



GOROKAN HIGH SCHOOL

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10 September 2018

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 3 students competing in the NSW Combined High Schools Athletics Championships and Caitlin Montgomery placing 4th at the Australian Swimming Championships.

Term 4 will see us welcome two new staff. Miss Elysia Hickey from Narrabeen Sports High School and Ms Carla Drummond both join the HSIE faculty.

Department of Education Behaviour Code for Students

I have once again attached to my report this Term the Department of Education's 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 8.25am. Students are expected to be in roll call at this time. Students arriving after this time require a note from home indicating the reason for their partial absence. If students do not have a note they are required to complete a consequence for the lateness.

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

Uniform

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

Cyber / Mobile device Safety

Students and parents are reminded that information, pictures and videos they post on the internet, send via text message or on apps such as '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.

Congratulations and Farewell

To Mr Russell Trimmer our Head Teacher Technology and Applied Science. Mr Trimmer is going on leave at the end of this term with a view of retiring early 2019. Mr Trimmer has been at Gorokan High School for 8 years and given 30 years to Public Education. He has been an inspiration to many staff and students in the TAS area and oversaw the important job of bringing the Home Economics and Industrial Arts Faculties together when he started at Gorokan High School. We thank Mr Trimmer for his service at GHS and we wish him all the very best for his retirement years.

Congratulations also to Mrs Raegan Travica who has been successful in gaining a transfer to Henry Kendell High School to start next term. Mrs Travica has been an outstanding member of staff over the 8 years she has been at Gorokan High School. Her caring nature and work ethic has seen her a favourite amongst students and her senior students excel in their HSC courses. Thank you Raegan, we will miss you!

Thank you

Once again to our staff who are always going above and beyond to support our students and their interests both in the classroom and with extra-curricular activities. The extra-curricular opportunities our students get would not be possible without the support of all our teachers.

Sam Ricketts
Principal



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 school students are expected to:

- Respect other students, their teachers and school staff and community members
- Follow school and class rules and follow the direction 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.

WELFARE News

Pathways to Wellbeing at Gorokan High School

Year Advisor Reports

Year 7

How time flies! Term 3 is coming to a close and so is the first year of high school for Year 7 students. Term 3 has seen a slow down for all Year 7 students after the craziness of Term 2 and our visit to the Great Aussie Bush Camp. This term has seen students knuckle down with their studies in preparation for their final Year 7 exams next term. Students



have been hard at work in all classes continually producing quality work and exceeding all expectations academically, socially and behaviourally. However, this isn't to say that there hasn't been a lot going on for the year group, with changes to some Core classes, all Design and Technology classes, Thursday Afternoon Sport groups and various Wellbeing programs such as "Ready, Fire, Aim" and "Free to be me".

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all Year 7 students and their families about the importance of wearing school uniform. Uniform helps to create a sense of belonging and provide an avenue to show respect and pride for their school community. Far from suppressing individuality, the wearing of a school uniform provides opportunities for students to express their unique identity in creative ways. To help foster students' pride in their school and appearance, the Year 7 uniform challenge will once again be running this term. After being hotly contested in Term 2, I am looking forward to seeing which class will come out on top this time.

On the topic of rewards, this term will also see students in Year 7 be eligible for their first High School rewards day. Students that consistently demonstrate that they exhibit the four core values of Gorokan High School, **Respect, Co-operation, Personal Best and Empowerment**, will be eligible to attend the rewards excursion. Details of this event will be soon to follow.

Thank you once again for a wonderful term Year 7. As always, it is a privilege and an honour to be Year Advisor to such an amazing cohort. Well done on your efforts this year, however do not rest on your laurels and always believe that you can improve. Remember:

"Believe in yourself. You are braver than you think, more talented than you know, and capable of more than you could imagine."

- Roy T. Bennett

Mr Matt Pascoe

Year 8

Hello All,

Year 8 is in full swing for Semester 2, 2018. Most students have handed in their elective form notes for Year 9 2019. If you have not handed a selection note in can you please do so ASAP.

