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20 June 2017

Principal's Report

What a great Term 2 2017. 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.

Our school Musical 'Rock around the Block' was a huge success with students represented from year 7 through to 12. Everyone who saw the show was full of praise for our talented students and dedicated staff who worked tirelessly to put it on.

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

Staffing

Congratulations to Mr Chris Bulgin who was successful with his application to become a permanent teacher in the Mathematics Faculty at Gorokan High School.

Congratulations and good luck to Miss Megan Hawkins who was successful with her application to become a permanent teacher at Wadalba Community School. Thank you to Megan who has worked here at GHS for the past 5 years. Our loss is certainly Wadalba's gain.

Semester 1 Reports and Parent Teacher Night

Junior Semester 1 reports will be posted home over the next couple of weeks with parent teacher night being held on Tuesday 25th July in the school hall and gymnasium. Bookings can be made online through the parent portal system.

New Administration Building and Carpark Access

Exciting news that our new Administration building is set for handover at the end of this term. The building will be 'home' for the Senior Executive, Head Teacher Administration and many of our School Administration staff. The building has many meeting rooms and saves our community from having to walk through the school to access the office.

The staff carpark will have gates for staff and school deliveries only. Parents are to drop off and pick up their children on Goobarabah Avenue during morning and afternoon peak times. At non-peak times, 9.30 am – 2.30 pm parents are able to park at the top of the bus road to conduct business at the school.

All student entry and exit at the front of the school will be through the gate near the new building. The pedestrian gate near the carpark will be closed.

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, 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.

Thank you and Farewell

To our amazing and dedicated canteen staff. Terry Lambert, our Canteen Manager is retiring at the end of this term after 34 years of service. Terry and her team have done a magnificent job of keeping our students and staff nourished over the years. We will miss your friendly faces each morning. I would also like to acknowledge Joyce Brown for her 36 Years of voluntary service, Vicki Murrell for her 27 years and Margaret Durrant for her 16 years of voluntary work serving our community. Thank you also to Kevin Lambert who came out of retirement 8 years ago to lend a hand in the canteen becoming the Financial Manager.

The canteen will now be managed by ‘Total Canteen Solutions’ a company that runs many school canteens across NSW. We look forward to working with them from day 1 Term 3.

Staff thanks

Thank you to our amazing staff who are committed to giving our students not only the best education possible but a memorable school experience. The number of extra-curricular opportunities offered by our school are many, none of which are possible without a dedicated and enthusiastic staff.

Sam Ricketts
(Principal)

Maths News

Year 5 & 6 Literacy and Numeracy Day

On Friday of week 6, Gorokan High held a Literacy and Numeracy Day for students from Gorokan Public School and Toukley Public School. Students from the primary schools came to participate in a range of hands-on and engaging activities that aimed to increase their skills in literacy and

numeracy, while getting some high school experience. At lunch the students enjoyed a BBQ together and then finished the day with games and sport. **A good day was had by all!**

Thanks to the English, Maths, TAS and PDHPE faculties for their support of this day!



Mr L Butt & Mr P Bulgin

Library News

Term 2 2017 has been another busy term and the heaters are on!

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 this term are Kamisama Kiss, Big Nate and Tokyo Ghoul.

Borrowing

Years 7 – 10 may borrow 2 fiction and 2 nonfiction books.

Years 11 – 12 may borrow 6 fiction and 6 nonfiction books plus textbooks that are required for course work.

Most books may be borrowed for 2 weeks and can be renewed if required. Books may be returned between 8:00am 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 or misplaced, please let us know so we can inform your student of the price and arrange for payment at the front office.

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.

GO TO:

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

See library staff for LOG-IN and PASSWORD.

Other Services

PRINTING – Printing for assignments 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.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB – Brochures are available near the Circulation Desk.

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



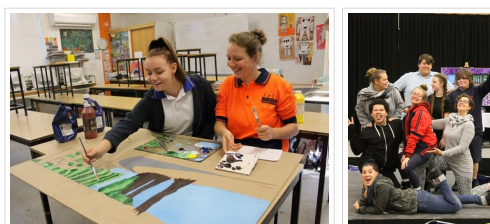
CAPA News

The CAPA students of Gorokan High have been working extremely hard this semester to bring to the community **'Rock Around the Block' – a fifties Musical**.

The first Musical Gorokan has seen for over thirty years. The dedication of our students and support from their families has resulted in a production which Mr Ricketts thought was "absolutely outstanding."

All the CAPA staff have commented on how it was wonderful to work with so many students who are often not at the forefront when representing the school. Mr Ricketts also spoke about how he "would never have picked some of these students as performers and to see them in their element was fantastic".

Of particular mention should be the support each cast member gave one another when faced with the physical and mental demands a live production can place on an individual. This show has proven Gorokan's CAPA cohort is back, developing and strengthening our school community one artistic note, line and visual element at a time.



