



Goobarabah Avenue
Gorokan NSW 2263
Subscribe: <http://gorokanhs.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: gorokan-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 02 4393 7000
Fax: 02 4393 1157



17 June 2016

Principal's Report

What a great first half of 2016. There has been so much happening here at school and in our community. We have had students out representing the school in various sporting teams and other excursions covering all areas of the curriculum including the arts, subject specific, special interest and debating. Thank you to our staff who not only take the excursions to give our students these opportunities but also take extra lessons at school to 'cover' classes for the staff member that is out on the excursion.

All students have had their half yearly exams and reports are being prepared for distribution.

Staffing

This term we welcome Rebecca Fitzgerald to our English faculty replacing Lisa Young.

Semester 1 Reports

Junior Semester 1 reports will be posted home over the next couple of weeks with parent teacher night being held on Tuesday 26th July in the school hall and gymnasium.

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.

The cold weather has well and truly hit, school jumpers are available at the uniform shop.

Three reasons for wearing school uniform

Safety: When all of our students are in uniform intruders are easy to identify. People who come into the school without permission, often to act aggressively towards our students, and are easily spotted and controlled.

Pride: Our uniform engenders a sense of belonging to the school and identification with the school. A positive school spirit is a great aid in learning. Students who have a positive attitude to their school, who approach it with pride, respect and enjoyment are those who will look back on their school days with pleasure and fondness.

Community Confidence: Our school is judged by the outside community not only on its academic results or its sporting prowess but on the image it presents -- the standards of dress and conduct of its students. A negative impression in the eyes of the public demeans our students.

Our **P & C** supports Gorokan High School in complying with the Department of Education rules on core discipline. These rules state that students must "maintain a neat appearance, including adhering to the requirements of the school's uniform or dress code".

Cyber Safety / Awareness

Please ensure your children are safe on line by using the appropriate filters and supervision on your home internet. It is all too easy for our kids to unwittingly get caught up giving out personal information over the internet. Simple things like 'tagging' and 'checking in' via facebook can give undesirables their current location potentially putting them at risk of harm.

It is also very important that students do not send or 'post' inappropriate images of themselves and others. The laws around this type of behaviour are very strict and unfortunately once these images are sent you no longer have control over what happens with them nor who gets to see them.

Car Park Safety

Parents and carers are asked not to use the car park as a drop off or pick up area for students. Please use the designated pick up and drop off areas provided. There is a pedestrian crossing for students to use which is a safe place for everyone to cross the road.

Also students are not permitted to park in the staff carpark. Please refrain from doing so.

Sam Rickettes (Principal)

Student Council

The Student Council has been super busy over the last term and a half. Our Annual Conference in Term 1 has seen the formation of 5 focus area teams that the Student Council members have joined. The focus area teams are School Facilities, Sport, Environment, Fundraising and Education. The teams have elected a leader and are busy forming goals to achieve in both the short term and the long term. Planning is underway for a new look "Pink Day" and the Student Council are super excited for the day which falls Wednesday, Week 5, Term 3. They also have Jeans for Genes Day happening on Friday, Week 3, Term 3 students are able to wear their jeans with their school uniform for a gold coin donation.

New applications are available now for students to apply to join the Student Council as we prepare to farewell our year 12 students as they embark on their HSC.

Erin Osborne
LaST- Behaviour

GATS Unit

Term 2 is half way through!!

The **selective class entry** for years 8 to 10 closes on the 22nd of July. If you want your child to apply for the selective class entry, more information at the end of this term will be available on our web page. Meanwhile you can access extra information in here.

http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/7-12assessments/selective8_12.php

Applicants will sit a test on the 26th 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** (Digital Technologies, English, Math, Science and Writing) are well underway. Results will be available next term. Each student will receive a certificate and a page explaining the results.

Gorokan High School is proud to support the rural and remote education action by facilitating the teaching and learning of rural students throughout Aurora College, a partially selective virtual high school in NSW.