A quick reminder for those students who have paid deposits for the Year 10, 2020 Central Australia Excursion. Please remember to continue making payments towards the excursion, we are looking to have a Bunnings BBQ before the end of the year; I am just awaiting a date. If you would still like to attend the camp there are still spots available.

A few parents/students have been asking whether or not we will be having the annual Year 9 Gold Coast Excursion in 2019. In short, the answer is yes. I will be finalising the details at the end of this year. We will have a year group meeting early next year to get the deposits paid and ball rolling, as the cost of the camp is quite substantial.

Lastly, congratulations to Caitlin Montgomery who recently travelled down to Tasmania to swim at Nationals. On behalf of Year 8 and the school community, we are super proud of your achievements.

Kind Regards,

Mr Daniel Jonovski

Year 9

Students have had a wonderful start to Semester 2! It's a fresh start for those who didn't perform at their best in Semester 1 and for others they are continuing on their path to success. There have been a decrease in student absences this term which is fantastic to see. Year 9 has been involved over the last two weeks in the YAM program – Youth Aware of Mental Health with the final session being, Wednesday 29th August. The YAM program is an evidence based mental health program implemented by the Department of Education who is working closely with the Black Dog Institute. It is a culturally sensitive program targeted at all Year 9 students to promote increased knowledge and discussion about mental health, as well as the development of problem-solving skills and emotional intelligence. The Yam instructors have praised all the students – commenting on their engagement, their excellent behaviour and how they have actively contributed to discussions and role plays.

I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate **Harry Wetherall** on his upcoming participation in an endurance cycle event to Wollongong. This is for the very worthy cause of raising funds for MS. Harry is currently holding a lolly guessing competition at lunchtimes. So if you see him around please donate your money. Good luck Harry!

The Year 9 **Gold Coast excursion** is fast approaching! Please keep paying your progressive payments by the required dates. If there is a problem and you cannot make the payment dates please contact me. Also a few people have pulled out so if you have changed your mind or you are a new student and would like to attend please let me know ASAP.

Hope you all continue to have a wonderful Term 3!

Mrs Kim McLean

Year 10

The last few months have been dominated by our preparations for the trip to Central Australia and Darwin. We leave on Friday 14th September at 5.00 am and travel for three weeks across Western NSW and North through South Australia and Northern Territory. Along the way we will stop regularly to take in the sites and hopefully give the 44 students attending some memorable experiences. We recently held a parent information night which gave parents and students the opportunity to catch up with us and each other, discuss the trip and have any questions answered. We had nearly 100 people turn up and it was a very successful night. Mr Jonovski and Mr Mesina were present on the night and helped it run smoothly. The fourth member of staff attending the trip will be Miss Selby-Smith. We leave on the 14th September (end of Week 9 – only two weeks away) and anyone can keep posted on our adventures through our photos that will be posted on the school's Facebook page. Many Year 10 students have also been involved in the **ALPs (Aspiring Leaders Program)** and have already been involved in many days of team building and leadership activities. There are 60 students involved in this program run very successfully by Mr Glachan and Mr Anderson. This is the largest group

that has taken part in this program, a reflection on the number of students in this year group with leadership, or potential leadership skills. They are currently on a camp at Myuna Bay Recreational Centre where they are taking part in many fun and exciting activities to help build their leadership skills. We have had several students participate in Welfare programs recently with the **iTrack mentoring program** still running and the **Top Blokes Program** successfully wrapping up. Parent teacher evening was very successful with many Year 10 parents attending the evening and having the opportunity to talk to teachers and receiving valuable feedback. It was also nice for me to catch up with parents on the evening for an informal chat. We had four students attend the Year 11 Snow Excursion earlier this term and they have returned with raving reviews about the trip, a trip that our entire year group will have the opportunity to enjoy next year. The Year 10 into 11 subject selection has been finalised and classes have now been set. Thanks to everyone involved in this process from the **Expo night** to interviews held by Mrs Thompson to help students decide on their subjects for next year. It is important now for students to continue working hard to finish their junior years and make sure they are adequately prepared for a few more years of hard work. Our next Year 10 report will include our trip to Central Australia and Darwin and I hope you will all enjoy the photos, stories and adventures as told by our students.

