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2 September 2016

Principal's Report

It has been a very busy start to Semester 2, with some excellent opportunities for students. There has been a large number of excursions across all key learning areas. Year 6 students have been attending their "taster" days so they gain an understanding of how High School works. Year 12 have completed their Trial HSC exams and Year 11 are working toward completing their Preliminary year. In sport we have had a number of outstanding achievements with our Girls' Under 16 Rugby League team and our Boys' Open Softball team playing in the State Finals.

Secondary Schools Renewal Project

Gorokan High School was selected to participate in the Secondary Schools Renewal Project after we were awarded a 3 million dollar grant by the State Government. Building works are set to commence on Monday 29th August.

Due to where the building work will be taking place the Bus Bay area will be closed for the duration of the build. Buses will stop to drop off and pick up students at the designated 'bus stop' area to the left of the school carpark. Extra staff will be on duty in the morning and afternoon to assist in the safe entry and exit of students.

Students have already begun the process of how they will be entering and exiting the school grounds from the Bus area.

The carpark will be closed to all traffic from $2.20 \mathrm{pm} - 2.50 \mathrm{pm}$ every afternoon to limit the movement of cars while students are exiting and waiting for buses.

I would ask that in the mornings, parents and carers please not use the carpark area to drop students off; with the extra foot traffic, it creates an even more dangerous situation for students in the carpark area. There are plenty of areas just outside the school grounds where students can be dropped off and enter the school grounds safely.

Department of Education Behaviour Code for Students

I have attached to this newsletter the Department of Education Behaviour Code for students. It clearly outlines what the expectations are for students when attending school. I have pointed out a few of the main issues for us below.

Late to School / Class

Gorokan High School starts at 8.20am. 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 to explain their late arrival to school/class, they will be given a detention as 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.

Early Leavers/Sick Leavers

Students must present to the office if there is a need for them to leave school early or if they are feeling sick. Under no circumstances should they call their parents/carers on their mobile phones regarding these matters.

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)

Office Update

School Payments

A reminder to parents/carers that payments at the office can be made by cash, Cheque and EFTPOS. Parents can also log on to the school website and make an on-line payment. All payments will be gratefully accepted at the office during the hours of 8.00 am - 2.30 pm.

Important Information Regarding Opal Cards For Students entering Year 11 at a Current School

At the End of the year you will need to go on-line at:

http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students

And update your information to "Year 11". Print the 2 page document, sign and return to the Administration Office of your New School.

For Students entering Year 7 at a New School

At the End of this year you will need to go on-line at

http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students

And update your information to "Year 7". Print the 2 page document, sign and return to the Administration Office of your New School.

The Partners in Learning Parent Feedback Survey

This Term, our school will be participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey, another part of the "Tell Them From Me" suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online at home or on public computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 22 August and 21 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, however, your responses are very much appreciated. More information about the survey is available at:

http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

TAS/Engineering News

Hunter EV Prize Competition

Students at Gorokan HS had the chance to compete in the Hunter EV Prize competition last weekend. It is designed to drive both innovation in electric vehicle design and regional skills development in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The competition rules lay an excellent foundation to engage young people in Science, Engineering and technical trades as well as project management and entrepreneurialism.

Year 7 students: Jacinta Burley, Ashton Vincenti, Riley Felton, Zac Dowdell, Amme Fletcher and Alisha Cech were involved in the building, riding and race management of our school's entry.

We entered the school's hub class which was a 1-hour race with the aim to complete as many laps as possible without draining the battery over the time limit. If the bike stopped it meant your race was over. Our bike was still going strong at the end of the time limit.

We were the only *Year 7 team*, with most schools having only senior students involved. We had 4 rider changes but we only needed 2 and with the practice day cancelled due to weather our riders had no track experience.

The team took away many positives from the event, had a great time and will be back next year for a very serious chance at the major prizes.

Thank you for the school and parent support.

Ian McCutcheon Head Teacher Secondary Studies & CORE/WHS







Technological & Applied Studies News

TECHNOLOGY IN FOCUS:

I would like to showcase some of the work our students have been doing this term.