For more details about Aurora College, browse its web page here

<http://www.aurora.nsw.edu.au/>

CAPA News

This year in Visual Arts, we have a really strong cohort of students in our elective subjects who have shown a great deal of interest in practical and critical based learning activities. This semester we have already taken out three separate groups for excursions to Sydney to view a variety of exhibitions and events. The biggest being the Sydney Biennale. This year's Biennale titled 'Embassy of the Real' offered a space for international artists to explore how we perceive reality in our increasingly digitised era.

On Tuesday 24th May, Miss Eve, Ms Pryor and Ms McGown, along with fifty-two of our year 9-12 Visual Arts and Photographic students were given the opportunity to view this exhibition, held at Cockatoo Island, the world-heritage listed site, located in the middle Sydney Harbour.

We travelled to Sydney by coach, arriving in time for some morning tea on the grass outside the Museum of Contemporary Art at Circular Quay. Keen photographers collected an SLR camera to capture the day ahead. A short walk to Campbells Cove and we were quickly aboard the ferry making our way to the top deck for the best views. Cameras clicking, students laughing and chatting, it was 'picture perfect' conditions on the harbour. As many of our students had not experienced Sydney before, the ferry was a fantastic way to see this magnificent harbour, viewing the bridge from below, the iconic Opera House, Luna park and many of the harbour- side homes.

Our guides met us on arrival to Cockatoo Island, and in smaller groups we embarked on a tour of the former convict settlement and shipyard. The exhibiting artist's needed to take this unique location into account while planning and creating their artworks. This allowed a great opportunity for our students to experience Site Specific artworks. Perhaps the most popular of the exhibits was an interactive work by chorographic artist William Forsythe. The students became a part of the work as they wove their way between the constantly moving suspended lines.

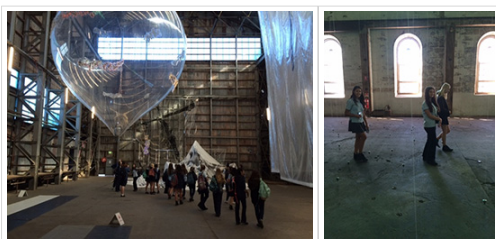
Many thanks to Miss Eve for her thorough organisation of the day. The number of sleeping students on the bus home suggested a big but enjoyable day was had by all.

Subject	Dates
Digital Technologies	17th May 2016
Science	31st May 2016
Writing	17th June 2016
English	2nd August 2016
Mathematics	16th August 2016

The Sydney Biennale Exhibition – CAPA Students



Students Enjoying Sydney Harbour



Students Viewing this Wonderful Exhibition

Library News

Term 2 2016 has been another busy term!

Graphic Novels

Our collection of Graphic Novels is constantly expanding and is in high demand. The term Graphic Novel refers to the format of a book, not a genre. Graphic novels can be fiction or non-fiction, or anything in-between.

Graphic novels are similar to comic books because they use sequential images to tell a story. **Many of our graphic novels are in the Manga category which is the Japanese word for comic.** Manga is read from top to bottom and right to left as this is the traditional Japanese reading pattern.

A few of our popular titles are Angel Diary, Natsume's book of Friends and High School Rumble.

World Book Online

GHS now subscribes to World Book online. It is very much like the World Book Encyclopaedia except digital. It is user friendly is suitable for all high school age groups.

The World Book Web includes several reference sites that feature:

A vast collection of primary source documents, thousands of editor-selected Web sites, research tools, including a timeline and citation builder, current magazine and newspaper selections

Students can make individual accounts to save their research for future use.

GO TO:

<http://www.worldbookonline.com/>

See library staff for LOG-IN and PASSWORD

Borrowing

Years 7 – 10 may borrow 2 fiction and 2 nonfiction books
Years 11 – 12 may borrow 6 fictions and 6 nonfiction books plus textbooks that are required for course work

Most books can be borrowed for 2 weeks and can be renewed if required. Books can be returned between 8am and 2.35pm to the return box in the library foyer.

Students with overdue books will be unable to borrow until the overdue books are returned. If library books are lost please let us know so we can arrange payment.

