

GOROKAN HIGH SCHOOL



Goobarabah Ave,
Gorokan NSW 2263

email: gorokan-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
phone: 02 4393 7000

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS

To our new permanent members of staff.

Mrs Kim Costa (Deputy Principal)

David Moore (Head Teacher Secondary Studies)

Holly Buchanan (PDHPE)

Samantha Boughey (Special Education)

Sean Glachan (Special Education)

Amy Arevalo (Special Education)

Nathan Te Rangi (HSIE / Core)

Justin Turner (Maths)

Mark Finlayson (Science)

Mr Sean Glachan - Year 7 year adviser for 2020.

We also have a number of new and continuing temporary staff in the school for the year. Welcome to Kate Jones (Special Ed), Todd Buxton (PDHPE), Imogen Selby-Smith (Core), Matt Fitzsimmons (Maths), Jai MacNamarra (Core), Annette Mc Gown (Art) and Marianna Darroch (Language) some of whom are relatively new to our school and are in on temporary blocks for the year.

RELIEVING POSITIONS

Andrew Collins – Deputy Principal

Lauren Goldie (Mondays) and Erin Manu (Tuesday – Friday) - Relieving Head Teacher Welfare

Lisa Ricketts and Ben Glachan - Relieving Head Teacher PDHPE

Year 7	Mr Samson Underwood / Mr Todd Buxton 2IC	Year 10	Mrs Kim McLean
Year 8	Mr Matt Pascoe	Year 11	Mr Jeff Costa
Year 9	Mr Daniel Jonovski	Year 12	Mrs Lauren Goldie

LATE TO SCHOOL / CLASS

Gorokan High School starts at 8.25am. Students are expected to be in period 1 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 will be 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 making them 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.

With the cold weather approaching it is important to get your school jumpers now.

CYBER SAFETY / AWARENESS

Please ensure your children are safe online by using the appropriate filters and supervising 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. Myself or one of the Deputy Principals have spoken with all classes about these issues.

Please also ensure that messages / images sent by your child are appropriate. There have been a number of instances on the Central Coast where young people are sending inappropriate images.

CAR PARK SAFETY

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

CONGRATULATIONS STUDENTS

- 37 students from Gorokan High School's 2018 cohort received offers for University Placement in 2019. This is an outstanding achievement and one we are very proud of.
- Who have represented the school so well in sport over the first few weeks of school.

THANK YOU

- To parents and caregivers who have paid their subject contribution fees.
- All staff for their hard work during first term.

Sam Ricketts (Principal)

KEY DATES

TERM 2		
Week 1	April 30th May 1st May 3rd	Term 2 Begins all students return Mingara Regional Athletics Carnival Anzac Day Assembly
Week 2	May 6th - May 10th May 8th - 9th	Digital Technologies Competition Year 10 Stage 6 Subject Information Seminars
Week 3	May 14th - 17th May 16th	NAPLAN Years 7 and 9 Cross Country Carnival
Week 4	May 21st May 21st May 22nd May 24th	P & C Meeting Expo night Year 5 and 6 Showcase Zone Cross Country
Week 5	May 27th May 29th	Muru Bulbi Meeting 5pm White Card Course
Week 6	June 3rd - 4th June 7th	Year 10 and Year 11 Immunisation School Photo's Years 8—12
Week 8	June 18th June 20th June 20th	P & C Meeting School Photo catch up day Zone Athletics carnival
Week 9	June 25th June 28th	Year 12 Careers Expo Year 10 ALPS Skills Day
Week 10	July 1st July 5th	Muru Bulbi Meeting 5pm Term 2 Concludes
Term 3		
Week 1	July 23rd	Term 3 Begins all students return

YEAR 7 TERM 1 2019

It has been an extremely busy and successful start to the year for Year 7. Our newest Gorokan High School students have been tasked with transitioning from primary school to high school. Students have had to adjust to a new schooling environment, extra responsibility, added pressure and the increase in teacher expectation that Year 7 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 faced these challenges with positive attitudes and enthusiasm.

Many students have taken the opportunity to involve themselves in a variety of extra-curricular activities thus far in 2019. We have had students involved in: musicals, dance groups, Didgeridoo Group, and a range of Gorokan High School representative sports. There is an abundance of extra-curricular opportunities for our Year 7 students to participate in throughout the year. I encourage every student to follow their interests and become involved.

Passion Projects is a new initiative that has been introduced into GHS this year. It involves students selecting a teacher-developed term long program that focusses on an area of interest to the student. There is a variety of Passion Projects from which student can choose, including; Aboriginal Art, Drones and the ever popular Ninja Warrior, in which students have participated in excursion to Awezone and the Raw Challenge. It is vital that students bring in their permission note and Passion Project choices as soon as they're available if they wish to secure their first choice for Term 2.

On Wednesday the 27th February, we held a Parent Meet and Greet at GHS. It was an extremely successful night in which parents had the opportunity to meet their children's teachers, find out about what students have been doing in class and have any queries answered. I would personally like to thank Mrs. Manu for her tireless work and organisation of the night, and all the teachers which gave up their own time to attend and make the night possible.

On the last day of term, students will be rewarded for their efforts with an excursion to the Royal Easter Show. This is a great opportunity for students to have fun, meet and mingle with new peers and finish Term One on a positive note.

Next term, students have the Great Aussie Bush Camp to look forward to. In Week 8, Year 7 will travel to Tea Gardens on the NSW Mid Coast for 2 nights and 3 days of fun and adventure. Activities such as the Giant Swing, Dual Flying Fox, Commando and a visit to the sand dunes are sure to have our youngest members of GHS very excited. The camp is an excellent opportunity for students to make new friends and get to know and see their teachers in a different light. It is important that students return their permission note and pay their \$50 deposit as soon as possible to ensure their place at the camp.

It has been a fantastic effort from all students in the Year 7 cohort thus far. Many students are off to a great start and it is important they maintain their diligent attitude and enthusiasm throughout the year. Students should be commended for their efforts and should be proud of the way they have transitioned into high school life.

On a personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed my role as Year Advisor. It has been a pleasure to get to know and work with the enthusiastic, creative, funny and talented bunch of students that Year 7 are. 2019 is off to a great start and I am very much looking forward to the remainder of the year and the success I'm sure it will bring.

Mr Samson Underwood

Year 7 Advisor 2019

YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

YEAR 8 TERM 1 2019

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome back all Year 8 students back to their second year at Gorokan High School! It has been a great start to the year, with many positive reports coming in from staff, parents and the local community. I am hoping that the exceptional run of good behaviour, citizenship and academic application continues into next term as students complete their half yearly assessment tasks.