Mr Jeff Costa

Year 11

What a great term Year 11 have had! The senior jumpers are definitely getting their use and look fantastic on you all.

43 students ventured to the snow early August for the annual Year 11 Snow excursion. I cannot express how proud I am of these students and how they conducted themselves whilst representing GHS. The positive comments from the accommodation staff to the people on the mountain were endless. The morale of the year group was very high and great to see. A special mention and thank you to the four year ten students Tilly, Hannah, Leihm & Nicholas who also supported and participated in this excursion a credit to you all. I would also like to thank the staff for giving up their family time, Mr Le Clercq, Ms Folkes & Mr Glachan, excursions like this don't run smooth without people like you. Best trip yet!

The opportunity to become 2019 School Captain is fast approaching. Students will be required to submit their applications, participate in an interview and present a speech to their peers and school staff. I wish you all good luck and look forward to working closely with you in the coming year. Captains and SRC leaders will be announced Friday 14th September.

Year 11 final exams are also fast approaching and will be occurring in weeks nine and ten. So keep attending your classes to get those last minute tips and hints. Good luck to each and every one of you! Term 4 you will return as year 12 students and will be on the home straight. So please enjoy your break and stay safe!

Mrs Lauren Goldie



Year 12

Year 12 is coming to a close and all students should be proud of their achievements to this point. Students, please make sure you concentrate on the one percenters and complete all schoolwork to your personal best until your HSC is complete. You are so close now, make sure you finish as best you can. Remember teachers are there to support you to achieve your potential. You have many places of support throughout the school, including: Ms Kelly in the library, all classroom teachers, the Deputy Principal and myself. You also have individual faculties with supported study sessions as well as the SSS held from 2.30pm – 4.15pm in the Library each Monday and Wednesday. It is a place for quiet study, with teacher supervision and access to computers and resources with light refreshments for attendees. Ensure you continue to access these resources.

Students recently completed their trial exams at school and were then present in a Year 12 Wellbeing Day held at the school and in the local community. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to clear their minds and reinvigorate themselves for the challenging months ahead. A lot of students were present in the day and enjoyed some mindfulness and perspective activities, viewing where they will do their HSC, some quality time at Soldiers Beach and a BBQ at Jenny Dixon Park. I appreciated the positive conversations and vibes throughout the day and commend the students on their grown up and responsible attitudes throughout the day. I hope each and every one of you got something out of it.

There are many important dates coming up for your final weeks at school. A letter has been sent out to all families inviting you all to the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony. This will be in the old hall here at school beginning at 9 00am. Students **MUST** be in full school uniform with a rehearsal conducted Thursday 29th September and the Graduation Ceremony on Friday 28th September. There is no need to RSVP for this event and I look forward to as many parents, carers and family members attending as possible to celebrate the achievement of completing formal schooling.

Thursday October 18 is the official start date of the HSC exams. These are held off site at the Toukley Senior Citizens Centre (near Coles). Students were taken to the venue on the Year 12 Wellbeing Day and were told where to go and the procedures that they can expect during their exams. Students must be aware that around the centre, parking is difficult to find so they should turn up to exams with time to spare to ensure they enter the room on time. An exam timetable can be found at the NESAs

website for the HSC and students should have this printed out and be aware well in advance of their scheduled exam.

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

During the school holidays students can make appointments with their subject teachers for tutorial sessions. These are negotiated with each subject teacher and are subject to teacher availability during this period of time.

Friday 16 November is school sign out day. Surnames from A-L are allocated periods 1&2 and surnames from M-Z are given periods 3&4. Textbooks are to be returned at this time only and all outstanding school fees and contributions are to be paid at this time also. This is the only day made available for this to happen as paperwork and staff will be unable to assist outside of this day. Non-payment of school fees and failure to return school texts may hinder the allocation of final HSC Certificates.