Other Services

PRINTING – Printing for assessments is available in black and white for 10c and colour for 30c and photocopying is also available for the same prices. Or you can email your work to Ms. Powell at samantha.powell@det.nsw.edu.au and she will print it for you.

TIMETABLES - Students can also have their timetable reprinted at recess and lunch for 50c.

**Ms Powell, Teacher Librarian
Gorokan High School**

Technological & Applied Studies

TECHNOLOGY IN FOCUS:

I would like to showcase some of the courses that TAS has offered this term.

**TAS
Time**

Design & Technology:

Year 9 and 10 FAB classes have been busy making home-made cosmetics. To date they have made Fragranced Bath Salts and Bath Bombs. They are very busy researching an own choice product to be made over the next few weeks.



A collection of Bath Bombs and Bath Salts made by students in the FAB Classes

Year 12 Exploring Early Childhood have been studying "Starting School" unit of work, culminating in an earlier visit to Toukley and Kanwal Public Schools where they assisted the kindergarten teacher for the day. They all enjoyed their kindergarten teacher for a day experience.

Brianna Brown said "doing different activities with the kindies was great."

"Helping the "kinders" do their set work was the best part for me!" said Gabby Lord.

Jessica Giltrow said the highlight for her was "the experience itself as this is what I want as my career!"

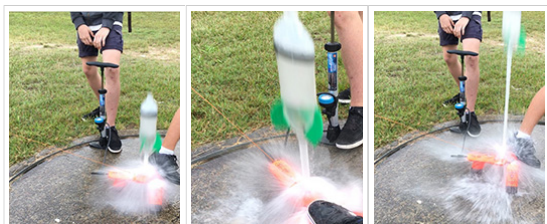
To accompany their theory, the girls made a colourful library bag with embroidery and applique.



Colourful Library bags with Embroidery and Applique made by the Year 12 Exploring Early Childhood students

Year 10 Engineering: rocketry

This term the Year 10 engineering students were involved in rocket science. With the use of bottle rockets, the students were able to pressurise and send the rockets aloft. The students were able to delve into the science behind maximising the effects of trim surfaces and air flow. Some of the rockets flew out of sight into the air and landed quite abruptly. Other modifications that some students used was a parachute system allowing their rocket to gracefully return to the earth. All the class had great fun, it was a great time to get outdoors and do something expansive.



The Various Bottle Rockets that were created by the Year 10 Engineering students

This term has been very productive for all classes in TAS.

Mr Russell Trimmer
Head Teacher TAS

by Mr T.

Design
Daze

Taking a photo is easy!

When I speak to my students about current technology, I often explain to them how it links to the past. I describe the technology of an image from a mobile phone in this case. Imagine a world in the last generation where photography was a slow process of waiting for developed film only to find they were less than average shots. In a world of iPhones and Instagrams, we can all take photos and review them very quickly. The digital age has improved the quality of each image. Poorer images are deleted and then redone while valued images make their way around the world and are shared by millions of people. It all started in 1974 when images were able to be stored and looked at on TV. It would take the flood of the smartphone before it became any real use.



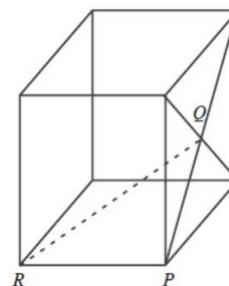
Original Camera

Maths

Maths Matters

Last week a group of Year 12 Mathematics Extension students attended a day at Sydney University organised by the Mathematical Association of NSW for students attempting the extension courses. The students were given a taster of university life, with an interesting keynote by the Dean of Science who provided a glimpse of some of the pathways available to mathematicians and scientists in Australia. The students then attended sessions that they had selected based on their interests with some investigating whether Spiderman can indeed stop a train and others looking at Quantum Physics. A long day but a very interesting one!

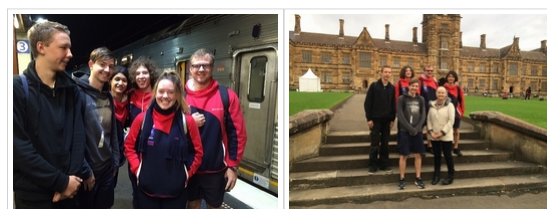
Problem of the month: Thinking inside the box.