Term 1 has seen many exciting events happening for Year 8. Amongst all of the learning opportunities given to students, there has been the annual GHS Swimming Carnival (congratulations to students in Hargraves!), the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, Harmony Day, the Year 8 Parent Information and Wellbeing Afternoon, as well as numerous CHS Knockout Sporting teams and the STEM Academy. Students' engagement and participation in these events have been outstanding and all students must be commended for their enthusiasm and positive attitude throughout all of these events.

Looking forward to Term 2, there are some important events coming up for both students and their parents/ caregivers. Early in the term we will see the Year 8 Subject Selection Night where all students and parents are invited to come to up to Gorokan High School. The purpose of this evening is to explore the educational options that students will have in choosing their studies in Years 9 and 10. This evening will be packed full of information on how to choose electives, what is involved in those subjects, as well as costs and potential educational pathways. I highly recommend that all families of students in Year 8 attend this evening.

With all the craziness of the first term over, I am certainly looking forward to seeing where the rest of the year will take us. Have a great holiday and can't wait to see you all back at Gorokan High School next term.

Finally, as you should all be aware, 2021 will see our students attend the Central Australia Excursion for almost three weeks. An information session will be held early in Term 2 for all families of students that have returned their expressions of interest for this excursion. Reports from staff and students that have attended this trip have been outstanding and I cannot wait to offer this opportunity (as well as the annual Year 9 trip to the Gold Coast in 2020) for all students.

Mr Matt Pascoe

Year 8 Advisor 2019

YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

YEAR 9 TERM 1 2019

Hello Year 9,

The year is well and truly underway and many of you have settled into your electives and new classes in an extremely positive manner.

Looking forward to later in the year, we have our Annual Year 9 Gold Coast Excursion taking place in Term 4, Week 8. Expression of Interest notes and deposit forms have been sent home and deposits taken to secure a position on the excursion. The Gold Coast excursion is one of the most memorable experiences past students have spoken about when looking back on their schooling life, so I am expecting another positive excursion with the opportunity to make many lifelong memories.

Earlier this year our students attending the 2020 Central Australia excursion held a famous Bunnings Barbeque in what was an extremely successful day for all involved. I would like to take this time to thank everybody that played a part in the organisation and running of the day. Without your help and service the day could not have resulted in the way it did.

There are still some spots available on the 2020 Central Australia Excursion, if you would like to attend please come and see me ASAP. Those students whom are already attending please ensure payments are continuing to be made.

Stay safe, be kind and look out for one another.

Mr Daniel Jonovski

Year 9 Advisor 2019

YEAR 10 TERM 1 2019

Year 10 has had a great start to the school year. Students have approached the beginning of their senior schooling with enthusiasm and are busy with term assessments. Students have applied themselves both in and out of the classroom and across all Key Learning areas. With the start of year 10 the students have had to adjust to the increased demands of Stage 5 including the extra workload and teacher expectations whilst juggling other commitments both in and out of school. They have impressed me with the way in which they are doing this.

We have had many students involved in a variety of activities throughout this very busy term. Students have been competing in school sporting teams, trying out for representative sports and also representing the school in swimming. Year 10 have also taken part in numerous wellbeing programs including The Top Blokes program and the Love Bites seminars held on Tuesday 26th February.

The general attendance of the year 10 students has been very good – with many who have a fantastic 100%! A reminder that if a student is away for 3 days in a row documentation is required for example a doctor's certificate if the reason is due to illness. If the required attendance rate is not met a student may be at risk of repeating Year 10. This needs to be taken very seriously as not meeting the requirements may see some students unable to commence year 11 next year.

On Wednesday March 27, 2019 there is the Learning and Wellbeing Night for years 10-12. This evening has representatives from many organisations including Headspace, Yerin, Wellbeing, and there will also be talks about ATAR and HSC options as well as work options. It is encouraged that both students and their caregivers attend. Also the Aspiring Leadership team will soon be chosen so continue to work hard, show respect at all times and be kind to one another.

If you have any concerns or enquiries please don't hesitate to call or email kim.j.mclean@det.nsw.edu.au.

As the very busy term is coming to a close I wish you all a safe and restful break.

Mrs Kim McLean

Year 10 Advisor 2019

YEAR 11 TERM 1 2019

The start of the year has been busy for our newest seniors. New subjects and the stress of a solid workload and multiple assessment tasks all due in quick succession. The students have adapted well to the new expectations and workload (some needing an extra little push along the way). The students had the opportunity to relax over a couple of days at our Year 11 Retreat. Day One saw all students at school attending four sessions run by various staff. Mrs Costa ran a session on NESA and the expectations of students, Mrs Thompson ran a Careers session including starting all students off on their portfolios, Mr Glachan and Mr Sharpe ran a session on healthy lifestyles in the lead-up to the HSC and Mrs Manu and myself ran a Welfare based lesson. Sessions were well-received and students got a lot out of each one. Day Two was time to relax with the day spent out at Point Wolstoncroft Sport and Recreation Centre. The students had the opportunity to partake in rock climbing, high ropes and the giant swing. Much fun was had by all in attendance. Thank you to the staff involved in both days.



YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS



YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS



Two weeks later our ALPs students were rewarded with a day out at Wet and Wild in Sydney. Another relaxing day for the students, some who have become potentially strong leaders in our school community. I would expect many of these students to be involved in the School Captain selection process starting soon. Many of our students turned up to the School Swimming Carnival and had a great day, many achieving great results in races while others just had fun.



Michael Seutinaviti shows us how to dive!

We need to make sure that all students are staying on top of their workload as it increases over the next two terms and then into the HSC courses. If students are finding they are struggling, please be aware of options available to them. We have a wonderful Welfare team led by Mrs Manu who always has her door open. I am available at any time for students and have opened my classroom every lunchtime for Year 11 to hang out, chill or get some quiet work done. Mrs Kelly is also available in the library to help students struggling with assessment tasks. Please make use of all of us if necessary – THAT'S WHAT WE ARE HERE FOR!!

Central Australia hoodies have been ordered and should arrive by the start of next term. Once arrived I will finalise a date for our dinner to invite all students who attended the trip and parents for a meal, a slide show and the presentation of hoodies and photo books. Senior jumpers will be finalised over the next few weeks and students will be informed of when payments need to be made so orders can be placed. We hope to have these in by mid Term 2.

Mr Jeff Costa, Year 11 Advisor 2019

YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

YEAR 12 TERM 2019

It's been a flying start to the new school year for year 12. Assessment tasks are coming in thick and fast and stress levels are starting to rise. Please remember that there is plenty of support networks in the school to help you, so please access these as much as possible. The Senior Supported Study is now up and running every Monday and Wednesday afternoon in the library. Mrs Kelly is also a massive support service in the school for our senior students to use during their study periods. I will also take this opportunity to Thank Mrs Kelly for her ongoing support and guidance towards these students.

