



22 August 2014

Principals Report:

Wow, the year is going so quickly. We are already halfway through Term 3. We have had a number of great things happening in our school. The SRC ran a hugely successful 'Pink' Day where they raised over \$1500 for Breast Cancer Research, we had 3 staff members receive Public Education Awards (Congratulations to Kim Costa, Kim Whealey and Lyn Macauley) and there have been a number of Excursions giving students outstanding opportunities.

We have also been running a number of programs with our partner Primary Schools with the EXPO Night, Year 5 GATS days and Year 6 'Taster' days giving students the opportunity to see how a High School runs. We have loved meeting the students and carers who will soon be a part of our school on a day to day basis.

LATE TO SCHOOL / CLASS

Gorokan High School starts at 8.15am. Students are expected to be in Roll Call at this time. Students arriving after this time require a note from home indicating the reason for their partial absence. If students do not have a note they are required to complete a consequence for the lateness.

Similarly if students are late to class they will be required to complete a consequence. Unfortunately many students are taking too long to move between classes or from the playground to class after breaks. Recess and lunch time are designated times for use of the toilets.

UNIFORM

Students are required to wear full school uniform at all times. This is a requirement for the safety of our students so they are easily identifiable on our school grounds and in our Community. Please ensure if your child is unable to wear uniform for any reason that they have a note explaining why.

CYBER / MOBILE DEVICE SAFETY

Students and parents are reminded that information, pictures and videos they post on the internet and send via text message and apps like 'snap chat' must be free from any inappropriate material. Sending provocative or sexually explicit photos of minors is an offence. It does not matter if you have the person's permission or even if that person is yourself.

Sam Ricketts
(Principal)

Deputy Principals Report:

Road Safety in School Grounds

The School Driveway and Car Park off Goobarabah Avenue is a very busy place at the start and end of the day with staff entering via the driveway and students entering through the pedestrian gates.

NO STUDENT PARKING IN SCHOOL GROUNDS

It is important for all Senior students to remember that there is no parking inside the school grounds for student vehicles. All Senior students are to park outside the school grounds and walk into school through the pedestrian gates.

GOOBARABAH AVE – PICK UP & DROP OFF ZONE FOR STUDENTS BY PARENTS

Parents are reminded that students are to be picked up and dropped off on Goobarabah Avenue. We ask that parents do not drive into the School Car Park to drop off students as it creates a safety hazard for students walking into the grounds due to the increased traffic and also causes local traffic congestion.

The students of Gorokan High thank you for looking out for their safety.

Canteen News

Students are reminded that a LUNCH ORDER can be made by ordering and paying for food that you would like for lunch and/or recess. Lunch orders need to be made before school (i.e. before the roll call bell at 8.12 a.m.) By making a lunch order, you are able to enter at the front of the canteen, pick up your order from the lunch order window and be on your way. It saves time lining up and any item on the canteen menu can be ordered.

Student Kiosk in the Library

Students now have a one stop shop for all their enquiries about Bus Passes, Concession Cards, Absence Notes, signing in and out of school (early & late). The Student Kiosk is set up in the Library for students to access all these services as well as their Timetable from the Student Portal. Students are no longer allowed to enter the Front Office area – it is for parents only.

Senior Students – Important Reminders

Flexible Leave is a privilege. It is only available when you do not have timetabled periods. If you sign in late or sign out early when you should be in class, the system records your absence as truancy. All senior students are reminded that attendance at school is compulsory and that school hours are from 8.15 a.m.

to at least 2.35 p.m. For some courses, lessons may be held at other times such as lunch or after school. If senior students continue to abuse the privilege of Flexible Leave, then its use by students will be reviewed.

Study Periods are conducted in the Library. No student is to leave the school grounds and the Canteen will not serve food to students during lesson times. Please ensure that during study periods you sign in and remain in the Library to complete Assessment Tasks and undertake study and lesson preparation for your courses.

Marie Grant
Deputy Principal

SCIENCE NEWS:

Approximately 30 students received Science Awards on the School Assembly this month. Congratulations to all students. Keep up your wonderful effort and commitment to your studies. I encourage all Science students to strive for the best and take opportunities to be the best when they can.

Junior Science students and staff were involved towards the end of last Term, creating an Aboriginal Bush Tucker Garden for the school. Year 7 students, researched Bush Tucker Plants as part of the classification topic. Then many students in Years 7 & 8 got their hands dirty and worked super hard to spread topsoil, build garden beds, spread mulch and planted plants. A big thank-you to all students and staff that were involved in this project. Well done!