Q is the point of intersection of the diagonals of one face of a cube whose edges have length 2 cm.

Determine the length of QR.

Answer to the previous problem: It will take approx. 20 seconds (to the nearest second)



Outdoor Pursuits

Duke of Edinburgh Award Adventurous Journey

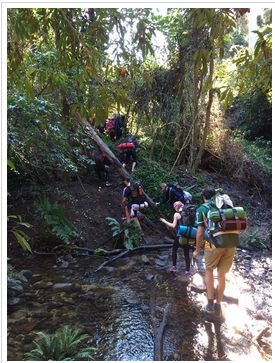
On the 29th – 30th May our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award participants set off on their qualifying adventurous journey from Somersby to Yarramalong. The students were required to demonstrate skills in the areas of navigation & campcraft. The students were expected to spend the night in the bush carrying all of their equipment and food, which at times became quite difficult. This was especially the case towards the end of the first day with a very long climb up to their overnight campsite.

After a very cool night the students were ready to go again and get back to civilisation, finishing the walk in time for lunch at Yarramalong store. All of the students seemed to enjoy the journey, not just lunch at the completion of the walk.

A big thankyou as always goes to Heather Barlow and Warren Small for helping out on the walk. They are both amazing people that always put their hand up to give their own time on our journeys.

Information will be coming out shortly to year 9 students interested in participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. For any information on the award, please follow the link.

Ben Dreincourt



Duke of Edinburgh Award Participants showing their skills in Navigation and Campcraft – Watercrossing as part of their journey from Somesby to Yarramalong



Duke of Edinburgh Award Participants Keen to Finish

Year 9 and 10 Outdoor Pursuits Archery Tag

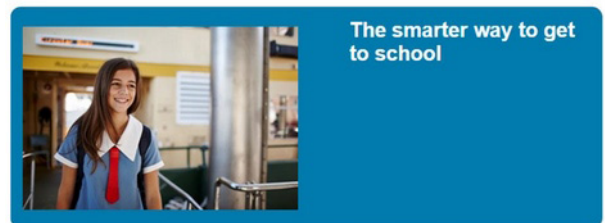
Gorokan High Schools Outdoor Pursuits classes have been working on their archery skills throughout this term. On June 15th we had Armstrong Archery Tag from Tumby Umbi come into the school. This gave the students to further develop their skills by hitting each other, and their teachers, using the specially designed arrows.



Those students that participated had a great time.

Our term 3 unit of work will involve bush survival skills which will culminate into an overnight camp and abseiling session. Students will learn about the 5 priorities of water, fire, warmth, shelter and food, and how to acquire it. I encourage all of the students to have their subject contributions paid for this one.

School Students' Transport



What is the School Opal card?

The School Opal card replaces the old paper School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel passes.

The School Opal card gives eligible school students free or subsidised travel on public transport between home and school on trains, buses and ferries.

The School Opal card is only for travel to and from school on school days and doesn't cover travel to after school care, school excursions, sport and other activities away from school, so it's a good idea to get a Child/Youth Opal card for personal travel.

Travelling with a valid ticket

When travelling on public transport, you must tap on and tap off* with your Opal card or, if you're eligible buy a single paper ticket to ensure you have a valid ticket to travel.

Authorised revenue protection officers and the NSW Police officers are responsible for enforcing ticketing compliance and monitoring public transport. They have Opal card readers to check your Opal card balance, recent transaction history and the status of the Opal card (Adult, Senior/Pensioner, Concession or Child/Youth Opal card).

Tap on and tap off, everytime

Whether you're travelling with an Opal card or an Opal single trip ticket, always tap on and tap off. If you don't you're not travelling with a valid ticket and you could be fined.



To tap on or tap off hold your Opal card or single trip ticket against an Opal reader until it turns green and makes a sound that confirms you've tapped correctly.

Information for Parents and Students on the Opal Card