The Year 12 School Formal is being held at The Crowne Plaza in Terrigal on 12 November. An invite has been handed out to students. The official start time is 6.00pm, where students can enter the Lord Ashley Lounge and enjoy Pre dinner soft drinks and canapés. More information will be made available closer to the date. Due to the new Departmental payment processing system ALL outstanding money for those wishing to attend must be received no later than Friday 21 September and can be paid at the schools office. Unfortunately due to these advanced deadlines any student who has not paid will not be able to attend. The cost is \$95 and includes entry, food, drink and all entertainment within the function. Students are reminded that because this is a school organised event their attendance at the formal is at the discretion of school and any student not meeting minimum standards in terms of behaviour or application to their studies will not be extended an invite.

Last of all, take time for yourself, your family and friends and work as hard as possible over the next few months to reap the rewards in the end. Remember concentrate on the important things (ping pong balls), balance the marbles in and wipe away the sand. I wish you all the best of luck and look forward to enjoying your final weeks at Gorokan High School.

Mr Benjamyn Glachan



Maximising Happiness

Gorokan High School year 11 student, Charlotte McMurtrie, was awarded a scholarship to participate in the Max Potential Program this year. With the wonderful assistance of her personal coach, Dr Kylie Twyford from Northlake's/Toukley

Rotary, Charlotte's community service project was focused on lending a helping hand to ill children and their families.

Charlotte was inspired by personal experiences of being very unwell as a toddler, as well as the overwhelming number of peers that shared similar stories throughout their childhood and adolescence.

The feeling of isolation and 'missing out' seems to be universal among sick children, and to combat this, Charlotte organised donation drives throughout the Wyong Shire, in order to create gift packs to entertain and brighten the lives of ill children and relieve some stress from their families while at the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Gosford Hospital.

From the generosity of the school and community through the donated goods, a total of 23 gift packs were presented this week, along with \$357 raised from the students and staff of Gorokan High School, to Ronald McDonald Family Room. Jenny Abourizk, Family Room Coordinator, was thrilled with the donations, *"62 percent of our visitors to the family room at Gosford are from the Wyong Shire, so it is fantastic to see a young person giving back to other young people from their area."*

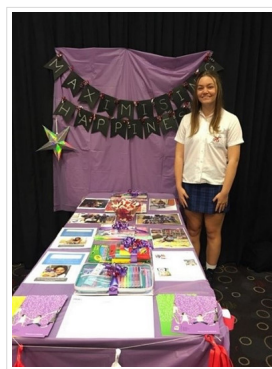
Charlotte hopes to create a legacy through continuing this initiative over the coming years at Gorokan High School, a school that aims to cultivate a **'culture of success'**.

Max Potential was created in partnership with the Clubs peak industry association - Clubs NSW - and is supported by not-for-profit registered Clubs throughout NSW, along with local organisations such as the Wyong Rugby League Club Group, AVS Windows and Doors, and the Rotary Clubs of Northlake's, Toukley, Wyong, and The Entrance. Charlotte is very grateful for her scholarship to participate in the program. *"Without the sponsors and their continued support of the Max Potential program, young adults would not be able to create such immense change for themselves and for the benefit of others and our community."*

Charlotte also appreciated Ronald McDonald Family Room Gosford for their cooperation, stating! *"I've always admired the work of the Ronald McDonald foundation and to be able to support our local community through this fantastic service was an extremely fulfilling experience that I will always cherish"*.

All the community service projects undertaken by the young adults during their Max Potential Program were showcased at Wyong Leagues Club on Monday afternoon to allow sponsors, family, and school representatives to see the contribution they had made to their community. Certificates of participation and appreciation to young adults, coaches and sponsors were presented by Federal Member for Dobell, Emma McBride MP and state Member for Wyong, David Harris MP.

Mrs Lauren Goldie
Relieving Head Teacher/Welfare



HSIE News

On Tuesday 28th August, 2018, 7P and 9P went on an excursion to the local coastal area to learn about land management programs and the erosion that is apparent in the area.

