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8 December 2017

## Principal's Report

### Thank you

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you to the students, staff and our community for their effort and support during 2017. We have had a fantastic year. Our students have been recognised for their achievements in sport at the Sports Presentation Dinner and will be recognised for their academic and citizenship excellence at the Presentation Night on the 13th of December.

Other events this term have been, our Year 6 Sports Day and Orientation Day, Year 10 work experience, Year 9 camp to the Gold Coast, our rewards excursions and a number of students representing the school in sport and cultural activities.

I must thank all our staff for the extra work they complete during this term in particular. The hours it takes to get exams marked and reports completed during this busy time of year on top of all the extra planning they are doing for 2018 while still completing their daily work is incredible.

I will recognise a few staff personally for the extra efforts they have put in throughout the term and year:

Our Year Advisers Andrew Sawatske, Ben Glachan, Lauren Goldie, Jeff Costa, Samson Underwood, Daniel Jonovski and Matt Pascoe (year 7 2018). For the outstanding work they do each day with their year groups.

- Joel Anderson, Ben Glachan and Lisa Ricketts for their efforts as sports organisers
- Joel Anderson, Lauren Goldie, Ben Glachan, Holly Buchanan, Luke Sharpe and Sam Underwood for the Sports Presentation Dinner.
- Jeff Costa for his efforts organising the Gold Coast excursion.
- Erin Manu for her organisation of the presentation evening.

- Susanne Thompson for her organisation of Year 10 work experience.
- Lesley Armstrong, Marrianna Darroch, June Lake, Kim Whealey, Ross Smith and Kylie Goolagong for their support of our Aboriginal Students throughout the year

### Farewell

To Robyn Rainsford who has worked at Gorokan High School for the past 20 years as an English Teacher and a Learning and Support Teacher. Robyn is retiring to spend more time with her family. We wish her well and thank her for all her work over the years.

To Maureen Jones who has also been a part of the Gorokan High School staff for over 20 years. Maureen's work in our front office was outstanding and she will be sorely missed.

### Reminder to students when travelling

A reminder to students when travelling to and from school on school or public buses to behave appropriately and always be respectful. When you are wearing our uniform you are representing our school.

### Planning for 2018

Please support our uniform shop. It caters for all our student needs, so when buying uniforms please see Leanne Bailey for your requirements.

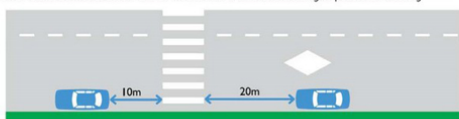
To our whole school community, have a great Christmas, a fantastic New Year and a safe and relaxing break.

**Sam Ricketts**  
**Principal**

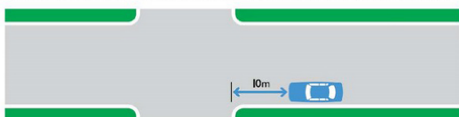
Parking rules are designed to stop vehicles from parking where it would be dangerous or inconvenient for others. Please consider the residents when parking in streets surrounding your school.

You must not stop your vehicle (that is, bring it to a stop and either stay with the vehicle or leave it parked) in the following circumstances:

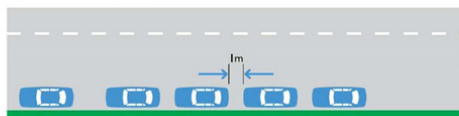
- ☒ Double parked (that is in the road alongside a car that is parked)
- ☒ Across a driveway or footpath
- ☒ On a median strip or traffic island
- ☒ On footpaths and nature strips
- ☒ On or within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a children's crossing or pedestrian crossing



- Within an intersection
- Within 10 metres of an intersecting road at an intersection without traffic lights unless signposted otherwise



- In Bus Stop, Bus Zone, Taxi Stand or Taxi Zone signed areas
- At least one (1) metre from any other parked vehicle, close as possible and parallel to the kerb, and facing the same direction as the traffic lane



- ☒ Within three (3) metres of any double centre lines
  - ☒ Within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a bus stop
- Adherence to signposting, line-marking and road rules around your school will assist in providing a safe environment for the school community and residents.

	<b>Term concludes</b>	
<b>Term 4</b>	Students commence	Monday 15th October 2018
<b>Thursday 18th October 2018 – HSC EXAMS BEGIN</b>		
	<b>Term concludes</b>	<b>Wednesday 19th December 2018</b>

<http://www.gorokan-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

<b>School Photos</b>	Year 7 Only – Thursday 1st February 2018 Year 8 & 9 – Friday 15th June 2018
<b>Expo Night</b>	Tuesday 22nd May 2018
<b>Sports Presentation Dinner</b>	Monday 26th November 2018
<b>Presentation Night</b>	Wednesday 12th December 2018
<b>Parent/Teacher Night</b>	Tuesday 31st July 2018 For all school events see School Website Calendar