NAIDOC WEEK 2016 - share, participate and discover

NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For the students in



TAS, it was a great opportunity to participate in a range of cultural activities which celebrated the connection to land and sea. The students were immersed in the significance of the spiritual and cultural connection and participated as part of the living narrative with enthusiasm and pride within our school.

Textiles







Woven Bag



Bush Food



Bull Roarer



Year 9 Pastry Chef - the course

A pastry chef is someone who is schooled and skilled in the making of pastries, desserts, cakes, cookies, cupcakes, pies, tortes and ice cream. Pastry chefs are employed in large hotels, bistros, restaurants, bakeries, and some cafés. The pastry chef course in TAS is a precursor to the workplace and an opportunity for creativity and experience for our TAS students.







Textile and Design - Year 12 Major Projects

Under the guidance of Mrs Sheahan, the Year 12 Textile and Design students have produced some outstanding Major Textile Projects this year. They have now been submitted for external marking. This is an individual project that begins at the start of the HSC year. Students decide on their inspiration and then produce a textile project to reflect this. Congratulations need to be given to the students; managing a major project across a year is very demanding. They take solace in the fact that half of their marks have now been accounted towards their HSC.

Japanese Peter Pan Fantasia





Historical Textile Dolls





3-D Printing - Engineering Design

This term has seen the introduction of the Engineering Enrichment class involving CAD processing and 3-D printing. The students have been applying engineering concepts to design 3-D products that provide an engineering "edge"; (not unlike the quality you might see in a designer product). The class is a selection of students from all years. They have been working together in a mixed-aged group, being supported by their common interest. Further classes will be running this term based on an interest for engineering design and enthusiasm for CAD and rapid prototyping technologies.







This term has shaped up to be a really great one; with more to come!

Mr Russell Trimmer Head Teacher TAS



by Mr T.

Pokémon's are a "Go".



Pokemon Go has quickly become a global phenomenon using a mobile app that has reportedly been downloaded by more than 100 million people worldwide. It was credited with popularising location-based and reality gaming, as well as for promoting physical activity and helping local business grow. While there are many tricks to the game, some students have resorted in defining the aim of their smart phones. A quick 3D-printed innovation has allowed them to closely aim on their "prey" with spectacular results.

Science News

Field Trip - Bateau Bay Beach

On Friday August 12th, 48 Year 11 students from Biology and Senior Science attend a field trip to Bateau Bay Beach, to study the rock platform as a part of an assessment task that they are currently completing. We had teachers from Rumbalara (the environmental education branch of the Central Coast Council) run the field work. The students were involved in various measuring techniques as well as observations of life on the rock platform. This particular area is of importance because of the human impacts around the area influencing the kinds of organisms found there. We were blessed with amazing weather and the students were able to enjoy a learning experience on the beach!





Marine Studies

Making A Splash!

Why are fish so smart?
Because they swim in schools!

This be one of the many things that we've learnt this year in Year 10 Marine Studies. So no, we haven't just been 'clown fishing' around for an hour every class. We've learnt some pretty extraordinary things this year, for instance we learnt that out of the 33 animal phyla, 28 are found in water, and 13 of these are exclusively marine. There has been a lot of practical things as well, our class has learnt how to resuscitate someone using CPR, and in Term 1, we went snorkelling around Cabbage Tree Bay, where we were taught the correct hand signals to use whilst in the water. We've learnt about ecosystems, and have made our very own fish tanks, although our venture deemed unsuccessful, it was the experience that really mattered.

In a short 2 terms, we've gone from getting silicon stuck to our hands building fish tanks, to running our very own breeding sanctuary for guppies, in which we now have accumulated over 50 baby guppies, in over 3 fish tanks. Plus we have a lot of goldfish, a huge silver dollar fish named Brad, who is our vegetarian of the family. And the star of the show, the exclusive Year 10 class mascot 'Gurl' the Axolotl. Who ironically is a girl, who would've guessed it?

Fun fact about the notorious Mexican Walking Fish: They don't actually have eyelids!