We were guided by Environmental Scientist from 'Budgewoi Beach Dune care group'. The focus of this excursion was to learn about the rejuvenation of the local sand dunes due to the destruction that mining has done in the area in previous years. It was pleasing to see the growing biodiversity in the area and the regeneration of the sand dunes. The tireless effort of volunteers who work in the area has made such a positive impact and their efforts should be applauded.

We then travelled to Norah Head where we were met by the Rumbalara staff who completed educational activities that taught the students about the erosion near the cliffs and the rock pool area and also how to measure the weather in the area using geographical tools and instruments to record their data.

It was a very educationally rewarding day and we look forward to being able to take more students on these adventures in the future.

Thanks to Budgewoi Beach Dune Care Group and the staff at Rumbalara.

Mr Trent lake



CAPA News

Year 8 Visual Arts

Year 8 produced some very creative masks last semester as part of the "Cultural Celebrations" program. They are now immersed in and are working through a program called "More than a Face". Our students have been learning how to draw

the human face using guides to get facial features proportionally correct as well as positioned correctly on the face. Next week they will head into the challenging area of printmaking where they will do a self-portrait lino print.

Year 10 Visual Arts

Students are developing a body of work based on the landscape. They have completed a detailed coloured pencil drawing of an autumn leaf, a John Olsen inspired landscape with pen and pencil and are currently developing Impressionists skills of stippling. Students are working on a canvas to create a Monet inspired water lily garden.



Year 11 Visual Arts

This semester, Year 11 Visual Arts students have developed their artist practice based on 'The Object' and Modern Art practice. Through a process of research, investigation, manipulation, and re-creation, students selected an object of their choice to create a series of artworks in a range of expressive forms. Works included 'The painted object', 'The Digital Object', 'The Sculptural Object', and 'The Animated Object'. Students are to be congratulated for their consistent approach in creating inspiring artworks.



HSC Drama

The HSC drama students completed their trial practical examinations in front of family and friends on Tuesday the 7th August. They showcased their outstanding set of skills by performing a group devised project based off the HSC stimulus. Each group created a thought-provoking and entertaining composition which questioned societal values. Some students selected to perform a monologue for their individual projects, demonstrating an extensive knowledge of the elements of drama. They successfully engaged their audience and made their parents, friends and staff of Gorokan High, very proud of their effort, commitment and hard work! Congratulations to the following students:

Amie Bowden	Georgia Lomas
Jade Anderson	Renee Woodhall
Joel Fryer	Hannah Langley
Aymey Rymer	Shanese Paki
Xanthie Askitis	Georgi Mauger

HSC Visual Arts

Year 12 are working to meet HSC deadlines. Major works are due to the school on Thursday 30th August and then Board of Studies on the 3rd September, at 3pm. Our Y12 Visual Arts students are so lucky at GHS to have a designated studio space for Year 12 to create their artworks.



Julia Harvey Trappel
Head Teacher – Creative and Performing Arts

Technology & Applied Studies News

TECHNOLOGY IN FOCUS:

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



Year 9 Pastry Chef

Since the development of the course, 'Pastry Chef', has grown into one of the most popular courses in TAS. Mrs Hearne and Ms Turton have been trying the latest ideas and the students have been producing amazing results. Students completing the course have a real future, as Pastry Chefs. The 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.



Year 11 Exploring Early Childhood

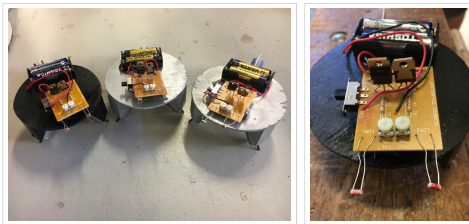
In 'Exploring EC' this term the students completed a unit called 'play'. Apart from studying the in-depth knowledge of child-play at the early stages of growth and development, the students completed a task involving them to design and produce an "activity learning toy". A heightened degree of creativity was

presented with each toy-activity. Of the many toys presented, there was: a felt activity book, a cuddle bear, felt caterpillar, activity doll. Further “activity learning toys” would delight children with imagination and the building of fine motor skill coordination.