A big thank you to the Year 12 students who help out at the Valentine Day fundraiser, it was very successful with funds going towards their Year 12 formal. Also to those who dressed up in their house colours for the swimming carnival and participated in the annual Year 12 raft race, it was very colourful!



Mrs Lauren Goldie

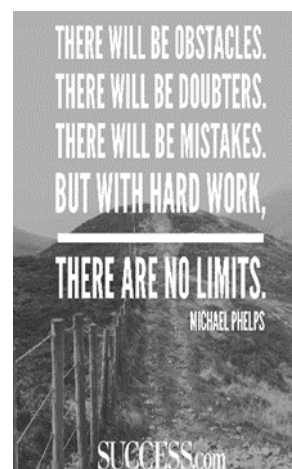
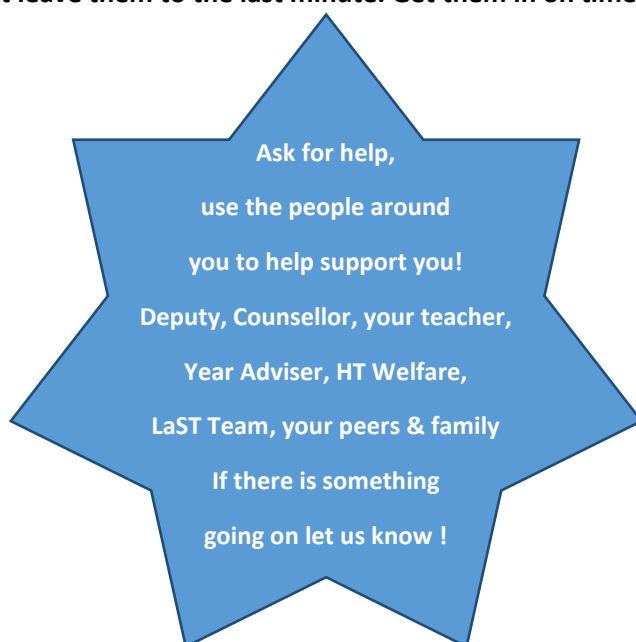
Year 12 Advisor 2019

YEAR 12 IMPORTANT DATES

TERM	DATE	EVENT	WHERE
1	27 th March 2019	Year 10,11,12 Parent information evening	GHS school hall
1	3 rd April 2019	Year 12 & parent University information evening	GHS school hall
HOLIDAYS	25 TH April 2019	ANZAC DAY	TOUKLEY RSL
2	1 ST May	HSC timetable released	NESA
2	7 TH June 2019	School Photos	SCHOOL HALL
2	25 th June 2019	Year 12 Careers Expo	AVONDALE
3	5 TH TO 16 TH August 2019	HSC TRIAL EXAMS	SCHOOL HALL
3	11 TH September 2019	YR 12 WELLBEING DAY	SCHOOL HALL, SITE VISIT & LUNCH
3	27 TH September 2019	Graduation Ceremony	SCHOOL HALL
4	17 th October 2019	HSC Commences	SENIOR CITIZENS HALL TOUKLEY
4	12 TH November 2019	HSC FINISHES	SENIOR CITIZENS HALL TOUKLEY
4	16 th November 2019	Year 12 formal	Magenta shores

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Triple SSS – Senior Supported Study- Mondays and Wednesdays available in the library from 2.45-4pm, with 2 teachers.
- Mrs Kelly – Senior support during study periods in the library every day.
- Assessments– Don't leave them to the last minute. Get them in on time to eliminate N awards.





Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

WHATS ON IN WELLBEING?

Year 9: Smashed Performance: 8th April: Period Two

Year 9 and 10: Top Blokes: Tuesday Period Four and Five

Year 8 Girls: Small group mentoring: Year 8 Period Two, Year 9 Period Four

Rage: Small group mentoring program Year 7 and 8

Year 10: iTrack: Starts Term Two and Smith Family: Certificate 1 in Financial Services (Term Two)



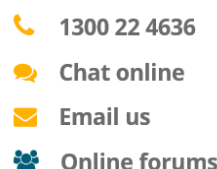
Helpful resources for parents:

The following resources will assist you in dealing with a variety of issues that may arise with your children whilst at High School.



Website link: <https://www.esafety.gov.au>

The Office of the **eSafety** Commissioner is committed to empowering all Australians to have safer, more positive experiences online. The Office was established in 2015 with a mandate to coordinate and lead the online safety efforts across government, industry and the not-for profit community.



Website link: <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

beyondblue provides information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live.



Website link: <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/>

Bullying. No Way! is your ally in your search for trustworthy and practical information about **bullying**. **Bullying. No Way!** provides information and ideas for students, parents and teachers and where to get help if you are being bullied.

APPLICATIONS FOR 2019 SCHOLARSHIPS ARE NOW OPEN!

All young people deserve the chance to achieve their best.

The National Scholarship Program celebrates the talents and strengths of young people who exhibit extraordinary promise – but who lack the support and resources to fulfil their potential.

Every year over 20 young people throughout Australia are awarded Youth Off The Streets scholarships. They are granted up to \$6000 each to help them pursue further education and training – and work towards a positive future. Father Riley's vision of the National Scholarship Program is to bring together combined resources, corporate social responsibility and promote community engagement with young people who have become disconnected or are at risk of becoming marginalised. The Youth Off The Streets National Scholarship Program coordinates this commitment and support in order to make a real difference and lasting effect.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Nominations are invited from young people with genuine talent, ability and determination in any education or training course, including (but not limited to):

Academic skills	Sport	Music
Visual or performing arts	Trade skills	

The Selection Committee, comprising of individuals from varying professional backgrounds and expertise, look for young people who can demonstrate a clear path to further their talents with support from the National Scholarship Program. Scholarships will be awarded to those young people who meet the selection criteria and have a genuine need for financial assistance.

A thorough induction process is conducted where a Youth Off The Streets representative will visit the young person and talk through the goals of the individual, the path towards those goals and the roles and responsibilities of all participants in the program. Scholarship recipients develop a Pathway Plan, with the assistance of program staff, outlining the use of their scholarship funds. The funds can be used to pay for some educational course fees and support costs such as equipment, uniforms, textbooks and stationery to ensure that the scholarship recipients have every possible opportunity to reach their goals. Scholarship funds will be paid as expenses arise over the two year period depending on the individual requirements of each recipient. An important part of the National Scholarship Program is the mentoring relationship where each scholarship recipient is matched with a mentor to provide support and guidance to help achieve their goals. Those recipients based within a reasonable distance of Sydney will be matched with a face-to-face mentor where possible whilst all others based outside of the Sydney area will use alternate forms of communication.