## Year Advisors 2018

<b>Year 7</b>	Mr Matthew Pascoe	Science Staff Room
<b>Year 8</b>	Mr Daniel Jonovski	Maths Staffroom
<b>Year 9</b>	Miss Eve/Mr Samson Underwood	CAPA Staffroom/PDHPE Staffroom
<b>Year 10</b>	Mr Jeff Costa	HSIE Staffroom
<b>Year 11</b>	Mrs Lauren Goldie	LaST
<b>Year 12</b>	Mr Ben Glachan	PD/Health/PE Staffroom

<b>Term 1</b>	Years 7, 11 & 12 Years 8, 9 & 10 <b>Term concludes</b>	Tuesday 30th January 2018 Wednesday 31st January 2018 <b>Friday 13th April 2018</b>
<b>Term 2</b>	Students commence <b>Term concludes</b>	Tuesday 1st May 2018 <b>Friday 6th July 2018</b>
<b>Term 3</b>	Students commence	Tuesday 24th July 2018 <b>Friday 28th September 2018</b>

**Monday – Tuesday – Wednesday – Friday Thursday -  
Sport**

First Bell	8.20 am	First Bell	8.20 am
P 1	8.25 am – 9.30 am	P 1	8.25 am – 9.25 am
P 2	9.30 am – 10.30 am	P 2	9.25 am – 10.20 am
<b>Recess</b>	10.30 am – 10.50 am	<b>Recess</b>	10.20 am – 10.40 am
P 3	10.50 am – 11.50 am	P 3	10.40 am – 11.35 am
P 4	11.50 am – 12.50 am	Lunch 1 & 2	11.35 am – 12.15 pm
<b>Lunch 1 &amp; 2</b>	12.50 pm – 1.30 pm	<b>SPORT</b>	12.15 pm – 1.45 pm
P 5	1.30 pm – 2.30 pm		

**REMEMBER to call: 4393 7039 if your child will be absent from school**

## GOROKAN HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

**Term 4 – 2017 &  
Terms 1, 2, 3 & 4 - 2018**

Tuesdays 7.30 am – 9.00 am  
Thursdays 7.30 am – 9.00 pm

**January Trading – 2018**

Saturday 13th 9.00 am – 1.00 pm  
Saturday 27th 9.00 am – 1.00 pm



## Welfare News

### Pathways to Wellbeing at GHS

#### Year Advisor Reports – December 2017

##### Year 7

##### To my Year 7 Family,

We are nearing the end of our first year of high school, and what a year it has been. As individuals and within teams we have achieved excellent results in Sports, Academics, and the Arts, from athletics to musicals we have seen some great performances.

This term we held the parent information night for our Year 10 Excursion in 2020 to Central Australia. I thank all the families that attended on the night, and have since paid their deposits. I would just like to thank Jeff Costa, Samson Underwood, Erin Manu and Rebecca Dicks for their help and support of the night. I know it is 3 years away, but I am already looking forward to it.

Week 9 of this term, we are heading to Charlestown for Ice Skating and a movie to reward all the students who have shown exemplary commitment to the Gorokan High School core values of Respect, Personal Best, Empowerment and Cooperation. As a cohort, we had 110 students eligible to attend the excursion, which is an incredible effort.

To conclude the year we are holding the Annual Academic Presentation Night on Wednesday 13th December in the school hall. Invitations have gone out to all award recipients. If you are receiving an award, please make sure you RSVP, so we can confirm you will be attending. I look forward to seeing you all on the night and celebrating your achievements.



Signing off for 2017.

**Mr Daniel Jonovski**  
**Year 7 Advisor 2017**

##### Year 8

It has been an extremely busy and successful year for Year 8. At the beginning of 2017, our students were tasked with transitioning from Year 7 to Year 8. Students have had to adjust to the extra responsibility, added pressure and the increase in teacher expectation that Year 8 brings. They have had to do all this whilst juggling a commitment to their studies, making new friends and participating in a variety of extra-curricular activities. They have done so with excellence and diligence, achieving great success as they near the completion of Stage 4.

Many students have taken the opportunity to involve themselves in a variety of extra-curricular activities throughout the year. We have had students involved in: Musicals, Dance Groups, Didgeridoo Groups, Premier Sporting Challenges and a range of Gorokan High School representative sports. Students have been involved in leadership, personal development and social programs such as: Free to Be Me! Limited Gym Program and the newly formed Creating Chances Program, in which a number of our boys completed the RAW challenge.

Next year students will have the opportunity to tailor their education and future. Each student has selected two electives that they will study over the course of the next two years. This is the first opportunity for students to direct their learning and is a source of much excitement for our students.

We also have the once in a lifetime opportunity of the Central Australia Trip for Year 10 in 2019. There is still room available and students are reminded to get their deposit and permission notes in as soon as possible.

It has been a fantastic effort from all students in the Year 8 cohort. Many students have achieved great success throughout the year, which is a direct result of their hard work, commitment and dedication. Students should be commended for their efforts and should be proud of the young adolescents they are today. Students now transition into the next phase of their education and continue their development into young adults.

