In the last couple of weeks I have submitted two important sets of data to the Department. The first is our next ‘rollout’ of technology hardware. In consultation with staff and our technology advisors from the DEC, we have requested netbooks which will be based in the library, the replacement of older computers in the classrooms and the computer lab, as well as beginning the process to becoming a wireless school. I have also submitted our anticipated enrolments in K-6 for 2015. Whilst it may seem early in the year to be doing this, these figures are required by the Department as they start to plan staffing, classes and facilities for next year.

Thank you to the many parents who have already returned their note for the War Memorial Forecourt Opening next Friday. I will confirm final details for this event early next week. If any parents wish to attend the ceremony themselves, they will need to park at Carr Confoy Playing Fields and catch one of several minibuses up to the ceremony.

Recently we have had a few incidents in which inappropriate use of social media outside school has led to issues between students at school. I have included an information page on Social Networking with this newsletter and would encourage you to support your child in communicating responsibly with others. Arguments with friends by text or social media rarely solve problems but rather create greater ones. As part of my teaching program, I am working with primary students on Digital Citizenship and Cyber Safety to help students understand the importance of privacy and to use technology appropriately to communicate.

Mrs Charmian Cribb
Principal
REMINDERS

- Dental Clinic permission notes must be returned this week. All students should return a form, regardless of whether you elect to have their teeth checked or not.
- Permission notes for the War Memorial Forecourt excursion on Friday 22nd August are due back this week please.
- Notes for Stage 3 camp were due on Monday. If you have not already done so, please return the note to the office tomorrow indicating whether your child will be attending camp or not.
ENROLMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN 2015

Kindergarten enrolments are now being taken for children who will turn 5 years old before 31st July 2015 and live in the Goulburn East Zone. Enrolment forms are available from the Office.

To finalise your child’s enrolment you will need to bring along:

- A completed enrolment form
- Your child’s Birth Certificate
- Your child’s immunization certificate (available from Medicare)
- Proof of address eg electricity bill, rental agreement etc

Please bring along the original documents - these will be photocopied for inclusion in your child’s record card. Kindergarten orientation days will be held in Term 4. More information on the orientation days will be provided at a later date.

COMING SOON - PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS!

During September we will be launching a new payment portal linked to the school website, making it easier to pay for school related payments. This will be a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments will be able to made using either Visa or Mastercard credit or debit cards. Further information will be sent home in the coming weeks.

P& C Bunnings BBQ

On Sunday 31 August the Goulburn East P&C will run the sausage sizzle at Bunnings. Last year, this event raised about $800 for the school. We need as many volunteers as we can get to share the workload. Please return the attached form to indicate your availability for the day. Please nominate 1-2 hours you would be able to help out.

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Cyberbullying is the use of technology to bully a person or group. Bullying is repeated behaviour with the intent to harm others. Behaviour may include:

+ Abusive texts and emails
+ Posting unkind or threatening messages, videos or images on social media websites
+ Imitating or excluding others online
+ Inappropriate image tagging

For many teenagers, their online life is an important part of their social identity. Many young people fear that parents might take away their devices and refuse access to the internet and so do not report cyberbullying to their parents. Teenagers are also often concerned that parents’ actions will make cyberbullying issues worse, so it is important to remain calm and supportive.

Trolling is when a user intentionally causes distress by posting inflammatory comments online.

Trolling differs from cyberbullying in that trolls aim to gain attention and power through disruption of conversation by encouraging a defensive reaction from those they attack. Cyberbullying usually focuses less on the reaction of the victim, and more on the feelings and authority of the bully. Cyberbullying is usually repeated behaviour, while trolling can be one-off.

**WHAT CAN I DO?** As a parent, you can help your child and encourage them to take control of the issue.

+ Talk to them about cyberbullying before it happens. Work out strategies to address any potential issues and reassure your child that you will be there to support them.
+ Advise your child not to reply to any messages from a bully. Often if bullies don’t receive a response they will give up.
+ Learn how to block a bully so they are no longer able to make contact.
+ Keep a record of harassing messages in case authorities become involved. Put them somewhere your child won’t continue to see them.
+ Contact the website administrator or use the reporting function to ask for content to be removed or to report harassment.
+ Talk to your child’s school if cyberbullying involves another student. The school should have a policy in place to help manage the issue.
+ Remember that if your child has been involved in cyberbullying and seems distressed or shows changes in behaviour or mood it may be advisable to seek professional support, including through the Cybersmart Online Helpline at [cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx](http://cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx)
Social networking describes a variety of services like Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, World of Warcraft, Moshi Monsters, Twitter, Skype, Snapchat, Minecraft and many others.

All of these services enable direct interaction between individuals. Users can post information about themselves, display photos, tell people what they’ve been up to, chat and play games. Social networking forms a part of the social identity of many teenagers.

GROOMING

Online grooming is the illegal act of adults making contact with a child online for the purpose of establishing a sexual relationship. Often this will be via a social networking site, but it may also be through other online services.

WHAT CAN I DO? As a parent, you can help your child have positive experiences on social networking sites.

- Stay involved in your child’s use of new technology. Set up your own account and learn about privacy settings so you can understand how you can best protect your child. It can be fun for you too!
- Check the age restrictions for the social networking service or game. Some social networking sites (such as Club Penguin) are created especially for children under the age of 13, but most mainstream sites like Facebook, Instagram and others require the user to be 13 or older.
- Advise children to set their accounts to private so that only people they want to see it can view their information.
- Encourage children to think before they put anything online. Information posted online can be difficult or impossible to remove. An inappropriate image posted today can have a long term impact on their digital reputation.
- Show them how to set up location services on their phone so they are not inadvertently broadcasting their location.
- Remind children to be careful when making new friends online; people may not be who they say they are. Never arrange to meet an online friend unless a trusted adult is with them.
- Report any abuse or inappropriate content to the social networking site and show children how to do this too.
- Learn how to keep a copy of online conversations and how to block people prior to an issue occurring.

For more information on managing your child's access to particular social networking sites, visit cybersmart.gov.au/parents.aspx