There's so many more fun things coming up before the end of the year, by the end of this term we will have our Aquaponics tank set up, and next Friday, Marine Studies is going to Sydney Aquarium to look at other ecosystems. We've learnt so much this year, and are looking forward to the rest of the year with Mr Watson. Fish are friends, not food! - **By Jess K**

Katrina Hand Relieving Head Teacher Science



Library News

YEARBOOK 2016

This year Gorokan High School will be publishing a school yearbook. It will be 100 pages, mostly colour, and be a reminder of our school year at GHS. It will not be available online. Numbers will be very limited this year to gauge its popularity. Cost will be \$15 and this can be prepaid at the front office.

We need permission to publish images and information about your child for the purposes of sharing his/her experiences at school this year. The yearbook may include your child's name and/or a photograph/s, as well as some of the activities your child has been involved in during this academic year.

By signing a green permission to publish form the communications in which your child's information may be published include but are not limited to:

Public websites of the Department of Education and Communities including the school website.

Department of Education and Communities publications including the school newsletter, annual school magazine and school report, promotional material published in print and electronically including on the Department's websites.

Official Department and school social media accounts on networks such as Facebook.

Your child's photo may be reproduced in colour or black and white and may be altered for design purposes.

You will not be consulted about the specific context in which your child's photo and/or quote appears.

Material held will be kept for an indefinite time. It will be stored and disposed of securely.

Please help make our yearbook a success and fill in the green form and let us know that you give permission for your child's name and image to be published or that you do not give permission for your child to be part of our yearbook.

A green *PERMISSION TO PUBLISH* form can be picked up at the library and signed forms can be returned to the **all notes** box in the library.

Ms Samantha Powell Teacher Librarian

HSIE News

HSIE IM Excursion

Recently the IM class enjoyed a day out in Newcastle. They travelled on the school bus to the Newcastle Museum. On arrival they had an education and collage workshop on the artwork of well- known children's author, Jeannie Baker. She works with three dimensional Art and the students had a chance to try their skills at this. They were given many items to work with and created some excellent pieces. They then had the opportunity to watch a light and sound show about BHP. This was loud, smoky and very informative. For some of the students it was the highlight of the trip to the museum. For others it was the Supernova where they spent an hour enjoying the hands on activities from lifting cars to making mini tornadoes.

After the Museum they had a great picnic lunch in the Museum grounds and then moved on and did The ANZAC Memorial Walk. The view was amazing and the students appreciated this tribute to Australia's War Heroes. Everyone had a great day and we are now looking forward to more excursions.

Year 11 Ancient History and the Senior IM Students also had a great day when they visited The National Museum in Sydney late last term. Both groups found the experience worthwhile and were a credit to the school.

Mr Stephen Carey Head Teacher HSIE



IM Class enjoying a day out at the Newcastle Museum

CAPA News

Drama is alive and thriving this term with lots of activities throughout all year groups. The amazing "CAPA Collective" took place during week 10 of last term where there was over 70

performances showcased from Drama, Music and Dance. With a full audience of 130, great food and an electric atmosphere, we can't wait to see what our students can produce for the next CAPA night. The HSC Drama students are polishing off their group performances and Individual projects with Miss Benton, to be presented to the BOSTES markers in week 7. This term saw the commencement of "Drama group" which is being run during sport time on Thursdays. It is open to all students who have a passion for the performing arts and who are interested in further developing their talents. With an aim to provide students with more opportunities to showcase their skills to an audience, the new Drama group and Miss Sharp's Year 10 Drama class presented a variety of performances at the Year 6 Taster days in Week 6. There will be another opportunity for students to attend an after-school Drama group with Miss Benton and Miss McGree from Term 4 and it is fantastic to see so many hidden talents emerge from our Gorokan students.

Ms Julia Harvey-Trappel Head Teacher CAPA



Support Unit News

The students in the Support Unit have had a busy Term 3. The vegetable garden has been productive and the students have been enjoying harvesting and selling produce to staff as well as cooking in their Food Tech classes. This has given our students opportunities to improve communication skills as well as test out their math and money abilities. The proceeds of sales have been spent on more supplies for the vegetable garden project.

Several students have been participating in Work Experience in preparation for post school options. A special thanks goes to Bunnings Lakehaven for their ongoing support of our students.

Students are learning aspects of poetry in English, Perimeter, Volume and Area in Math, Earthquakes and Volcanoes in Science and Landforms in Geography. To enhance learning, students have participated in an excursion to Newcastle Museum as well as outings to various local areas to investigate landforms. Our students are developing travel training skills during these excursions.