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed my role as Year Advisor since taking over from Mrs Eve who has been away on Maternity Leave. It has been a pleasure to get to know and work with the enthusiastic, creative, funny and talented bunch of students in Year 8. 2017 has been a sensational year and I am very much looking forward to 2018 and the success I'm sure it will bring.

Warm regards,

**Samson Underwood**  
**Year 8 Advisor**

##### Year 9

##### Hello Year 9

Wow! What a year so far. We are currently on the Year 9 Gold Coast excursion and having an absolute blast. Our next big adventure (the biggest adventure) will be the Central Australia

excursion next year. A quick reminder to all students attending the excursion to continue making their payments. The organisation is right on track, and I am very much looking forward to it. I would also like to take this time to thank Carla Drummond for filling in for me as Year 9 Advisor in my absence.

Lastly, the Annual Academic Presentation Night is taking place on Wednesday 13th December in the Gorokan High School Hall. Invitation letters have been sent to all award recipients, please RSVP so we know if you will be attending. I look forward to celebrating all your achievements on the night.

Thank you for such an amazing 2017, and I look forward to an even better 2018.

**Jeff Costa**  
**Year 9 Advisor 2017**

## Year 10

What a great year it has been with year 10! Relationships have been built, friendships have been made and memories that will last a life time. Whilst we still have a few weeks left of school and some events that Year 10 can attend include; the rewards excursion to the movies on the 12th December and the Academic Presentation on the 13th December.

As it is getting closer to the end of your junior schooling years and the blue uniform, senior jumpers for YR 11 and 12 are now available for sizing. A \$20 deposit can be made at the front office with the remainder to be paid in the New Year.

Next year will see the year group venture to the snow, elect new school captains for 2019 and the beginning of the HSC.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and look forward to what the New Year will bring with this wonderful group of students.

Thanks

**Lauren Goldie**  
**Year 10 Advisor**

## Year 11

**Year 12 has begun!** All students are aware of expectations and are putting in the hard yards to set themselves up for the rest of Year 12.

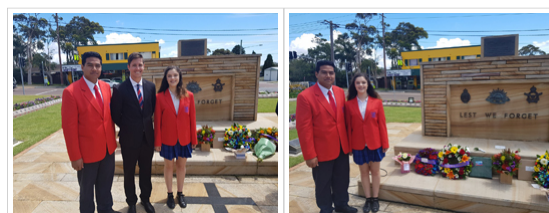
School leadership positions have been announced with Jacqui Chapman and Liutu Gasologa elected as the 2017/18 School Captains, Jacquelyn Chandler and Connor Massey (Vice Captains), Makayla Short and Jacob Kidd (Student Representative Council Executive) and Hannah Fitzgerald, Georgi Mauger, Jack Hands and Jye Thirley as part of the Year Advisor Leadership group. All students completed the process of- handing in an "Expression of Interest", participating in an interview and doing speeches in front of staff and students- in an outstanding manner and should be proud of themselves. We commend them for their efforts. All leaders had the opportunity to attend the National Young Leaders Conference in Sydney on the 30th October. All that went had a fantastic day.

The two school captains accompanied by myself attended the Toukley RSL Remembrance Day Service on November 11 and laid a wreath on behalf of the school. A very proud moment for the students and the school.

With Year 12 well and truly up and running all students are working hard until a well deserved Christmas break. I would like to take a moment to congratulate all students on continuing to grow and develop as senior students. The Year 12 cohort are a great bunch of role models for our younger years and must continue to exemplify the GHS core 4 at all times. This includes wearing school uniform.

That's it from me.

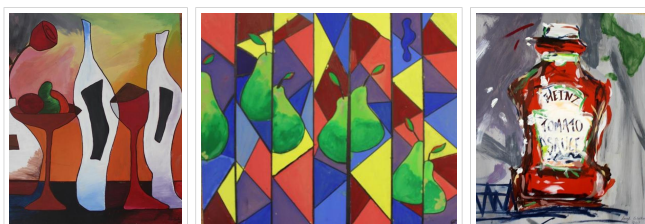
**Benjamyn Glachan**  
**Year 12 Advisor**



## CAPA News

### Still Life to Abstraction

Year 9 Visual Arts students recently held an exhibition of their abstract works in the school library. As the students developed their skills in 'Still Life to Abstraction', they explored multiple perspectives through light, shadow and everyday objects. Students experimented using different paints such as gauche and acrylics. Some of the students even gave up their lunch times to work on this task. The Year 9 Visual Arts class would like to thank Ms Pryor for all her time and effort to push her students to great heights.



**Brie-Anna Sharp**  
**Relieving Head Teacher CAPA**

## Technological & Applied Studies News

### TECHNOLOGY IN FOCUS:

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

**TAS**  
**Time**

### Design & Technology

The stage 5 FAB class has been busy designing and making mirror mosaics. The art of piecing mosaics is interesting and

creative. The students build upon very practical skills including cementing ceramics and grouting. Look at the students' projects you would think you should find them in a homewares store.