In addition, the successful recipients, and a chosen guest, will attend the National Scholarship Awards Ceremony to be held in Sydney, acknowledging their achievement and officially commencing the two year program, with costs covered by Youth Off The Streets. Throughout the duration of the scholarship there is dedicated staff support available. The Manager provides ongoing support and guidance to each scholarship recipient while a Youth Worker is also available to assist recipients with personal issues such as budgeting expenses, housing, employment, healthcare, counselling and other service referrals. Who can apply?

- Students aged 16 to 21 inclusive as at 20 September on the year of nomination.
- Citizens or permanent residents of Australia or New Zealand (evidence will be required).
- Students with a clear need for financial assistance.
- Students studying in Australia for the two year period of the program.

Please see Mrs Manu for support with the application process.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY VISIT

On Tuesday the 26th of March Gorokan High School were lucky enough to have Sydney University visit our year 11 students. They participated in two workshops.

My Story, My Future: gave our year 11 students the opportunity to engage with a personal narrative. They were guided through a series of reflective prompts to encourage self-awareness of identities, strengths, interests and motivations as well as starting to articulate how the intersection of these might helpfully inspire, guide and inform future decision making. What a wonderful opportunity at a key transition point in their educational journey.

Thinking Ahead: encouraged students to develop their understanding of the value of extracurricular involvement. They had the opportunity to learn how to write persuasively about their leadership skills, personal qualities and attributes.

We thank Sydney University and look forward to the providing further enrichment opportunities for GHS students.



THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

TELL THEM FROM ME

This term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, participated in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used *Tell Them From Me* to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at school.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Our Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award participants are currently in the process of organising their qualifying journey. Students are required to arrange all logistics, route and equipment for a successful completion of a 3-day canoe expedition.

Last year the Silver participants completed a 3-day practice journey on the Shoalhaven River near Kangaroo Valley. A practice journey is organised by staff to demonstrate to the students what the requirements are to successfully complete their qualifier.

Bronze participants will be completing their bushwalk that was postponed last year due to extreme weather during term 2.

We are now on the lookout for new cohort of bronze participants from Year 9. There will some information given out at school for any students that are interested in participating in this amazing program. So keep an eye out.



Mr Ben Drelincourt

ABOUT THE AWARD The Award is a leading structured (non-formal education) youth development program, empowering all young Australians aged 14-24 to explore their full potential and find their purpose, passion and place in the world, regardless of their location or circumstance. The Award is a fully inclusive program and has no social, political, or religious affiliations.

HOW IS IT ACHIEVED? To earn an Award, each young person must learn a skill, improve their physical well being, volunteer in their community and experience a team adventure in a new environment. All Participants are supported by a network of adult Award Leaders, Assessors, and Supervisors.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

It has been a busy start to the year in the Outdoors.

5Y ELECTIVE

The 5Y elective has been working on managing risk in outdoor activities, we have recently spent some time developing students belaying and climbing skills at Lakehaven Recreation Centre in preparation for our excursion to Pulse climbing.



10XOP

Year 10 are working on a Snorkelling unit that culminates in an assessment task demonstrating the students' knowledge and practical skills. We had perfect weather for our visit to Wyong pool for students to practice their practical skills in the pool prior to our excursion to Fly Point, Port Stephens.

CERTIFICATE II IN OUTDOOR RECREATION

The class has just finished their first task on Occupational Health & Safety in the Outdoor Industry, and have now moved onto Conducting Sport and Recreation Sessions. This unit requires them to run sessions for their class and others in the school. Students can find it difficult to run sessions for their peers, and it can therefore be a challenging unit for some, however they have all done a great job thus far.

To assist the students in gathering enough evidence for their sessions they have been invited to join the 5Y elective at Pulse Climbing Centre to help mentor and run sessions.

The 30th April (term 2 first day) will see us visiting Delta Force Paintball to finalise out OH&S unit.

MAKING A SPLASH

On the last 3 days of term 4 2018, a small group of students embarked upon their Open Water Diver Certification. On day 1 the students spent the day in the pool familiarising themselves with the equipment, learning about neutral buoyancy, emergency air procedures and clearing their masks. We had planned to complete two open water dives on day 2, however the very low visibility cut the day short with only one completed. This dive did, however impress upon the divers the importance of staying with your buddy. The weather on day 3 continued and it was decided that we postpone our final three dives until the New Year.

On the 26th February we had the opportunity to complete the last of our dives. Visibility was good, and all dives were completed with all students able to demonstrate all of the required skills.

A big thankyou to Bob and the crew at Pro-Dive Central Coast.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION



As it is coming to end of Term 1, Years 7 to 10 will be completing their Term Test during week 9-10. This is on the topics covered this term. All students should be preparing a hand written A4 summary sheet in preparation, with formulas, examples and reminders on it. All students have received a notification outlining the topics covered.

Students are expected to have their own calculator for all lessons. The preferred calculator is The *Casio fx-82AU Plus II* which is available for sale at the front office for \$22.

Mathematics Excel Revision and Examination Workbooks are now available for sale at the front office for \$20. Below is the recommended book for each class and year group.

CLASSES	BOOK
7P, 7C & 7R	Year 7 Extension Revision & Examination Workbook
7Mat1, 7Mat2, 7Mat3 & 7Mat4	Year 7 Revision & Examination Workbook
8P, 8C & 8R	Year 8 Extension Revision & Examination Workbook
8Mat1, 8Mat2, 8Mat3 & 8Mat4	Year 8 Revision & Examination Workbook
9P, 9Mat1	Year 9 Extension Revision & Examination Workbook
9Mat2, 9Mat3, 9Mat4 & 9Mat5	Year 9 Revision & Examination Workbook
10P & 10Mat1	Year 10 Extension Revision & Examination Workbook
10Mat2, 10Mat3, 10Mat4 & 10Mat5	Year 10 Revision & Examination Workbook

The Mathematics Department runs an after school Maths Centre where students are able to come and work on homework and assessment preparation. This will be on a Tuesday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:30. Students should bring their own work, teachers are then able to give assistance with specific questions or concepts. Homework centre will then run each Tuesday afternoon 2:30pm to 3:30pm during weeks 3-9 of each term until the end of the year.

Mrs Karen Bellamy

Head Teacher Mathematics

ANCIENT HISTORY

Ancient History students attended a HSC Study Day for the core topics Pompeii and Herculaneum at Sydney CBD in Week 6 of this term. This event was hosted by archaeologists from the Nicholson Museum and lecturers from Sydney University. This event reinforced content and source analysis taught in class. The day proved to be a very informative and highlighted the wonderful opportunities provided to students at Gorokan High School.