Year 10 Engineering: Robots & Control Technology

This term the Year 10 engineering students were involved in ‘control technology’. A great part of that was to design a robot assembly. This taught them much about the articulation of robots on an assembly line. They have also developed small land-roving robots that move with the presence of a direct light beam. In this way, students were able to control their speed and direction from a beam of light. As well as design, the students learnt about the processes of electronic components and semiconductors on a printed circuit board.



Year 9 Engineering: Aeronautics

The theme of Year 9 engineering was ‘aeronautics’. Students learnt about how aircraft can stay up in the sky. They designed jets of all types plus the ‘Millennium Falcon’, which flew in from another galaxy. Students had to design a timber pattern and vacuum from the aircraft body. The students then installed the motor for flight. They were able to design the practical model for flight and balance.



Senior Metals & Engineering

Mr McCutcheon has been busy with the ‘Metals’ students in coming up with a creative metal cooker design. Apart from the fact that it required to be fabricated by welding, it was to be portable and very efficient. The final product is very different from any cooker we have seen. It could easily be taken out during overnight camps, where quick, efficient meals could be cooked.



Junior Design & Technology

The Year 8 students have enjoyed working in Textiles this term. With Mrs Casey, the students have used the die dyeing technique to colour fabric. They will then incorporate it into their design product. Many of the older and more traditional methods of fabric decoration are again coming back into vogue.



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

Mr Russell Trimmer
Head Teacher TAS

by Mr T.

**Were old playgrounds dangerous?
Now look at the change**

**Design
Daze**

Many may not recall, however, growing up in the 60’s was a safety nightmare for us children who were intrepid to play on the playground equipment. The big slippery dip towered metres into the sky, and without sides! The slide was burning hot to the touch, like a stovetop set to ‘high’ all day under the summer sun. It wasn’t just slippery dips, either. Everything in the playground was more dangerous. And they were different and unique. There were wooden tightrope beams suspended high in the air, for a high-wire walk, metal rocket ships for climbing in, and of course — the “Big Spinner”, a giant metal circle that laid about a 30cm off the ground and could be spun, usually by someone standing beside it who would kindly whip you into a world of unimaginable dizziness. A couple of kids would fly off from the G-forces but most would hang on, teeth gritted, eyes squinted. A few cuts and splinters, with no irreparable damage. Modern materials and forming techniques have revolutionized the humble playground into a very safe place. Where would you like to play?



PDHPE News

There has been plenty happening in PDHPE during Term 3.

7-10 PDHPE classes have been working through the **Invasion Games units**, where students have demonstrated some outstanding teamwork and communication skills in a variety of activities; including, End Zone, Netball, Soccer, European Handball and Ultimate Frisbee. Students have then been able to apply the common strategies and tactics across multiple sports with modified games such as; Forever Ball and Speed Ball.

Elective PASS and SLR classes have been participating in a variety of hands on learning experiences during Term 3; including, Coaching, Fitness Testing, Cycling and Offensive Structures of Rugby League. Fitness Testing has been a major theme, as students are able to assess their own performance capacity in various components of fitness and suggest ways to improve their results in the future. Some memorable activities include; the GHS Mountain Bike Course, The Chin Up Test in the Jungle Gym and the 300m Shuttle Run Test where several students finished a little worse for wear.

Senior PDHPE and CAFS classes are now nearing the end of the Preliminary and HSC Courses. All subjects are currently working on the second option unit of work. The HSC group are busy reflecting on their performance in the Trial Examinations and the Preliminary group are getting organised to begin their Yearly Exams. Due dates for Assessment Tasks are as follows;

- 11 PDHPE** – Yearly Exam (Week 9-10)
- 11 CAFS** – Yearly Exam (Week 9-10)
- 12 PDHPE** – Extended Response Questions, Training Program & In-Class Task (Week 7)
- 12 CAFS** – All assessments completed

Mr Glachan(Jnr) and the PE Faculty have implemented an indoor soccer competition during recess and lunch time known as **The Goro Cup**. The overall Winners of this competition were Zimbabwe, who were only just beaten by the teachers in the Champions of Champions Match. Congratulations to all of the students involved. The friendly nature and spirit in which the games were played has ensured that we will endeavour to implement more activities like this in the future.