## Child Studies

Year 12 Child Studies have been studying "Starting School" unit of work, culminating in an earlier visit to Toukley and Gorokan Public Schools where they assisted the kindergarten teacher for the day. They all enjoyed their kindergarten teacher for a day experience. Some of their quotes included:

"doing different activities with the kindies was great."

"Helping the "kinders" do their set work was the best part for me!"

"to experience itself, as this is what I want as my career!"

Pigs were the theme. It was great fun making them.



## Stage 5 Engineering: Fast cars and bubble machines

This term stage 5 engineering students were involved in engineering designing and constructing;

Fast cars: Designing the timber plug and vacuum forming a car body. A chassis was then developed and the running gear assembled to suit. The students found it great fun at the end where they raced them doing skids and donuts and burnouts on the floor.



Bubble Blower: Some very handy engineering design and construction brought this idea to solution. The students made an automated assembly producing bubbles that blew into the

air. There was a degree of tinkering throughout the process just to 'get it right'.



## CLC

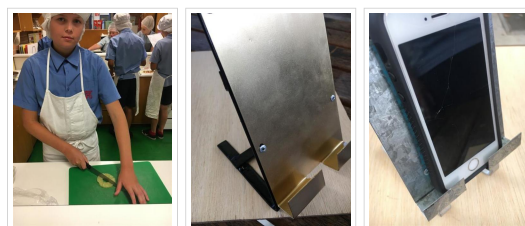
### Halloween Night!

This year the CLC's have been studying festivals. It culminated around Halloween time to look at the festival that brings together people for fun and social events. The students had great fun making their masks and showing them off.



## Year 8 Design and Technology

As the year 8 program draws to a close, we can reflect on the variety of skills the course has provided our students. These will be important for them to use in their following school years and at home in real life. The students completing the metals course experienced the tools and equipment in a metalwork workshop. They designed and produced the metal mobile holder which is a very sought after commodity for home. Processes of marking out, cutting, shaping and pop riveting were all special functions chosen in its development. The students also completed the technologies involving food and textiles. They experienced the importance of weighing ingredients and following a menu. They realised the importance of following a plan. All were built around the design process.



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

**Mr Russell Trimmer**  
**Head Teacher TAS**

by Mr T.

## Does your phone ever slow down?

It happens every year: Apple releases new iPhones and many of my students complain about their older iPhones slowing to a crawl. When Apple made the iPhone 8 available, followed by the iPhone X — Google searches for the keywords “iPhone slow” jumped about 50 percent.



The phenomenon of perceived slowdowns is so widespread that my students believed tech companies were intentionally crippling smartphones and computers to ensure that people buy new ones every few years. Conspiracy theorists call it planned obsolescence. Planning obsolescence will make a product redundant at any time.

That’s a myth. While slowdowns happen, that reason is a software upgrade. Your children may tell you, however, they may need the latest phone anyway.

## Sport News

### Gorokan High School Sports Presentation Dinner - 2017

The Annual Sport Presentation Dinner was held at Wyong Leagues Club on Monday the 20th of November and was an extremely successful evening. Over 230 students, staff and local community members attended the event which recognised the sporting achievements of Gorokan High School students throughout 2017. It was great to see so many people supporting our students and the community.

A big thanks to all of our sponsors that provided funding and prizes as well as giving up their time to present awards and contribute to the overall success of the night. These include Charmy Indoor Sports, Sinalli Sportswear, Wyong Rugby League Club, Butts Jewellers, Beachin Surf, Muscle Bros, Metro Cinemas, Engine Sportswear, SLAM Factory, Millenium Health Club, and the P&C.

A special mention to our Guest of Honour; Australian Wallaroo and member of the Defence Force “Mollie Gray”. Mollie was able to share some of her experiences and provide the audience with valuable tips and strategies to achieve goals, build strength of character and resilience through sport and real life contexts.

Congratulations to all sport award winners, it was great to see so many talented athletes at Gorokan High School. The Sports Committee look forward to 2018 and another year of sporting achievements.

## The Major Award Winners

### P & C Award

Jeremy Gonzales

### Personal Best Award

Ethan Barrett

### Major Outside of School Achievement Award

Caitlin Montgomery

### All Rounder Award

Hannah Fitzgerald

### Contribution to Sport Award

**Junior Girl** - Matilda Taylor

**Junior Boy** - Harry Wetherall

**Senior Girl** - Hannah Fitzgerald

**Senior Boy** - Michael Farrell

### Team of the Year Award

U/16's Boys NRL 9's

U/16's Girls NRL 9's

### Staff Contribution to Sport Award

Mrs Emily Hennessey

### Sport Organiser Award

Krystyne Brown

### Aboriginal Sports Person of the Year

**Female** - Tia Duncan

**Male** - Caleb Pora

### Sports Person of the Year

**Junior Girl** - Caitlin Montgomery

**Junior Boy** - Mason Stottelaar

**Senior Girl** - Chailend Malinowski

**Senior Boy** - James Farrell



Any award recipients who were unable to attend the evening, please visit the PE Staffroom to pick up your awards.