Thanks to all parents who have supported class teachers by returning permission notes in a timely manner.

Mr Glasson Head Teacher Special Education

Sport News

GHS SPORT REPORT

Sydney North Athletics

Gorokan High School had 24 students successfully qualify for the Sydney North Athletics Carnival at Sydney Olympic Park last month.

Adam Riding and Harry Packham have both been selected in the Sydney North Team to compete at the CHS Championships in September.

CONGRATULATIONS to all students and GOODLUCK boys!





Futsal

The Open Boys/Girls and 9/10 Boys/Girls competed in the Central Coast Futsal Championships in June. All teams represented the school with pride and did an outstanding job.

Special mention to the Open Boys team who won all five of their pool games to qualify for the Semi-Finals.



Annabella Butler

Annabella competed in the Interschool equestrian event at SIEC. She placed first in;

Show Horse – Bareback Sporting – Bounce Pony and Running T



Well Done Annabella Butler

Open Boys Softball

The Open Boys Softbal team have had an outstanding year thus far! They progressed through the preliminary rounds to qualify for the CHS Championships in Newcastle. The boys are currently competing at the two-day competition.

GOODLUCK BOYS!!!

Chailend Malinowski

Chailend competed at the CHS Gymnastics Championships last month. She had an excellent competition, placing 5th overall in the Vault.



Congratulations Chailend!

U15 Boys Football

Congratulations to the Under 15 Bill Turner Cup Boys. Progressing to the fourth round of the knockout competition.



Mr Joel Anderson & Mrs Lisa Ricketts Sport Co-ordinators

Careers News

Congratulations:

On 30th October I had the privilege of attending the Graduation Ceremony of our two Year 12 students, Courtney Traynor and Maddison Harris, who, as part of their HSC studies, have completed Certificate III in Health Services Assistant, at Gosford Hospital. Congratulations to both girls on achieving this extra qualification.

Year by Year Activities

Year 12

The Careers and Transition team, along with the rest of the staff, wish year 12 all the best in their exams and for their future.

On the 3rd August the University Admissions Centre (UAC) opened for students to apply for 2017 courses. Students should have registered by now, to take advantage of paying the "reduced on time fee". 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.

Year 11

Year 11 have been 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 Sign Out 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 10

After their yearly exams all *Year 10 students* will be doing the following **compulsory courses for being enrolled into year 11** -"All My Own Work" and "Work Ready" and the "Cross Roads" programs.

All Year 10 students have received their notification about doing Work Experience from 28th November to 9th December. They have been out sourcing a place, and their personal detail forms and initial host employer forms are due back now.

This is an invaluable opportunity, as students who participate in this activity develop more on-the-job employment skills and therefore have an increased chance of gaining fulltime employment when they leave school. After completion of work experience, the details should be added to their resumes.

Year 9

On Wednesday 9th November we are holding our Year 9 ECHO Day. The students are divided into small groups and speakers talk to the students about their personal experiences of training

and working in a variety of careers and also explain study options for these careers and for post school.

Other Career and Transition Activities

External Courses offered at School

All Year 10 students who are planning to do their Work Experience in any area of the Construction Industry must have done WHS Construction Induction Whitecard Course before the end of November. The last course for the year to be run at school is booked for Friday 26th October.

Twenty-seven Year 12 students 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 them with more options of places to work once they are 18 years of age.

Resumes and Job Applications

Many students have approached me for help writing their Resumes and an Expression of Interest letter. I allocate times during the week to assist them with this. Students need to bring a USB with them to save their documents, so they can update once they have had other experiences to add.

Unique Student Identifying Number (USI)

All students will need to have a USI for when they leave school. I have been working my way through the year 10, 11 and 12 students, to arrange this as the numbers must be recorded with the Board of Studies for enrolment in senior VET Courses.