Year 10 are currently working on their Research Project. This is an Assessment Task whereby students have to undertake independent research, design and conduct an experiment to solve a problem. All Year 10 students have been issued with this Assessment Task. Please ensure that you complete the Log Book, as this is part of the task requirement. If your student needs assistance please remember to talk to the Classroom Teacher.

Year 8 students have been busy working on their Ecosystem Posters. A large number of students have been submitting wonderful posters and it is very pleasing to see the effort, care and standards being set by Gorokan High students.

Years 7 & 9 later this term will be participating in their Third Assessment Task for the year. This will be a practical based task, completed in the Laboratory Testing the student's ability to collect scientific data by undertaking set experiments. Students will require having with them, lead pencil, rubbers, rulers, calculators. As this is a Practical Assessment Task, the student will also be assessed on their compliance with laboratory work, health and safety. Year 7 students will be undertaking this test in week 8. Year 9 will be advised 2 weeks prior.

SENIOR STUDENTS

Congratulations to Year 12, for completing their Trial Examinations. It is important that Year 12 students continue to attend their Science classes and take the opportunity to participate in additional tutoring sessions where offered.

Year 11, Biology and Senior Science students have a compulsory fieldwork trip to Bateau Bay Rock Platform on the 22nd August. This is compulsory because the data collected from this trip forms the basis of their next Assessment Task, due in to the Library on the 3rd September.

Yearly Exams commence on the 11th September for Year 11. All students should be undertaking regular study and completing dot point summaries as part of their study regime. I wish Year 11 good luck in those exams.

Mrs Lyn Macauley
H.T. Science

GATS UNIT:

Term 3 is half way through!!

During this Term, the **Year 5 G&T Program** is taken place every Thursday, for 4 weeks. This program aims to increase the skills of Year 5 students and have a little taste of the facilities available at Gorokan High. The idea behind the program is to analyse the impact of the school in our local environment. We welcome all the Year 5 students from Gorokan and Kanwal Primary Schools and we thank the primary teachers who organise the paper work which allow the students to participate in this program. We are looking forward for a fun and enriched experience.

The **Selective Class entry** for Years 8 to 10 closed the 29th of July. We are having numerous applicants coming from our own school and from other schools. Those students will sit a test on the 22nd August at the school Library. Only 2 or 3 positions are vacant in our Selective Classes. Therefore, the competition for placement will be rigorous. The announcement of the placement in the Selective Class will be sent by mail at the beginning of Term 4.

The **UNSW ICAS Competitions** (English, Math, Science and Writing) are done for this year. Science results were given to each student. You receive a certificate and a page explaining your results. Congratulations to all the students who have achieved credits and distinctions in the Science Test. The Test is challenging and all of you did very well. The results for the Writing, English and Mathematics will be delivered next Term.

Students who have achieved CREDIT:

YEAR 7: Connor Allport, Gurnoor Kaur, Eliah Kent, Jordan Mcbride, Harrison Packham, Alex Sanders and Dylan Wyard.

YEAR 8: Taine Clarkstone, Joel Fryer and Jack Hands

YEAR 9: Emily Bagot

Students who have achieved MERIT:

YEAR 7: Olivia Clarkson, Baykey Collins, Matthew Milutinovic, Aimee Plover and Brandan Sinfield

YEAR 8: Jackson Blundy-Edwards, Krystyne Brown, Tracy Cai, Jarrod Doran, Joel Howie, Madisson Lynch

and Daniel Matthews.

YEAR 9: Joshua Pearson.

Students who have achieved DISTINCTION:

YEAR 7: Travis Evans.

YEAR 10: Angus Mingare and Zachary Wenham

Congratulations to all the high achievers!!

The GATS Unit will start the **professional training** of the future teachers who were allocated in the Selective Classes for 2015. During this training, teachers learn the socio-emotional characteristics of gifted students and how to differentiate the curriculum accordingly. It is a very intensive course but it has been very beneficial for all the educators who have participated.

The reports from the First Semester have shown that the majority of the students have achieved excellent results and this is a reflection of their consistent effort and diligence in class. For those students who need extra help with task management and study skills, an **Improvement Program** has been developed. Students are recommended by their teachers to participate in this program and parents will be informed by mail. The improvement program is not a discipline program. It is a teaching and learning program to increase and develop study skills, time and task management of students who needs to catch up with the high standards expected in the selective class.

HSIE NEWS:

YEAR 10 MAITLAND GAOL EXCURSION

Notes will be given to Year 10 students shortly for the Maitland Gaol Excursion on November 14th. Students go to Maitland Gaol for an ex-inmate tour, have lunch in the park and then wander around historic Morpeth. It is a great day but places are limited. Students who don't go to Maitland are required at school that day for a virtual site study of the Gaol.