Ms C. Drummond

YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY AND ABORIGINAL STUDIES

Near the end of last term 2018, Year 12 Geography and Aboriginal Studies students attended 2 excursions that saw them investigate the natural environment. Students explored the Stockton Bight dune system considering traditional and contemporary forms of dune management. After 4 wheel driving into the dunes with a registered company, students walked and walked and walked up and across the dunes to get a perspective of the size and characteristics of the whole ecosystem. A great day was had by all, finished with some sandboarding.

A second excursion saw both classes enjoy a dolphin cruise in Port Stephens that was focused on ecotourism and traditional management practices of the marine environment. Students enjoyed a private tour of the whole region, and were thrilled to see many dolphins and other marine creatures up close and personal. Information gleaned from the very informative tour guide should aid the students with referring to real life case studies in extended response section in the HSC examinations.



Mr Stephen Carey

Head Teacher HSIE

Harmony Day lunch time show - featuring the band Front Row Warning, from the Year 10 music class



Live @ Lunch - music performances on Friday Week A lunch, in the music room. Elisabeth Robbins on vocals, Sam Powis on guitar and Samantha Wong on Piano. Next term, we are hoping for performances from other Elective Music students in year 9-11.



It has been an extremely busy but rewarding start to the year in Core. Year 7 have settled in well and have already started building strong relationships with their peers and teachers.

The Core faculty is made up of Mr Moore (Head Teacher Secondary Studies), Ms Selby-Smith, Mr Costa, Mr McNamara, Ms Darroch (LOTE) and Mr TeRangi. These dedicated teachers are working hard to support your child in the development of their knowledge and skills in English, Science, HSIE and PD/H/PE and can be contacted at the school should you wish to speak to them.

The school has purchased a license for Year 7 for an amazing online literacy program called *WordFlyers*. Wordflyers is an engaging, interactive and self-paced platform that focuses on the development of reading, comprehension, spelling, writing, punctuation, grammar and vocabulary. All students now have logins and have begun working their way through the program in class. Students are also encouraged to use this program at home as much as they like. No longer will the excuse of 'I have no homework' be applicable!

In the classroom students have enjoyed the *Silent Reading* program. At the beginning of every lesson students engage in 10 minutes of reading for pleasure using a book or magazine of their choosing. Whilst most students are bringing in reading material, some are still not. Students can borrow from the school library at any time and we encourage parents/carers to make reading material available at home which interests their child.

Another regular feature of Core classes is *Writing Fridays*. Each Friday students respond to an engaging NAPLAN style prompt in either a persuasive or narrative style. All students have a writing booklet that they use and spend at least 30 minutes engaging in quiet and uninterrupted writing. The focus is on the development of ideas in response to the prompt. The quality of these ideas has been very impressive. In May, the Core faculty will be undertaking professional learning in the highly successful writing program called *Seven Steps to Writing Success*. The aim of this professional learning is to equip teachers with innovative ways to teach writing and to get students to write in a more engaging, sustained and structured way. I look forward to seeing the improved writing outcomes of your child as a direct result of this professional learning.

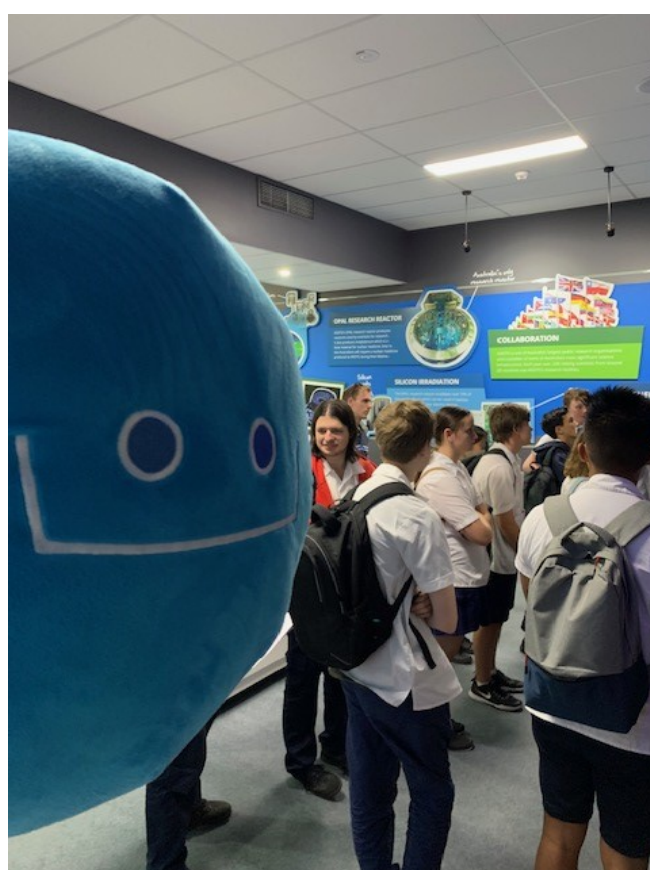
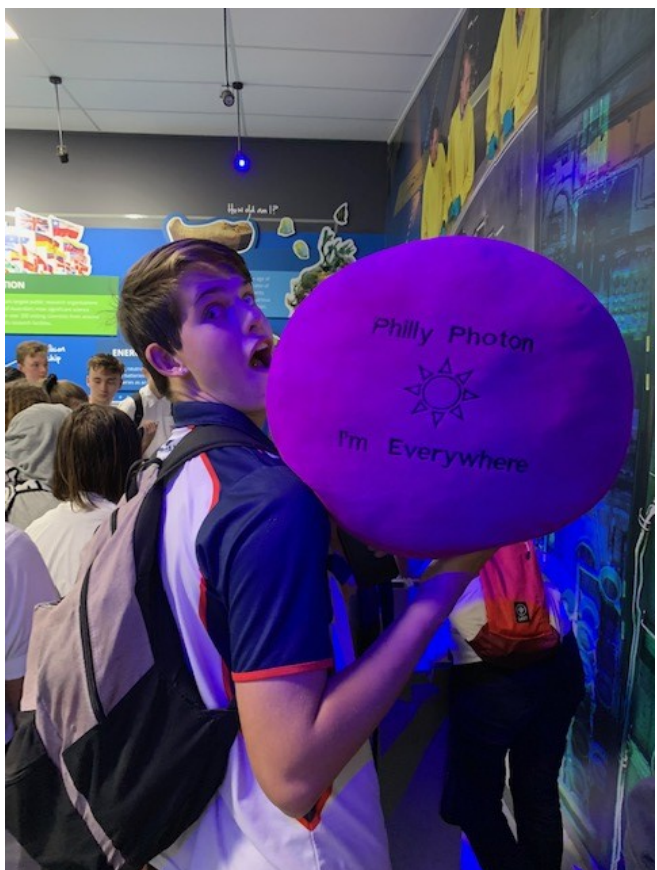
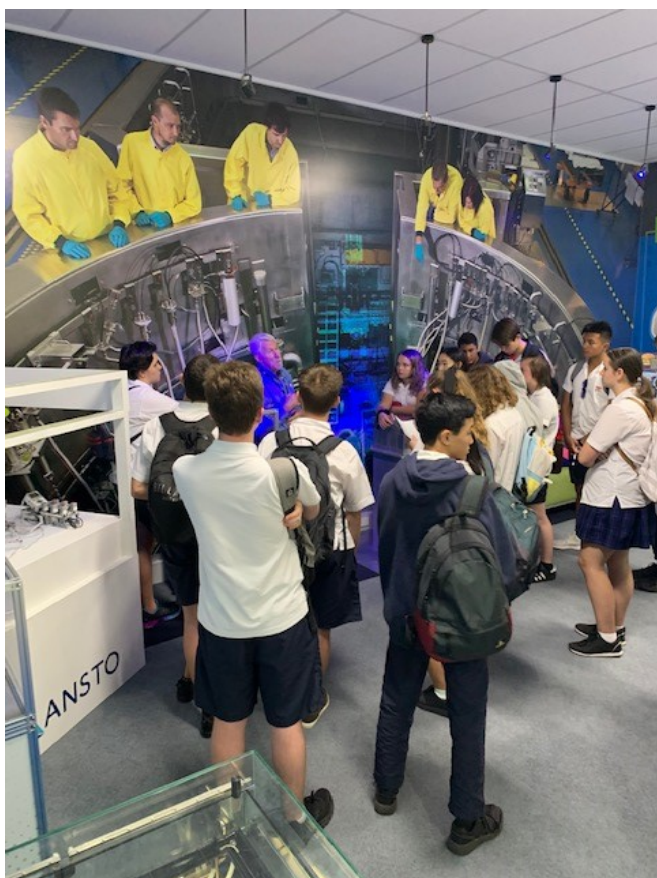
With assessment tasks coming thick and fast I encourage students and parents/carers to maintain regular contact with their teacher with any problems or concerns they might have. The transition from primary school to high school can be overwhelming, however, there is support available for all students, starting with the classroom teacher. It is important that if a student is struggling or feeling overwhelmed that they communicate this with their teacher.