The Gorokan HS PDHPE Department has been fortunate to have involvement in multiple extra-curricular activities to support the health and well-being of our students and the local community. Recently our students were involved in the **PSC – Learning to Lead Gala Day** at Harry Moore Oval. Approximately 100 of our GHS Leaders from years 9-11 ran a sporting gala day for our local feeder primary schools which included over 300 people from the local area. This initiative provided all participants with the opportunity to get active and meet new people in order to support their transition into high school. The event was a huge success and we congratulate

all of the leaders involved as they represented their school and community in a very professional manner. Keep an eye out on the GHS Facebook for some upcoming initiatives such as; **'The Thirsty Choose Water Initiative'**, **'Physical Activity 4 Every 1'**, **'Goro Cup 2.0'** and the next **'PSC – Leading with Action Day'**.

Please remember that students are required to bring a change of clothes for all practical lessons and be expected to participate as normal. **GHS Sport Shirts** are only to be worn during PE Lessons or on Thursdays. You must wear normal GHS Uniform at all other times. If students are unable to participate in practical activities they must provide a note.

Mr Joel Anderson and Mrs Lisa Ricketts
Relieving Head Teachers - PDHPE

Sports News

In-school sport

As usual, Thursday afternoon school sport is running smoothly and providing all students from Years 7-10 with the opportunity to get active and participate in various activities inside and outside of the school environment. Students are able to choose their sport online through their student portal at the end and beginning of each term, and this provides them with the sport they will do on Thursday afternoons for the selected term. Some sports involve weekly payment. The school has been extremely supportive in ensuring students do not miss out on Thursday sport by providing IOUs. Please ensure this money is paid back ASAP. Students are doing a great job in being respectful and cooperative with staff and other students on Thursday afternoons and this ensures all students are able to achieve their personal best in the selected activities. Well done!

Sport Achievements

Over the past few months there have been many examples of students and teams performing to fantastic levels while representing themselves and Gorokan High School. We had 20 students represent Tuggerah Lakes Zone at the Sydney North Cross Country Carnival. From this event Jade Hawes made it through to the next level and had the opportunity to represent Sydney North Region at the NSW Combined High Schools Cross Country Carnival.

We also had 24 students successfully qualify for the Sydney North Athletics Carnival at Sydney Olympic Park on the 30th and 31st of July. All students represented the school, the zone and themselves to an outstanding level. From this carnival, Cameron Cheney, Paige Stottelaar and Tara Wagstaff have been selected in the Sydney North Athletics Team to compete at the CHS Championships in September. Congratulations to all students and goodluck to the three athletes!

Jesse Rigby and Reagan Peterson have been selected in the Sydney North Lawn Bowls team to compete against all other NSW regions at the CHS Championships. Gabby Shaw was selected in the Sydney North Girls Hockey Team and competed against all other regions in the NSWCHS Championships. This is a fantastic achievement- well done Gabby and good luck boys.

All of the above students will have the opportunity to be eligible for specific awards at the upcoming annual Sports Presentation Dinner.

We have had many school representative sporting teams compete in CHS and local competitions over the last few months. These include:

- Oztag (various year groups) coached by Mrs L Ricketts, Ms H Buchanan and Mr T Buxton.
- Year 7 & 8 Touch teams coached by Mr S Glachan and Mr A Sawatske
- Rugby 7s coached by Ms H Buchanan.
- Netball coached by Mrs E Hennessey
- Rugby League teams coached by Mr S Underwood and Mr C MacNamara

Upcoming teams available for students to put their name down for at the time of writing include:

- Girls Milo cricket team to be coached by Mr C MacNamara
- Netball to be coached by Mrs K Jones
- Girls Rugby League to be coached by Mrs L Ricketts

Sports Presentation Dinner

Over the remainder of the term and leading into Term 4, nominations from students will be called for in order to be successful in gaining acknowledgement of their sport efforts throughout the year. Students are reminded to listen to daily notices and speak to the PDHPE/Sport staff about the nomination process and possible eligibility.

