



# In the Swim...

VOLUME 7: ISSUE 1

APRIL 2016

## DATES TO REMEMBER

☐ Term End

Sat 9 Apr

☐ Holiday In-

tensive Pro-

gram: 1 week

Mon 11 to Fri

15 Apr

☐ Term 2 Start

Tue 26 Apr

☐ Term 2 Fees

Due Tue 3 May

If you are NOT returning for swimming in Term 2 then please let us know. We have an extensive waiting list.

Please be advised that if you do take your child out, we cannot guarantee you will get back in.

If you are continuing to swim then we shall see you on the same day and time as you are now enrolled.

If you wish to change your day and time then please speak with reception.

**Please let reception know that you have arrived for your lesson...too many parents are walking straight through. Your cooperation allows us to mark the attendances each week and keep track of make-up lessons. It is also imperative in the event of an **emergency** that we know who is on the premises. We have a sign on the front door and one at the base of the ramp as reminders.**



**COMMUNICATION:** It is difficult with 1200 students (750+ families) to be able to communicate effectively and promptly with everyone, but we do try our very best. Please be sure to assist us by doing the following:

- Provide us with your email and current contact numbers
- Read your emails. Generally we only send the invoice and term newsletter.
- Read the invoice as it gives you the day/time of your class and the term dates.
- Read the newsletter as it has dates to remember, GSA policies, staff profiles, general info re swimming.
- Read the staff roster board as you walk into the foyer to see which instructors are working.
- Read the whiteboard on the wall outside the male changeroom. Messages are changed every couple of weeks.
- Take notice of and read any signs that are displayed in the facility.
- Read any text messages received from 'Gould Swim Academy'. Please note you can not text back as these are generated from our computer system.
- Like GSA on FACEBOOK and read our statuses with relevant daily/weekly news and information.
- If you experience financial difficulties then please speak with Janine promptly so a payment plan may be discussed. Do not leave it to the end of the term.
- Offer and provide us with feedback so we may identify and address any concerns you may have and/or improve what we do. We are also happy to receive positive feedback so we know what you like.
- Do not hesitate to phone 60400400 or speak with reception if you have a question or need to know anything further.



Please consider the safety of **ALL** children when parking on the road or in our car park. Be sure to **SLOW DOWN** and observe. Also teach your children safety whilst crossing the road, walking along the driveway, and exiting the building.

Neighbourly love...  
Please do NOT park in or across the driveway of any neighbouring properties. Do NOT park on property belonging to any neighbouring businesses. We get along very well with our neighbours and we wish this to continue. We must allow our neighbours to carry out their work uninhibited by our customers. CARPARK; We have a carpark out the back for your use. If this is full and you need to park on the road side then please do so carefully. We thank you for your cooperation.

## SWIM SAFETY WEEK...



**Why do we have Safety Week at the end of each term?** To consolidate the safety skills incorporated into the weekly lessons as well as learn and practice more specific life-saving skills.

**Will my child really remember these skills if they should ever need them?** Whilst there is no guarantee that your child will remember such skills, we have been told of incidents where children have remembered and indeed utilised such skills. Six year old Ryan, who has swam with us since an infant, saved a 2yo child at a local pool recently. He identified the toddler was in danger and was able to get him to the edge of the pool safely. Ryan did not compromise his own safety in doing this. Young Alyssa fell into the pool fully clothed and was able to turn in the water and get safely back to the edge before her parents had removed watches and phones from their pockets. She did not panic and was not frightened by the experience.

**What is the aim of Safety Week?** To educate children in water safety including their own safety in and around water; the safety of others; how to respond if they are in difficulty in the water; how to respond if someone else is in difficulty in the water; rescue techniques; basic CPR. We aim to decrease the likelihood of your child drowning! "Approximately one-third of yearly drowning deaths, occur in the summer months. For every child drowning death, there are up to four children admitted to hospital, as a result of a non-fatal drowning incident." (Swim Australia website)

# Let's Go Lil...still needs your help!!

**Lillian Dyball** has finally got a vehicle that will allow her to enter and exit in her wheelchair. However your support is still required to pay for the vehicle please. Any assistance is greatly appreciated as Lil will have lifelong medical needs that place an extraordinary financial strain on her mum and carer, Nat. Lil is 6 years old and lives with a condition called Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita. This means most of her joints are twisted and her muscles are weak. Lil may never walk on

her own. The new vehicle means mum, Nat, does not have to lift Lil in and out of the car numerous times a day. Her wheelchair can be wheeled straight into the vehicle!