Ms Susanne Thompson Careers Adviser

Whole School Special Events

Jeans for Genes Day

This year Jeans for Genes Day was supported by Gorokan High School. On Friday the 5th of August staff and students supported this worthy cause by wearing their jeans to school and paying a gold coin donation. The Student Council was keen to see this cause supported as while most babies are born healthy, sadly 1 in 20 children are born with a birth defect or genetic disease. On average, that's one in every classroom. Every dollar raised on the day goes toward helping scientists at Children's Medical Research Institute discover treatments and cures, to give every child the opportunity to live a long and healthy life. We have sent our cheque and feel very proud of GHS for supporting this cause.

PINK DAY 2016

Wednesday Week 5, saw GHS transform to a sea of pink as our annual Pink Day got under way. Students and staff rallied together dressed in fantastic pink outfits to show commitment to this worthy cause. An afternoon of food including a BBQ, pizzas, soft drinks, cupcakes and sweets and activities such as Oz tag, basketball, a doughnut eating competition and of course the ever popular slime the teacher was enjoyed by all! Together the GHS students and staff managed to raise a massive \$2000 to be donated toward cancer research. The Student Council worked tirelessly to put this event together and

should be commended for their efforts in the lead up to and execution of such a successful and fantastic event. Thanks to our staff at GHS for supporting the students, what a fabulous day!!!









GHS MINI OLYMPICS 2016

On Friday the 19th August, Gorokan High School ran a Mini Olympics House Challenge for students from Year 7 – Year 10. The aim



of the day was to celebrate the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Students had the opportunity to embrace the Olympic spirit, participate in a range of Olympic events and further develop the positive culture of Sport/Houses at Gorokan High School.

Students had the opportunity to participate in their House groups in one of six Olympic Sports/Events, including:

Volleyball Basketball Soccer Olympics 2016 Quiz Table Tennis Hockey

Prizes were awarded to the 'best dressed' students, with Liam Taylor (Year 10) and Cassidy Dwyer (Year 9) taking out the student awards.

GHS MINI OLYMPICS MEDAL TALLY

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL MEDALS
NORAH (1st)	10	0	5	15
DIXON (2nd)	7	6	6	19
HARGRAVES (3rd)	6	7	4	17
BARNETT (4th)	2	10	7	19



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF INVOLVED!!!











The Japan Team Tracy & Maddie

Year 9 USA Team

Department of Education

Behaviour Code for Students

NSW public schools are committed to providing safe, supportive and responsive learning environments for everyone. We teach and model the behaviours we value in our students.

In NSW Public schools' students are expected to:

- Respect other students, their teachers and school staff and community members
- Follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers
- Strive for the highest standards in learning
- Respect all members of the school community and show courtesy to all students, teachers and community members
- Resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly

- Comply with the school's uniform policy or dress code
- Attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- Respect all property
- Not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco into our schools
- Not bully, harass, intimidate or discriminate against anyone in our schools

Schools take strong action in response to behaviour that is detrimental to self or others or to the achievement of high quality teaching and learning.

Behaviour Code for Students: Actions

Promoting the learning, wellbeing and safety of all students in NSW Public Schools is a high priority for the Department of Education and Communities.

We implement teaching and learning approaches to support the development of skills needed by students to meet our high standards for respectful, safe and engaged behaviour.

Respect

- Treat one another with dignity
- Speak and behave courteously
- Cooperate with others
- Develop positive and respectful relationships and think about the effect on relationships before acting
- Value the interests, ability and culture of others
- Dress appropriately by complying with the school uniform or dress code
- Take care with property

Safety

- Model and follow departmental, school and/or class codes of behaviour and conduct
- Negotiate and resolve conflict with empathy
- Take personal responsibility for behaviour and actions
- · Care for self and others
- Avoid dangerous behaviour and encourage others to avoid dangerous behaviour

Engagement

- Attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- · Arrive at school and class on time
- Be prepared for every lesson
- · Actively participate in learning
- Aspire and strive to achieve the highest standards of learning

The principal and school staff, using their professional judgment, are best placed to maintain discipline and provide safe, supportive and responsible learning environments. The department provides a policy framework and resources such as Legal Issues Bulletins, access to specialist advice, and professional learning to guide principals and their staff in

exercising their professional judgment. In this context the NSW Government and the Department of Education and Communities will back the authority and judgment of Principals and school staff at the local level.

http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/about-the-department/ our-reforms/supported-students-successful-students/ behaviour-code-for-students

Community News