**Joel Anderson**

**Sport Co-Ordinator**

### Career Research Opportunity

I am Natali Mebrek, and when I leave school after year 12, I would like to pursue a career in Medicine

### My Experience

I am in year 10 and was accepted into the 5 day Rural Summer School for Medicine program which ran at the University of New England (UNE), Armidale.

The program was fully subsidised. This program allowed me to understand, be aware and help me decide the path I want to follow.

During the week I got to live like I was a student studying at UNE. Each day we were able to go to the gym to learn a balance between school and social activities. I went to the anatomy labs and learnt all about anatomy and there were several lectures and panels we attended, where we heard from students, practitioners and staff.

I also learnt useful skills such as stitching using a suture, what happens in an emergency, what you can do in an emergency if it is in the hospital or the street.

We also did group activities where I met many people and made friends with many others who were selected to be part of the program. The Summer School was a wonderful experience and I would be happy to participate in similar programs again.

### The Application Process

I found out about this opportunity through the Jobjump website which our school subscribes to and the Careers Adviser, Ms Thompson, had conducted a session early in first term, with each Year 10 class on how to access and use the website.

When I registered on Jobjump I selected all the careers I found interesting. Each time there is a program or event, related to one of those careers, I receive an email from Jobjump. When I received the email about the Rural Scholar's Summer School, I took the information to my Careers Adviser.

The application form was easy to fill out. I had to answer a few questions and have a reference written by a Teacher or Careers Adviser. My reference was provided by Dr Rudmann, our current Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) teacher.

After I submitted my reference and application, it took about a week for a response announcing my acceptance into the program, which had paperwork attached to acknowledge my acceptance and I had to return it to the organiser.

After this, it was organised that my absence from school on those 5 days would be marked as me being on school business, because I was doing a program that would help me with my career in the future

## Career Activities at Gorokan in Term 4

### 2018 School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships:

Our SBAT Coordinator, Ms Jacobs, has been busy assisting Year 10 students with applications for positions in 2018. At Gosford Hospital, Imogen Gentle, Arki Hudson Webb and Tenika Whitton will be participating in Administration Traineeships and Niesha Deane, Aidan Fowler and Zoe Johnson will be studying Nursing Traineeships.

### These three other students have also obtained SBATS:

Miya Hudson Webb has signed up to do a Business Traineeship with the Commonwealth Bank and Cain Allard has secured a Furnishing Apprenticeship in Tuggerah.

Congratulations to all these students who will continue their studies at school whilst at the same time starting their careers.

### University of Newcastle "Schools Visit Day"

In November, while I attended the Ourimbah Campus Careers Advisers Workshop Day, Mr Penfold accompanied a group of Year 12 students who did a campus tour and experienced a day at University. The students registered online and set up a 'timetable' for themselves for the day, to find out more about some of the Courses they may be interested in studying in 2019.

### Year 10 Work Experience Program.

Year 10 students are currently participating in 2 weeks of Work Experience. Most of the 130 students found places with local businesses, which included a broad range of industries such as the arts, automotive, construction, animal care, fitness, allied health, engineering, childcare, teaching and many more.

It is a great opportunity to find out more about the careers they are considering for the future, what the job involves, the skills they will develop and the training and education pathways they can follow to take up these careers.

Our sincere thanks go to all the local businesses who willingly took students over the two weeks and introduced them to the jobs that they themselves are passionate about.

Wishing all our families a happy and safe 2017 Festive Season.

**Susanne Thompson**  
**Careers Adviser.**

## Library News

### The Library Chargebar

The library has installed a Chargebar for students to recharge their devices. Chargebars are now very popular in the wider community and can be found at universities, cafes and airports.

Classroom teachers are often inundated with requests from students to charge devices in the classroom and often power points in many of our rooms are already in high demand.

Students will be able to use the Library Chargebar before school, recess and lunch. We have power points and USB

ports. Students will need to bring their own charging cable and stay with their device as it is charging.



## SSS – Supported Senior Study

2.30pm – 4.15pm in the Library each Monday and Wednesday.

The Supported Senior Study is a quiet place for seniors to come and concentrate on their schoolwork. Classroom teachers give their time to supervise seniors after school Monday and Wednesday each week of the school term. Seniors have access to computers as well as other resources and can enjoy a light afternoon tea as they study.

## 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 and 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 into for future use.

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

See library staff for LOG-IN and PASSWORD

**Samantha Powell**  
**Teacher Librarian**

## Student Council News

It has been a very busy Term for our GHS Student Council. They have welcomed on board lots of new members and a new support teacher, Mrs Wallwork. They are thrilled to have her helping-out.

