursion
26th  Kindergarten and Year 1 Responsible Pet Ownership Program

April
1st - 9th  Youth Week
2nd  Puckapunyal
3rd  Term 1 concludes
10th  Good Friday
13th  Easter Monday
17th - 19th Gunnedah Show
25th  ANZAC Day
27th  Term 2 commences

Puckapunyal

Puckapunyal is an Aboriginal word meaning meeting place. Similar to assemblies, Puckapunyals are a way for the children to share what they have been learning in class.

This term, Puckapunyals will be held in Weeks 4, 7 and 10 in the All Seasons Auditorium, beginning at 2:10pm. Please refer to the Term Calendar in each School Chat for details about when the various classes are presenting items at Puckapunyal.

Please note: Prep students will only attend Puckapunyals from Term 2 onwards, Year 7 students will only attend one Puckapunyal per term, beginning in Term 2, and Year 8 will only attend Puckapunyals occasionally throughout the year. During the other Puckapunyal times, Year 7 will be involved in targeted activities focusing on interpersonal skills and leadership development and Year 8 will be engaged in timetabled learning.

Afternoon tea for members of the school community will be served in the auditorium from 1:40pm before every Puckapunyal.
Library Information

The school library is currently changing to a new system. While resources are accessioned into the system, student borrowing will be delayed for a few weeks. Teachers will let their students know when borrowing commences.

We will share the system with the Carinya Tamworth library, which will provide our students with a wider range of resources.

Please ensure your child brings a library bag to school on their class’ library day.
Information from Transport NSW
2020 School Travel Applications

Students progressing to Year 3 and Year 7 no longer need to re-apply if they:
- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.

Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

If students need to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails

Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2019 to ensure student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2019, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator. This may be distributed via the school or sent direct to their address. Note: some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/Parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Information regarding the School Drive Subsidy can be found here https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/schoolDriveSubsidy

Individual Music Tuition at Carinya

Mrs Sandra Clark from the Gunnedah Conservatorium is once again available for individual piano, classical guitar and voice lessons during school hours in 2020. If you would like Mrs Clark to teach your child, registration is through the Gunnedah Conservatorium in one of the following ways:

Gunnedah Conservatorium
PO Box 121
Gunnedah NSW 2380

Ph: (02) 6742 3998

Email: enquiries@gunnedahconservatorium.com
Homework Club

What, When and Where
On Mondays and Wednesdays between 3 and 4pm, we run a Homework Club for Year 3 to 8 students in the Year 4 classroom. There is no cost for Homework Club.

Supervision
Homework Club is supervised by Carinya teachers. At the end of the school day, students who have been registered to attend Homework Club on any given day are to assemble at the tables and chairs under the olive tree in the Junior School playground and wait for the supervising teacher.

Students who are booked to attend the Gundhi After School Club on Mondays and Wednesdays will be taken there by the supervising teacher at the end of Homework Club (ie 4pm).

Registration
To enable us to supervise student attendance accurately, students must be registered for each session by a parent or caregiver. Blanket registrations (e.g., this week, this month, this term) are unable to be accepted.

Parents can register by:
- emailing gunnedah@carinya.nsw.edu.au
- phoning Reception on 6742 2766

When registering, you will need to provide us with details about who will be picking your child/ren up or how they will be getting home if they are not being picked up.

Registrations for each session of the Homework Club must be received by 2pm.

What to Bring
Students must bring enough school work to keep them occupied for the whole time they are in Homework Club.

Students are also welcome to bring afternoon tea with them to eat before they begin their homework.

Please contact Mr. Kentwell if you have any questions about Homework Club.
**Gundhi** is a Gamilaroi word meaning *house* and the **Gundhi After School Club** aims to provide a safe, home-like environment for students in Kindergarten to Year 8.

**Gundhi** will cater for a maximum of 25 children each afternoon with bookings strictly required on a per term basis.

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**DAYS & TIME**
Monday - Friday, from 3:00 - 5:15pm during term

**COST**
As an after school club, bookings into **Gundhi** will incur an additional charge based upon the number of days each term. This charge will assist in staffing and resourcing the club activities. *The charge per term cannot be prorated and is therefore the same regardless of when the booking is made during the term or the length of the term.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Days Per Week</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
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<td>Charge Per Child Per Term</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$220</td>
<td>$290</td>
<td>$360</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**AFTERNOON TEA**
Parents/carers must provide afternoon tea for their child(ren). Students will eat together between 3:00 and 3:30pm.

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**ABSENCES**
The school must be notified of any absence as is the normal practice for school attendance.
ACTIVITIES
Supervised games and activities will be provided for children in addition to opportunities for children to complete homework, independent study or quiet reading.

Movies and console games will not be offered as an activity in Gundhi.

PICK UP
Children can be picked up any time between 3:00 and 5:15pm. For Gundhi to operate effectively it is essential that parents pick up their children by 5:15pm. Gundhi bookings may be withdrawn if children are not picked up prior to this time.
A sign out procedure will be in place upon pick up.

OTHER SPORTS TRAINING OR CLUB ACTIVITIES AT CARINYA
Upon finishing other activities, students must return to Gundhi for sign out and pick up.

BOOKINGS
Bookings are to be made at the start of each term on a per term basis for as many afternoons required each week. For instance, a family may choose to book their two children into Gundhi for Mondays and Wednesdays each week of the term.

Bookings are to be made via the Tamworth Accounts Office in person or by phone and payment in full must be received at the time of booking.

Places are limited and positions will be given on a “first in” basis. Bookings are not assumed to continue from term to term so parents are advised to book for each term of the year as required.

NO INCIDENTAL BOOKINGS, VARIATIONS* OR REFUNDS
*additional days may be added if available, however, reductions in the number of days per week are not able to be made.

We hope that Gundhi provides parents with continuity of care for their children. Please contact the school if you require any further information.

Carinya Tamworth 6762 0970  |  Carinya Gunnedah 6742 2766
www.carinya.nsw.edu.au