**A registered fundraising account has been set up to receive donations. If you are able to assist Lil please make your donation to:**

**Hume BSB: 640000**

**Acct: 607601516**

**Acct Name: Let's Go Lil**

## MAJOR RAFFLE:

GSA shall be running a major raffle in Term 2 to support Lil.

We are seeking businesses who may be interested in donating prizes.

All prize donors will receive advertising in our Newsletter, Facebook and premises.

Please speak with Janine if you have a prize to offer. GSA will have a year's worth of lessons up for grabs!!

Check out 'Let's Go Lil' on Facebook.



**Bullying: will not be tolerated in GSA. All children, parents, visitors and staff are to be treated fairly and with respect at all times. In the event of an incident occurring we shall speak with the parent and offer an opportunity for the behaviour to stop or change. If this does not occur then the parent will be asked not to return to GSA with their child. Bullying may be verbal, emotional and physical. Please speak to your child about respect, kindness, tolerance and patience. We want everyone to feel welcomed, valued and part of a caring community when here at Gould Swim Academy.**



## Winter is approaching and so is the cold weather.

Some families choose to take their child out of lessons during Term 2 and 3. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee you will get back into lessons or if we do have availability it may not be exactly what you were hoping for. We operate at capacity all year round, particularly with school-aged levels. We will offer your place to families who are on the waiting list so we can maintain our swimming numbers.

**ILLNESSES:** We appreciate you keeping your child OUT of the water when they are unwell. It is best to protect other swimmers, our instructors and of course your child. A child who is feeling out of sorts will not participate as well as they would when they are feeling healthy therefore not getting the full benefit of their lesson. **So if in doubt, please keep them out.**

If you or your child is ill then please phone in your absence so we may arrange a **make up lesson** for you.



## WOW...WHAT A CRAZY TERM!!! Has anyone else found this to be the case?

We have had a few absences from our staff for varying reasons and we thank you for your patience and understanding with the changes. We do try to have the one instructor teaching set classes throughout the term to provide some consistency for your child. In the event they will be absent for a period of time then we attempt to have the same substitute instructor fill their classes for that time.

Easter threw a curve ball just before the end of term. Many families thinking we were finishing our term at this time hence the last two weeks have been reasonably quiet with a lot of unexplained absences. Remember we follow the NSW School Term Dates.

First term at school was busy for many with swim carnivals, athletics and even cross country being held. A number of children began school for the first time whilst older children stepped into positions of responsibility within their school. Such a crazy start makes for many a tired child (and parent/s).

Enjoy the break from swimming, relax and make the most of the last few days of sunshine. Recharge the batteries, stay safe and well and we'll see you in Term 2.

### STAFF SPOTLIGHT: ELOISE DERBY

We are very fortunate to have Eloise come to us from her home of Melbourne. She has moved to Albury to attend university. She has previous experience as a swim instructor having worked since September 2012 in Melbourne. Eloise has been with us since August 2015. Like many of our instructors, Eloise has a background in swimming, having been a swim club member as a child and teenager. Eloise has been a tremendous addition to our team bringing a caring, kind and fair manner with a very conscientious approach to her classes. We look forward to having her as a part of our team for the duration of her studies.



**Lost Property:** Our bin is overflowing!! Please feel free to check it out when you are in. Drink bottles, goggles, swimmers, clothing and shoes. You may surprise yourself and find something belonging to you. All unclaimed items shall be donated to charity at the end of term.

**Naming items:** To assist with property left behind please name your clothing etc. Goggles may be written on in texta or place a name sticker around the band.

**Keys:** Please keep keys and any other small valuable items in the swim bag or such so they do not fall beneath the seating where they are difficult to retrieve.

#### **ENTRY AND EXIT:**

For the safety of all, particularly all children, you **MUST** enter and exit through our **FRONT DOOR** please. All other doors open blindly onto the carpark or driveway placing your child at a greater risk of being hit by a car. We ask that all adults set the example and use the front door at all times. Reception staff will advise you of the correct procedure if necessary.

We find that most children will go into the playroom before they will run out the front door and there is a greater likelihood that reception staff shall see them at the front door before they go outside. It is better to be coaxing your child out of the playroom than chasing them outside around traffic!!

#### **DON'T TEXT AND DRIVE!**

The message is very simple and is just as simple to follow. Please do not place your family or any other family in danger. Leave your phone turned off and only look at it when you have arrived at your rest stop or destination. How many times have you had someone encroaching onto your side of the road?? It is scary and completely unnecessary!! Do not be the one responsible for altering a family's life...yours or someone else's.