The Student Council set off early Term 4 for their Annual Conference. They had a busy 2 days on camp at Morisset, building teamwork skills and planning for 2018. They made amendments to their constitution, participated in planning sessions for assemblies and environmental projects, worked together in a "survivor" challenge, scaled the challenge ropes course, flew the flying fox and conducted their elections. We are proud to announce the 2018 leadership team:

**School Captains-** Jacqui Chapman & Liutu Gasologa  
**Vice Captains-** Jacqui Chandler & Connor Massey

**Student Council Executive-** Makayla Short & Jacob Kidd  
**Senior Student Council Presidents-** Georgi Mauger & Hannah Fitzgerald  
**Junior Student Council Presidents-** Sarah Walker & Declan Gray  
**Treasurer-** Braydon Smith  
**Secretary-** Amelia Carty  
**Publicity Officers-** Jacinta-Rose Burley & Riley Felton

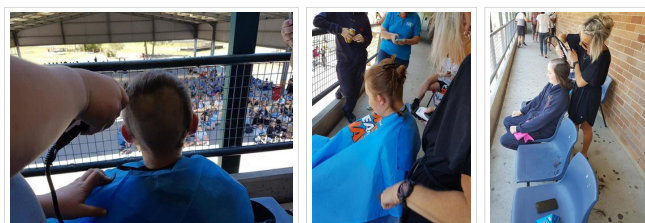
It was a fantastic 2 days and the students made the most of the experience. We welcome Mrs Wallwork to the Student Council Team and look forward to a very productive 2018.



Mid-Term saw the last of our Student Voice meetings. The meeting was hosted by Henry Kendall High School. Sarah, Declan, Jacinta and Riley got busy planning some projects for 2018. Such a fantastic opportunity to have a day of networking with other young leaders from Central Coast Schools.



The end of Term has seen one last huge fundraising push. On Friday the 24th of November "Team Gorokan High School" participated in the World's Greatest Shave. Our School Captain Jacqui Chapman & Student Council President, Georgi Mauger lead the way. They rallied peers and staff to join them in raising funds through donation or signing up to shave. In just three short weeks they managed to raise over \$3800. What an awesome effort.



**Erin Osborne**  
**SRC**

## Gifted and Talented Unit

Where did this year go? It is incredible that we are at the end of the year.



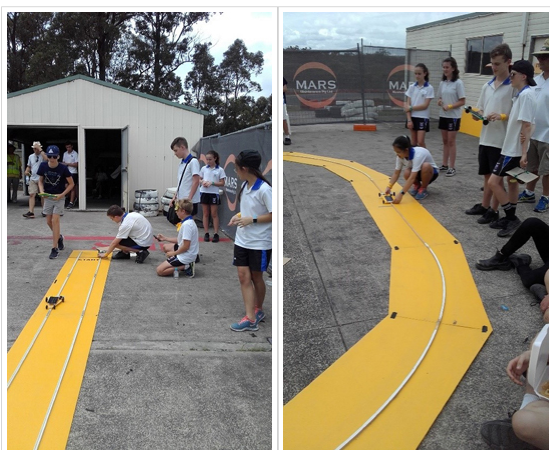
The GHS Academic Olympics for Stage 4 (year 7 and 8) will happen Tuesday 12th of December. The academic competition has been very successful for the past 6 years and continues to grow in strength. This extracurricular activity allows students to have fun, develop social skills and improve in their problem solving strategies while working in teams. Results for the Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be published in our web page and next year's first newsletter.

The ICAS competitions dates and cost for Mathematics, English, Science, Writing and Digital technologies are listed below. Despite the dates are being spread across the first semester, the University wants the final numbers of students by the end of term 1. Therefore, payments must be made promptly, please. The competitions are compulsory for year 7C, 7P, 8C and 8P classes. Students enrolled in these classes will be invoiced. Students in other classes will receive a note at the beginning of Term 1. Please, pay the fee as your earliest convenience, the last day to receive payments will be 10th of March. The UNSW is very strict with this.

Test	Sitting date	Cost
Digital Technologies	8th May	\$ 9.00
Science	29th May	\$ 9.00
Writing	14th June	\$19.00
English	31st July	\$ 9.00
Mathematics	14th August	\$ 9.00

Check the GHS web page gifted and talented section regularly. It is updated often with information for parents and students.

On the 29th November, 8 students from 7P participated in the Mini EV solar challenge at Newcastle. Their team effort, positive attitude, enthusiasm and excellent problem solving techniques paid off when they received second and third prizes! Congratulations! Your behaviour was excellent during the day, it was a pleasure to be your supporting teachers.



Our winners Renee Sakey, Abi Smith and Cameryn Smith (Left picture) & Seth Drysdale, Luke Vincent, Arnatt Cantwell, Cameron Cheney & Toby Dowdell

Finally, the GATS Unit wants to congratulate all our students who have achieved their personal best this year and received special awards and mention in our presentation night. Keep up the great attitude towards your learning for 2018.