**Julia Harvey-Trappell
Head Teacher CAPA**

**& Brie-Anna Sharp
English/Drama Teacher**

Support Unit News

Travel Training Ms Goldie and Ms Cabique

We recently took our students to Wyong by bus and then train to Tuggerah. Visiting The OASIS Centre and Breakthru respectively. They found the day to be productive allowing all students further access to community facilities.

Many of our seniors will be attending Breakthru each Monday from 24th July and one year 12 student to Job Centre Australia on a volunteering basis to obtain further work and life experience.

We are very proud of their maturity and interest in their next adventure.



Careers News

Term 2 has been extremely busy for the Careers Department.

I have continued to help students with writing Resumes and Cover Letters when they want to apply for Apprenticeships and casual work.

Students must first complete a hand written draft on the scaffold that I give them and then bring their own USB on which to save their documents.

As part of the process I teach them how to professionally layout their applications and how to update them in the future.

The Subject Expo Night

This was held for year 8 and year 10 students and their parents, on 16th May and was once again very well attended. It was a very successful school community function.

Thanks must go to Helene Jacobs, who co-ordinated the night and to all the staff for their efforts in setting up the hall, preparing the displays and information leaflets as well as making themselves available to speak with students and parents on the night.

We also appreciate that representatives from the University of Newcastle, TAFE, State Training, Youth Connections and Central Coast Group Training were able to attend.

This night has been followed by Senior Subject Selection Interviews, for year 10 students and their parents. The interviews are being conducted by the Careers Adviser, Head Teacher Vocational Education and the Deputy, in conjunction with the Aboriginal Education Officer and our relevant support staff.

Year 8 will be given their Elective subject forms this week, and Year 10 will be given theirs on 23rd June.

The Central Coast Careers Expo

This is being held at Cooranbong on Tuesday 27th June. Permission slips have been issued for this excursion, to year 10 and year 12 students.

This is an excellent opportunity to speak to people from all areas of Tertiary education and industries, such as health, construction, hair and beauty, just to name a few.

The cost is \$7 and all money is to be paid at the school office **NOW** so numbers can be finalised for the busses.

U Need Information Session for Year 12 students

This took place on the 4th June and Year 12 students and their parents were invited to attend the night. I presented the session and was supported on the night by the Deputy for the Senior Students, Mrs Grant who spoke to the attendees and the Head Teacher Vocational Education, Ms Jacobs, who assisted with the Powerpoint presentation.

A highlight of the night was the participation of three past students, Madison Gallway, Emily Gibson and Ethan Kent who shared their personal experiences of their pathways into University. Many thanks to them as their contributions were very much appreciated by everyone.

Whitecard Courses

Next term on the 23rd August there is another Workplace Health and Safety Whitecard Construction Induction Course being held. This course is compulsory for all Year 10 students who want to do Work Experience in the Construction Industry.

RSA and RCG courses have been booked for Year 12 to do after their Trial HSC Exams. To secure a place in these courses the fees are to be paid by the end of Term 2.

YEAR 10 Work Experience Program in Term 4

I will be sending a letter home at the beginning of Term 3 explaining how this is organised and the dates for this year. Students should start thinking now about where they would like to do their Work Experience.

I will book in a talk with each class early next term to explain the process and answer any questions they may have.

Susanne Thompson
Careers Adviser

SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME



School Student Travel

Students travelling on public transport may be eligible for free travel between home and school under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS). For more details or to apply for the School Opal card please visit www.transportnsw.info/school-students or call 131 500.

Students travelling on school or public buses must have a valid ticket for every trip. Ticketing options include School, Child or Youth Opal cards; otherwise a cash fare (from \$1.30) must be purchased. Opal cards must be tapped on and off for every trip.

If your School Opal card shows an error when you tap on or off, you need to contact the Opal helpline on 131 500. Common School Opal card error codes include:

- 53 – invalid card
- 65 – card is not valid on Coastal Liner services
- 70, 72 or 73 – not valid for travel at current time or day



Visit transportnsw.info/school-students



Community News



ACTIVE HOLIDAY ADVENTURES

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM WINTER 2017

New friendships Fun
 Great value Safe

Bookings for our Winter school holiday program are now open! There are heaps of active holiday adventures to choose from around NSW. Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands.

Residential programs for Winter 2017

FOR KIDS:

- Adventurer
- Cooking 4 Kids
- Hook, Line & Sinker

FOR TEENS:

- Adrenalin Rush
- Adventurer
- Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Journey
- Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Journey

Don't want the kids to have all the fun? We also offer a Weekend Family Snow Sports Camp at Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre!

Also, check our website on 1 June for a range of day programs in your local area.



sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/schoolholidays | 13 13 02
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