This issue’s topic is: **LEARNING AT HOME**

Learning together at home is a great opportunity for you to participate in your child’s education. When families are involved in their children’s education at home, they do better in school. Students are more likely to be more motivated, to achieve better results and to go further in school.

Homework helps students by reinforcing and adding to what is learned in class. It helps to develop good lifelong learning and study habits, and helps students to become responsible for their own learning. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns from early primary school.

**Tips for Learning at Home**

- **Help your child to create a quiet and comfortable place in your home for regular homework and study.** This place should be away from TV noise and other distractions.
- **Use a calendar to plan activities and due dates for school projects. Help to set priorities for tasks.**
- **Read to younger children, and have them read to you.**
- **If your child has a school diary or planner, check it regularly. Encourage them to use it to write down learning tasks to be done at home.**
- **Help your child to balance the time spent on homework and other activities.** It sometimes helps if homework can be done in ‘chunks’ of time organised around other activities.

Home work for Years 5 – 9:
- should include daily independent reading
- Will range from 30 – 45 minutes a day at Year 5, to 45 – 90 minutes a day in Year 9.

This information comes from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and the Family-School & Community Partnerships Bureau.
**Term Dates**

**Term 2:**
16th April – 29th June

**Term 3:**
16th July – 21st September

**Term 4:**
10th October – 22nd December

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**FREE information sessions for Parents, Carers & Interested Persons**

**“The Step from Primary School to Secondary School”**

Author, Angie Wilcock is a highly regarded Australian expert and speaker on transitions in education. She has a strong background in teaching and is the parent of two sons. She has appeared on ‘Mornings with Kerrie-Anne’, and worked with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg and Dr Andrew Fuller.

The sessions will focus on:
- helping your child/family cope with the transition from primary to secondary school
- how communication works in secondary school
- talking about the future with your primary school student

**Mooroonpa – Tuesday 11th September**, The Mooroonpa Hub, 23 Alexandra St., Mooroonpa.

**Shepparton – Wednesday 12th September**, Wesley Hall, UnitingCare Cutting Edge, Maude St., Shepparton.

A light dinner will be provided between 5:30 pm – 6:00pm. Sessions start at 6:00pm and go to 7:30 pm. There will be child minding facilities available – younger children can attend in their pyjamas for a ‘movie marathon’ whilst parents and older siblings attend the presentation.

For further information and to register your attendance, please contact Linda Cusworth or Rebecca Davis at the Goulburn Murray LLEN – 58 31 51 98 or linda@gmilien.com.au / rebecca@gmilien.com.au

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**Angie Wilcock’s transition session showed me that I don’t need all the answers to help with my daughter’s homework and assignments. I just need to listen, guide and support her. Our kids can usually work out the answers for themselves if we are there to support them. Angie also addressed some of the ‘growing up’ issues faced by teenagers and parents, and explained why teenagers simply ‘DON’T KNOW’ why they sometimes do the wrong thing. A very humorous and valuable session, not to be missed”. (Parent)**