**Have a wonderful holiday!**

**Silvia Rudman**  
**GATS Co-ordinator**

## Support Unit News

### Special Education

As we come to the end of another busy year, I'd like to begin by acknowledging the classroom teachers and SLSO's in the Special Education Unit. They have worked tirelessly throughout the year and have made a significant contribution to your child's on-going success. Special mention to Mr Brendan Quigg, who next year takes up a full time position at Lake Munmorah High School. Mr Quigg's work and commitment in the Special Education Faculty over the past year has been tremendously appreciated and he will be truly missed.

In the classroom, students have been engaging in a number of community access visits in recent weeks. Students have visited Tuggerah, The Entrance, Buff Point, Noah Head as well as regular visits to the town library and also visits to shopping centres for our cooking program. The valuable life skills learnt on these trips include how to travel on buses, exchange of money and safety in the community. All skills aim to set students up for the future, when they leave Gorokan High School to access in NDIS and other post school educational providers. In addition to community access programs, students have been working on probability in Mathematics, Film Studies, English and regular cooking programs. Once again these programs only occur through the hard work of staff and active student participation.

Finally, I'd like to congratulate all the students in the Special Education Unit for their work this year. We have seen some outstanding assignments, classwork and massive growth in personal development. Furthermore, special congratulations to our Participation and Leadership Award winners Corey Higginson, Brett Burling and Luke Badley, while our Sports

Award went to Ethan Barrett. These four young men have applied themselves throughout the year and shown continued improvement. Well done to all!

**Jon Glasson**  
**HT Special education**

## Aboriginal Education News

Last week a group of Aboriginal students represented our school at the STEAM Camp in the Royal National Park in Sydney. The students were lucky enough to learn from Doctors, Professors and Artists and community members to develop their understanding of Science, Technology, Engineering the Arts and Mathematics.



*Reegan Peterson at the Royal National Park Aboriginal Music Workshop*



*Arki and Miya Webb at the NSW Art Gallery*

**Lesley Armstrong**  
**Aboriginal Education Officer**

## Community Information

Safety learning program



### The Great Benefits of the School Bus

Have you considered looking into using the school bus service as a way of getting to and from school? Here's some information you may not have known that will help you make up your mind.

Kids catching the bus instead of parents driving them to school has so many benefits, mainly it can help by reducing the congestion that increases unsafe behaviours.

Did you know that bus travel is the safest form of land travel in Australia?

Did you know that school children between the ages of 5 and 16 years, travelling to and from school, are substantially safer travelling by bus than other modes of transport?

Did you know that studies run by the Institute of Transport and Logistical studies, University of Sydney show that travelling by bus is 4.4 times safer than walking, 55 times safer than riding a bike and 138 times safer than being driven to school?

Did you know that until the end of Year 2 bus passes are free for all students?

Did you know that if you live over 1.6km (most direct route) from the school, you can get a free bus pass?

Did you know that it only costs approx \$1/per day (\$52/term) to get a bus pass?

Other benefits of catching the bus to and from school include:

- Reducing traffic around the school, thus increasing safety for all our kids
- Reducing environmental damage from running your car
- Not having to get to school 1/2 hour early to get a parking space
- Promoting and encouraging safe independence with our children
- Drop off right outside the school gate (or closer to the school gate then you can get dropping your child safely with your car)
- Extra 'me' time for busy mums.

Talk to your school office or local bus company about bus routes for your school and getting a bus pass.



## Street by Street

— BRINGING NEIGHBOURS TOGETHER —



## Blue Datto Foundation

Did you know that Blue Datto can help comply with your curriculum's road safety obligations?



Blue Datto is a registered charity operating in NSW. Our mission is to change the culture of young drivers and save lives by altering attitudes and behaviours. We do this by providing an industry-leading education program (Keeping Safe™) to year 10 and 11 students and initiating road safety conversations with young Australians, their families and their wider community.

Blue Datto was established by the Vassallo family following the death of 17-year-old Philip Vassallo in a crash in which both drivers were red 'P' platers. Phil, 'the kid in the Blue Datto', was a much-loved teenager who brought happiness to everyone who knew him.

The Keeping Safe™ Program has been developed by Australian Road Safety Experts. The Program is an interactive analysis of travel safety risks and examines the influence of family, friends and the social environment on the choices they make. Keeping Safe's™ overall aim is to teach safe behaviours, encourage self-belief and empower young people to make better choices on the roads as drivers and passengers.

Each Keeping Safe program features a combination of whole group presentations and breakout sessions led by our Facilitators. The smaller sessions are led by trained Peer Mentors, usually University students, who have credibility as role models and relate easily and openly with the students.

To find out more visit our website - to make a booking you can fill in a booking sheet on-line, realizing it is the end of Term 4 however we can organise the booking for Term 1, 2018.