Achievements

This year the History Teachers Association Australia Competition attracted over 20,000 participants from across the nation. Three students participated in the 2014 Australian History Competition from Gorokan High School. The following students achieved great success from what was a challenging competition:

1. Gelila Barrett Yr 10- Distinction
2. Courtney Traynoryr 10- Credit
3. Jacinta Hesling Yr 8- Merit

Congratulations to these young and motivated Historians in the making!

ABORIGINAL STUDIES:

Year 12 Aboriginal Studies Major Projects have been submitted. All students completed impressive presentations such as making a didgeridoo, boomerangs and clap sticks from scratch. Others researched the Freedom Ride, reconciliation and a Biography on Arthur Beetson.

Chloe Rule organised a Reconciliation 9's Rugby League Day at Morrie Breen Oval which was held on 23 May. This day

was an outstanding success with 11 Teams competing and many Aboriginal community members attending. The under 18's winners were Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College and the under 16's Wadalba High School. Congratulation to all teams for showing great sportsmanship. Special congratulations go to Chloe for organising such a wonderful day.



**Lesley
Armstrong
Aboriginal
Education
Officer G.H.S**

**Chloe Rule
Organiser:
Reconciliation
9's
Rugby League
Day**

**Sam Ricketts
Principal
Gorokan High
School**

A SECOND NIGHT:

Gorokan High School's Year 11 Retail Services class are opening a shop called **A Second Night**. We are looking for donations of all formal wear, such as dresses, suits, ties, shoes, bags etc. Nothing in our shop will be sold for over \$50. Please leave any items at the front office during school hours. We would like to thank you for your donation so if you could leave your name and contact details with the items you donate it would be appreciated.

For any further information please call Mrs Thomas on 43937000 or email:

jennifer.anne.thomas@det.nsw.edu.au

We are hoping this store will open early August.

Thanks for your help. It is very much appreciated.

YEAR 11 RETAIL CLASS GHS

Ps. we are also trying to sell recycled school uniforms but are having trouble obtaining stock. Any uniforms no longer needed would also be most welcome.

TAS FACULTY:

Semester Two has started well for the TAS Faculty with HSC projects ready for marking, Year7 and 8 starting in new materials and Year 10 nearing the completion of their Major Works in Industrial Technology Timber. The quality of the projects produced by the students in these subjects has continued to be a delight to see and is a testament to the effort they have made in class.

**TAS
Time**



Year 12 Textiles & Design



Year 8 Technology Mandatory



Year 9 & 10 Industrial Technology Timber

CAREERS NEWS:

School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships.

Last month Ms Jacobs and I had the privilege of attending a forum held at Gosford Hospital, where one of our students, Luke, who is doing a Traineeship in Health Services (Admin) was asked to be a speaker. Luke spoke very confidently about how good it was to be given this opportunity. He talked about his experience in applying for the Traineeship and how he manages his school and TAFE Course studies, as well as his one day a week work. He is a credit to himself, his family and the school community.

Recently I also assisted four students to apply for SBATS in Business Services with the ANZ Bank Indigenous Program.

They have submitted their applications and are waiting to move to the next step of the process.

Vocational Education Courses:

Many Year 10 students have nominated to apply to do TAFE Courses as part of their senior studies. By doing these courses they have the opportunity to find out about the industry standards for the career path they are considering and they can receive a dual qualification while studying for their HSC.

Their applications have been submitted and they will be notified by the TAFE early next Term, whether they have been offered a place in their chosen course.

Year 11:

This Term *Year 11* will be issued with the instructions for signing out of Year 11 and into Year 12. They should take advantage of the time between now and when they have completed their Preliminary Yearly Exams, to think carefully about their Year 12 options and discuss these with their teachers and the Careers Adviser.

The completed forms are to be handed in on Friday of Week 1 of Term 4, after which the subject changes will be put into place to start in Week 3.

Year 12:

At the end of this Term we say 'goodbye' to the Year 12 students, who will sit for their HSC Exams after the October holidays. The Careers and Transition Team, along with the rest of the staff, wish them all the best in their exams and for their future.

On the 6th August the University Admissions Centre (UAC) opened for students to apply for 2015 Courses. Students should have registered by now, and they can then go back on line at any time to alter their preferences.

After their Exams Year 12 students are still welcome to come to the school to access the Careers Resource Room to use a computer with Internet access so they can do career related research and have assistance with writing job applications and resumes.