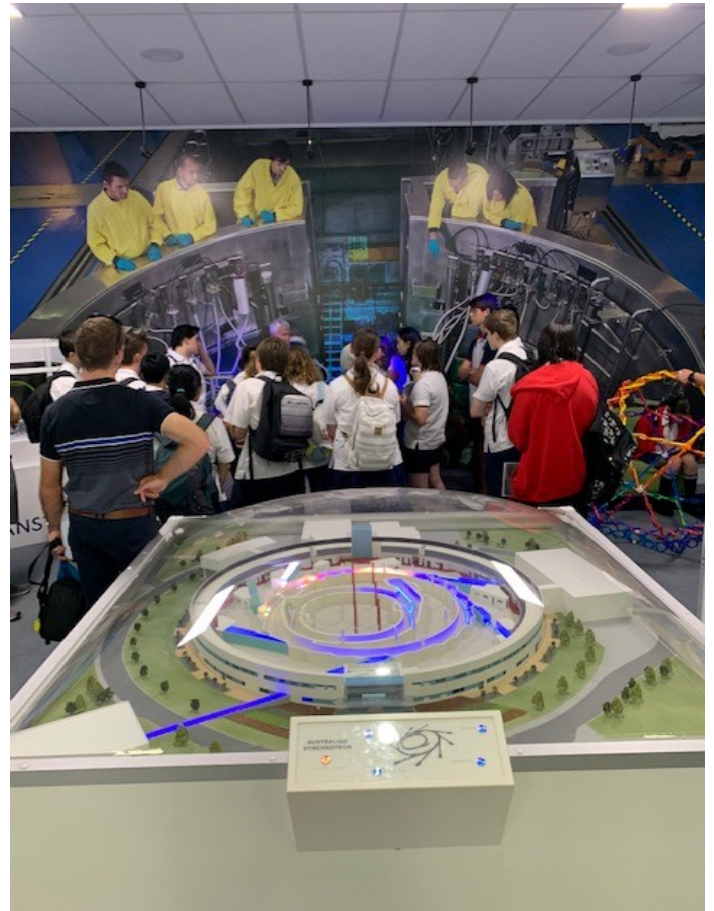
The Core faculty looks forward to a successful and productive Term 2.

Mr. Moore (Head Teacher Secondary Studies)

YEAR 11 CHEMISTRY

Year 11 Chemistry excursion to the ANSTO reactor in Lucas Heights Sydney.





NEW JUNIOR KITCHEN



Welcome to our new junior kitchen - O2.09 - Thanks to the replacement of our flooring GHS was able to finance the refurbishment of our junior kitchen. The students and staff are all enjoying learning and working in the new environment.



Also a big thank you to Mr Stephen Robertson and Year 12 Construction for building the cupboard for the wall oven in our new kitchen. The room is now working beautifully.

Mrs Narelle Sheahan

Head Teacher TAS

There has been plenty happening in PDHPE during Term 1. Year 7-10 PDHPE classes have been working hard in both practical and theory components of the course. Classes are currently working on either their first or second unit in prac consisting of:

- Fundamental Movement Skills (Yr7)
- Net/Court Games (Yr8)
- Stick & Racquet Games (Yr9)
- SEPEP Volleyball (Yr10).

Elective PASS and SLR classes have been supplementing their learning with plenty of hands on learning experiences and excursions in the local area. Classes have been snorkelling at Wyong Pool, playing tennis/squash at Lakehaven YMCA, working out in the school gyms and participating in a wide variety of activities.

Senior PDHPE and CAFS classes have made a smooth transition into the Preliminary and HSC courses. All subjects are currently working on core units of work as well as specific Assessment Tasks which is making for a busy start to the year.

Year 7 Integrated Sport and Passion Projects

This Year has seen a change to the organisation of sport with Year 7 integrated sport and Passion Projects included. This term students have been involved in a round robin competition playing Volleyball and Teeball. Every week, students have practiced, applied and refined their skills in the different contexts and also had opportunities to play competitively within their cohort.