<http://bluedatto.org.au/>







Janet Walker  
2017











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Hunter Valley  
*Electric*

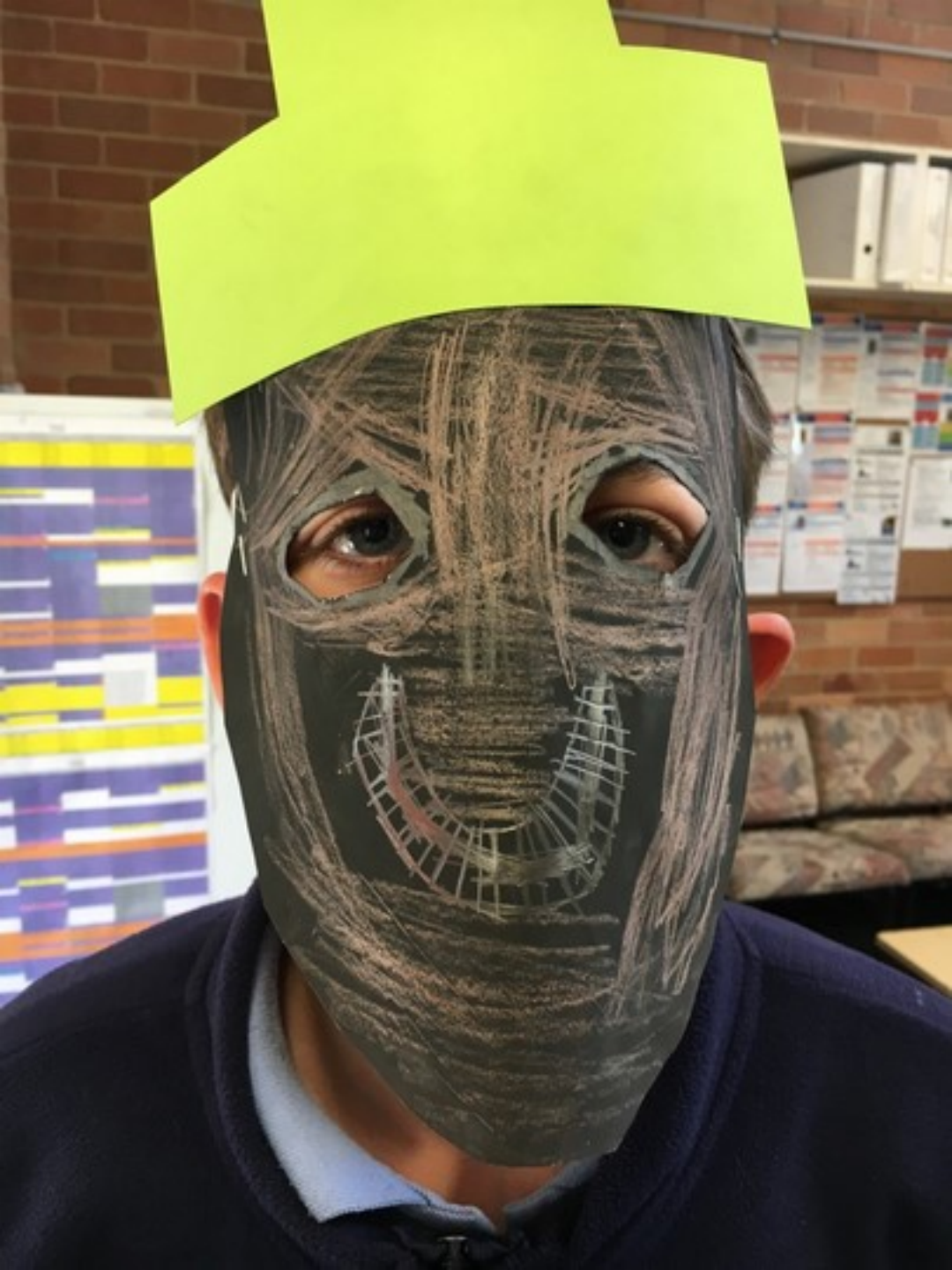
Hunter Valley  
*Electric*



2

Valley  
*Electric Vehicle*  
Festival







# HENRY KENDALL HIGH SCHOOL



YEAR 11 & 12  
SUPPORTED SENIOR  
STUDY AFTERNOONS  
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

WHEN: 2:30PM - 4:15PM  
WHERE: LIBRARY, DOWNSTAIRS

FREE HOT CHOCOLATE,  
FREE BISCUITS, FREE CHIPS!

RECHARGE HERE @ THE CHARGEBAR

RECHARGE HERE @ THE CHARGEBAR





ORDER OF  
WASHING  
UP  
1. WASHING UP  
2. DRYING UP  
3. PUTTING AWAY

2





















# All Rounder Awards

Thirteen Sports;

- Jacquelyn Chandler





# Mollie Gray





2017 SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR  
NOMINEES

Open Girls Cricket Team

Head Coach: Mr. [Name]  
Players: [List of names]





