Provision of External Courses:

This Term students from Year 10 and 11 participated in the WHS Construction Induction *Whitecard Course*. All Year 10 students who are planning to do their Work Experience in any area of the Construction Industry must have done this course before the end of November. The last course for the year to be run at school will be held on *Monday 10th November*.

Fifteen Year 12 students also spent 2 days at the end of their Trial Exams doing the *RSA and RCG courses*. This qualification allows them to be eligible to work in an establishment where alcohol is served, so provides more options of places to work once they are 18 years of age.

Advanced Notice of Career Activities for Term 4:

All Year 9 students will be participating in Mock Interviews at the end of November. In class they will be working through a booklet to help them with the process of writing their Resume and a Cover Letter for applying for jobs and the job interview

process will be discussed. Every student will then be allocated a Mock Interview time.

In week 7, Year 10 students will be doing the compulsory courses for being enrolled into Year 11 – the “All My Own Work” and “Work Ready” also the “Cross Roads” Programs.

All Year 10 students have received their notification about doing Work Experience from 24th November to 5th December. They should be sourcing a place now, as their initial forms are due back to school by 1st September.

This is an invaluable opportunity, as students who have participated in this program develop more on-the-job employment skills and therefore have an increased chance of gaining employment.

Susanne Thompson
CAREERS ADVISOR

During September Gorokan High School will commence Parent Online Payments through the school website: <http://www.gorokan-h.schools.nsw.edu.au> . **The information regarding this new payment method is set out below. When the new system is ready for use a note will be sent home to parents with the date Online Payments can commence.**

MAKING ONLINE PAYMENTS:

This will enable parents to make Online Payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard Credit or Debit Card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting [\\$ Make a payment](#).

Items that can be paid include Voluntary School Contributions, Subject Contributions, Excursions, Sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called “Other”, this is to cover items **not** covered in the previous headings, “Other” can be used to make a complete payment of a School Invoice.

When you access the [\\$ Make a payment](#) you must enter:

- the students name, and
- class and reference number OR
- the students name, and
- date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system.

There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice Number if you are aware of them, these are optional fields

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt

has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office.

World Challenge Fundraiser:

Hi everyone!!!!

Coming up on Saturday 6th September we have a Trivia Night Fundraiser for the World Challenge Participants who are heading to Vietnam at the end of the year. The kids have been working extremely hard to raise money and prepare themselves for this amazing opportunity and we're asking you, as parents/staff of GHS, to get behind them and offer your support on what's going to be a fun filled occasion. The night will be held at Wyong Golf Club, arrival at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Nibbles provided for each table and the Bistro is open if you'd like to order dinner there. There will be a number of smaller games and opportunities to win prizes throughout the night, as well as the trivia rounds with prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Cost is \$10pp, with tables of ten available (minimum 8 to a table). If you would like to attend you can either get together a group of ten and let me know via email/face to face so I can reserve you a table (maybe some Faculty vs Faculty Competition), otherwise I will have a sheet up in the Common Room and you can put yours/your partners/your child’s name on the sheet and reserve yourself a seat.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact either myself or Ben Drelincourt and we'd be happy to help.

Also, we are looking for some donations of prizes for the night. If you or anyone you know would be willing to donate a prize (gift vouchers, small gifts etc.) it would be very much appreciated, and would be mutually beneficial as we will be making mention of Sponsors on the night. Could you please let me know ASAP if you are able to help us out with this.

Thanks in advance!!! This is an amazing opportunity for our students to experience the world and its various cultures. The more support we can get for them the better off they will be. Hope to see you all there!!!!

Erika Fitzgerald and Ben Drelincourt :)

CATHERINE HILL BAY S.L.S.C.:

Catherine Hill Bay Surf Life Saving Club has their very own Hypnotic Entertainment Night on Saturday 27th September 2014.

The night kicks off at 6pm with burgers on the deck for \$5 and the bar will be open on the night. So let’s support your local Surf Life Saving Club by inviting your friends, family and work colleagues for all ages from 13yrs up.

You can purchase your tickets for \$20pp via Catherine Hill Bay SLSC gate way <http://cathoslsc.org.au> or by calling Deb directly on 0468 477 852.

Hope to see you all there for some great fun and laughs

HUDSON

Hilarious Hypnotic Entertainment

Raising Funds for Catherine Hill Bay SLSC

**Catherine Hill Bay
Surf Club
27th September 2014
Doors Open 6.00pm**

**Limited Seats
\$20 per head**

Come and See the Show or BE THE SHOW!

**CALL DEB NOW:
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