Passion Projects is a new concept to Gorokan High School where staff and students engage in interesting and exciting projects that students have a choice to be included in. This has seen an increase in student engagement in these lessons with some students creating drones, learning about quilting, storytelling and social media as well as creating and participating in challenges like Gorokan Highs Ninja Warrior. Students responded really well to the new process showing plenty of enthusiasm and pride when participating in their chosen courses. The final Passion presentation for the term is to be held on Thursday 4th April with students and teachers displaying their unbelievable products.

PDHPE SUBJECT AWARDS

Personal Best Award – Joeli Morris and Aimee Plorer – Outstanding effort and application in their HSC PDHPE Course. Joeli and Aimee are consistently applying themselves, seeking and acting on specific feedback and working towards their goals of self-improvement both during class time and at home.

Cooperation Award – Tanique Nolan – Regularly assisting staff with the set up and pack up of equipment in practical lessons and always following staff instructions, being a positive role model for junior students and displaying a strong work ethic in all tasks she undertakes.

Respect Award – Reuben Wood – Consistently following teacher instructions and adhering to school rules. Regularly demonstrates respect for himself, peers and teachers in all classroom and extra-curricular activities.

Empowerment Award – Ryleigh Burston – Using his initiative to support staff in managing the dynamic environment in PDHPE. Ryleigh has been honing his skills and supporting classmates to achieve their personal best.

Mrs Lisa Rickets & Mr Ben Glachan

Head Teachers PDHPE

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education Faculty have commenced the new school year with excited anticipation. This year we have again grown with two additional classes, joining our previous four support classes. With these new classes, we have been fortunate enough to have three new Staff appointments, Amy Arevalo, Samantha Boughey and Sean Glachan. With increased class numbers we have also been able to develop a senior class focused on post-school transition. The faculty further awaits some significant building work to construct a new staffroom, toilets, kitchen space and classrooms for Students in the Special Education Faculty. At this point, I would like to thank students and staff patience as this work is being undertaken over the next couple of months.

Our Senior class has been participating in some community service and travel training. Recently, Students participated in a graffiti cleaning day with members of the community and visited local shopping centres as we prepare our Seniors for post-school. This preparation will include opportunities for students to visit post-school NDIS providers and some work placement.

Within the classroom, Students in our junior years have been engaging in Spelling and Grammar in English, Simple Equations in Mathematics, Japan under the Shogun in History, Japanese Art in Creative Arts, Investigations in Science and Who Am I and Why in PDHPE. Next term Students will be looking at Hero myths in English, Patterns in Mathematics, World War 1 & 2 in History, Mosaic in Creative Arts, The Solar System in Science and Being safe in an online space in PDHPE. Classroom teachers would like to thank all parents, who have attended Personalised Learning Support Meetings and look forward to continuing to work with parents throughout the year.

Mr Jon Glasson

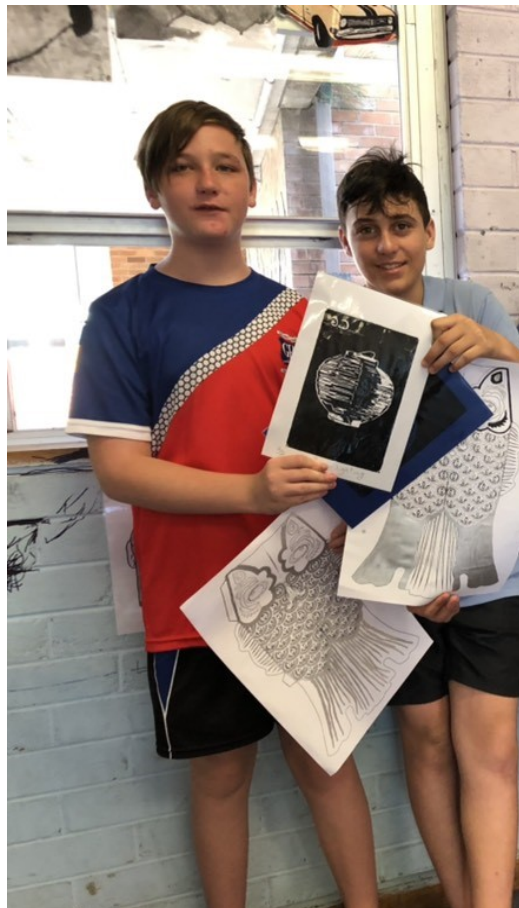
Head Teacher Special Education





SUPPORT UNIT CLASS - OPC

In the support unit, we have been learning about Japanese Art and recently completed prints using scratch foam. These prints were inspired by the Japanese Artist, Hokusai. Now we are making Koinbori kites!



LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY HOURS

OPEN	CLOSED	OPEN	SSS
8am	For recess each Friday	Lunch each day but CLOSED for the first 10 minutes to allow students to eat.	Monday & Wednesday until 4.15pm

SSS

The Senior Supported Study is on Mondays and Wednesdays in the school library after school until 4.15pm. Fully supervised by classroom teachers, it is a place where senior students can do quiet study or assessment tasks with access to all the library resources. Refreshments are provided for attendees.

BORROWING@GHS

JUNIORS may borrow 2 fiction and 2 non-fiction books.

SENIORS may borrow 6 fiction and 6 non-fiction books as well as textbooks.

Most resources can be borrowed for 2 weeks and can be renewed if required.

Senior textbooks must be borrowed through the library. All seniors need to pay a \$50 textbook fee that is fully refundable on return of all textbooks at the end of year 12.

If students have an overdue book or calculator they will not be able to borrow.

ASSESSMENT TASK SUBMISSION @ THE LIBRARY

Seniors need to submit assessment tasks at the library on the due date prior to 8.20 am. Plastic sleeves and orange submission forms are available in the senior study. Students may also submit their assessment tasks early if they do not want to arrive early.

RECHARGE AT THE CHARGBAR

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.

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 while it is charging.

LIBRARY RULES

The library is used by many students each day. We ask you to respect the rights of others while you are in the Library.

- no eating and drinking.
- bags left in the foyer on a hook.
- library computers and equipment need to be treated with respect .

Ms. Samantha Powell

Teacher Librarian

Congratulations to our 2018 Year 12 students. 32 students were successful in gaining entry into University Courses and 5 others gained entry into the Newcastle University Newstep Program. We wish them all the best as they start their tertiary studies.

Many of our 2018 cohort gained entry into the TAFE Courses they had applied for and others have gained employment. The breakdown of the destinations of all the Year 12 students is included in the soon to be published Gorokan High School 2018 Annual Report.