Mr Ben Glachan and Mr Luke Sharpe
Relieving Sport Co-ordinators

LIBRARY News

GHS Library

Our library collection aims to

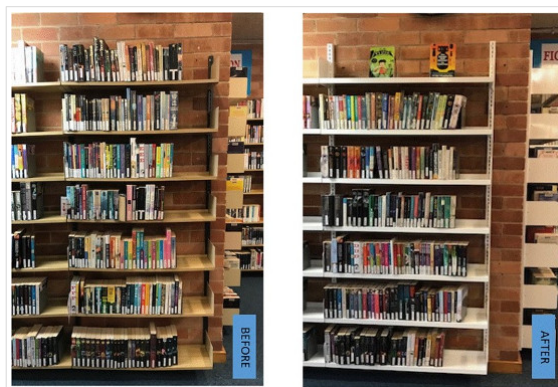
- Support the curriculum needs of our students.
- Encourage reading for pleasure.
- Encouraging reading as a vital skill for our students to become lifelong learners.
- Provide access to electronic information and services.

Research suggests that reading for pleasure increases educational outcomes for students. Reading can also improve students overall wellbeing by reducing symptoms of depression and levels of stress. As well as improving relationships, reading can give the students a greater understanding of other points of view as well as a connectedness to the wider community.

New Shelving

We are very lucky to have had some new shelving installed this term for our fiction collection. Thank you Mr Ricketts and Mr Le Clercq. I am sure you will agree it is a huge improvement on

what we had before and these shelves are another important element in the refurbishment of our school library.



Book Club

Students can purchase books through Scholastic Book Club. The brochures are located at the Charge Bar opposite the circulation desk.

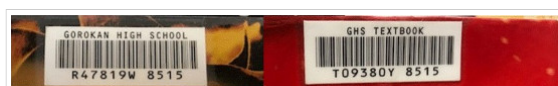
SSS – Supported Senior Study

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

It is a place for quiet study, with teacher supervision and access to computers and resources with light refreshments for attendees.

Year 10 Sign Out

Year 10 will be signing out term 4 this year and students are asked to return all overdue resources. This can be library books or any textbooks that students have borrowed from years 7 - 10 including calculators. If students are unable to find textbooks they have borrowed they will be asked to pay for a replacement. As you can imagine many books are misplaced each year and often we need to spend our budget on replacement books rather than new books. So please look for any book in your shelves with a labelled school barcode on the back.



Borrowing

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

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

World Book Online

GHS subscribes to World Book online. It is very much like the World Book Encyclopaedia, except it is in a digital format. It is user friendly and is suitable for years 7 – 10 as well as a starting point for senior topics.

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

Other services

PRINTING – Printing for assignments is available in black and white for 10c and colour for 20c 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

GATS UNIT News

The **selective class entry** for years 8 to 10 closed at the end of July. We have had numerous applicants from our own school and from other schools (private and public). Those students sat an ability **test on the 24th August** at the school library. Only a few positions are vacant in our selective classes, therefore, the competition for placement will be rigorous. The outcomes for entry in the selective class will be sent by mail at the beginning of Term 4.

The **UNSW ICAS competitions** English and Mathematics have been completed this semester and results are going to be delivered next term. The tests are challenging and all participants applied a consistent effort to achieve their best.

Extra-curricular activities for our selective classes are organised by the different faculties, check our school Facebook page for posts and photos of our current activities.

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

The **GHS STEM Academy** is well and truly on its way. Students from year 7 and 8 mentored by a group of year 9 are learning new skills in Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology. A group of dedicated teachers are overseeing the STEM Academy and we are very grateful to them for volunteering for this challenge. The STEM Academy is a project together with Sydney University. At the moment students are

working on drones and soon they will prepare the solar challenge cars for our competition. Mr Mesina, Mr Bulgin and Mr Cummings presented our progress in the STEM Academy conference in week 5 this term. The comments from other schools, were 'very impressive work', 'excellent idea in having mentors', 'the drones are so cool'. We want to extend our congratulations to all the students and teachers working tirelessly in this challenge.