UNIQUE STUDENT IDENTIFIER (USI) NUMBERS

All students who are doing a Vocational related course, such as Whitecard, First Aid and TAFE qualification Courses, need to provide a USI before they are able to enroll in these courses.

All Year 10 students have been given the forms to complete so that they provide Identification from a Birth Certificate or Passport and Medicare Card and return them to the Careers Office.

Once these are returned, they can obtain their USI, which is then recorded for school purposes and all future Vocational training courses.

WHITECARD COURSES

This course is compulsory for all students who want to do Work Experience or obtain a trade in the Construction Industry and for those who have chosen to study Construction in Year 11.

It is necessary to have a USI to be able to be enrolled in the Whitecard Course.

WH&S White Card Construction Course

DETAILS OF THE COURSE

DATE	Wednesday 29th May 2019
TIME	7:45am — 2:35pm
ROOM	Careers
COST	\$99 PER PERSON
** Students must be 14 years or older to do this course **	

YEAR 10 CAREER PROGRAM

During the last couple of weeks, the Year 10 students have attend sessions to check their entries for Year 10 subjects for their NSW Education Standards Authority(NESA) Registration.

They have also had a session about how to Research the requirements for the careers they are interested in following after they leave school. This is very important for considering what subjects they choose to study in Year 11.

Early next term we will hold 'Taster Talks' to give the students information about the Courses they can consider studying in Year 11.

YEAR 12:

TERM 1

Wednesday 3rd April 2019 - Applying for University - Information Session

Parents and students are encouraged to attend this night, to understand the process of applying for entry into University Courses in 2020.

On the night, students will be issued with a package with leaflets: including how to apply for consideration for, Educational Access options for students who have experience specific form of disadvantage in their senior years, such as medical problems, Early Entry Applications, and Scholarship, past students talk about their experiences.

Past students also attend to share their experiences and the adjustments that they have had to make to transition from School to University

Check the school website for the details of this event.

TERM 3: RSA AND RCG COURSES

I am waiting for confirmation availability of a trainer for our dates in August. Registration Forms for these course will be issued early in Term 2, so students can set up a payment plan.

Susanne Thompson

Careers Adviser.

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The GHS 2019 annual swimming carnival was held week 4 at Wyong pool. The students' effort, attitude and house spirit was outstanding throughout the day. Congratulations to HARGRAVES for again being crowned the winning house! Age Champions are as follows:

12 YEARS	Noah Savona & Summer Chaplin
13 YEARS	Hugo Pagett & Kirra Weaver
14 YEARS	Tyson Montgomery & Britney Petrie
15 YEARS	Douglas Renshaw & Caitlin Montgomery
16 YEARS	Harrison Wetherall & Alisha Cech
17 + YEARS	Reagan Harris & Paige Stottelaar



ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

A team of 44 students represented GHS at the Tuggerah Lakes Zone Swimming carnival. Congratulations to the following students who were selected to compete in the Zone team at the Sydney North Swimming Championships:

Caitlin Montgomery
Paige Stottelaar
Douglas Renshaw
Mason Stottelaar
Zachary Landsiedel



Congratulations to Caitlin Montgomery who was selected to compete for Sydney North at CHS.

SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

GHS Athletics carnival will be held on Wednesday the 1st of May at Mingara. The following events are to be held at school early next term; 1500m and Javelin. Keep an eye out for the notices. Age Champions to be announced after the completion of those events, as well as House Champion.



COMING UP....

GHS Athletics – 1st May – at Mingara



OPEN GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The Open Girls Volleyball team played in the second round of the Sydney North Volleyball Championship. We versed a well drilled and highly experienced Pittwater High School who ranked 10th in Nationals the previous year. Not to be overawed by the occasion the girls demonstrated some outstanding qualities such as determination, respect, team-work and co-operation. After being edged out of the first two sets, the girls rallied and took a lead in the third. Our never-give-up attitude was inspiring, though the girls unfortunately couldn't match the opposition on the day. The way in which the girls represented the school was fantastic and I'm extremely proud of their positivity and effort.



OPEN BOYS VOLLEYBALL

An enthusiastic Gorokan High School Opens Boys Volleyball team travelled a couple of hours south to take on competition favourites Homebush Boys High School. Our boys opened up with a shaky start, which saw Homebush take the first and second set with some outstanding bouts of serves. The third set saw GHS get out to a comfortable lead until Homebush pulled out some creativity in their net plays that resulted in some unforced errors by GHS. Unfortunately the loss resulted in a round 2 exit in the Opens Boys Volleyball Knockout Competition for 2019. The MVP for volleyball goes to Jarrod O'Brien-Swann for his never give up attitude, enthusiasm and passion displayed throughout the day.



OPEN BOYS BASKETBALL

The GHS Opens Basketball team ventured down to the Scholastic Sports Stadium in Terrigal for the 1st round of the CHS Knockout - Shell Cup. The game was played in high spirit and the sportsmanship from both teams was a credit to the young men involved in the game. I would like to thank the boys for putting in a great effort both with training and on game day. I would also like to thank the parents/caregivers for transporting the students and supporting the team. GHS will be better for the run and with talent evident in the younger years, it could be big things to come for the GHS basketball team in the future. The MVP went to Jacob Roffe.



OPEN BOYS CRICKET

Toukley provided a great day for cricket as we hosted Wadalba Community School in the Alan Davidson Shield. Our team demonstrated an enthusiastic effort in the field with key bowling performances to Callan Taggart (Year 10) 2 wickets for 19 runs, Keegan Phillips (Year 11) 1 wicket for 11 runs and Zaid Shaikh (Year 7) 1 wicket for 4 runs. A notable mention to Adam Kanigowski (Year 7) who showed great character against the experienced bowlers, playing the 'shot-of-the-day'. After a slow start, Michael Seutinaviti (Year 11) came in to lift the run rate with a few lusty blows for a quickfire 17 from 10 balls. Unfortunately, the regular fall of wickets meant that we could not gain enough momentum, being bowled out after 22 overs for 54. Our students represented Gorokan High School with distinction and played within the spirit of the game.



Ms Holly Buchanan & Mr Luke Sharp

Relieving Sports Co-ordinators

We learnt together
 We ate together
 We listened to student music together
 We took photos together
 We stood together



#NDA2019 #takeastandtogether

Erin Manu

Head Teacher Wellbeing



GREATER TOUKLEY VISION TOWN CENTRE PRESENTS

WET WILD RHYTHM

Free Event

SUN 7th APRIL 11am to 3pm
Canton Beach Foreshore, Central Coast

**CELEBRATING
NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK!**

Entertainment and FREE Activities

Register your name at the Greater Toukley Vision
Marquee to receive your free entry.

f i FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT greatertoukley.org.au

