



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### RELIEVING PRINCIPAL REPORT

Wow! Where do I start and finish the final Principal (Rel.) report for 2019?

In sitting down to write this, I am enormously proud of what we have achieved throughout this year and as I reflect on these achievements, it makes me appreciate what a wonderful school community we have.

Teaching is becoming an ever increasing challenging task as society expects more and more from their teachers. We are expected to be role models, idea shapers, mentors and mental health workers, a source of inspiration and a constant knowledge resource and all the while we have a curriculum we are constantly held to account for. There are days that we laugh and days that we cry, but throughout it all it is the support we receive from our community that keeps us strong. The students that walks out of class at the end of a lesson and says, "Thanks Sir, that was a great lesson." The love and friendship our graduating Year 12 class show us when they realise that we're human and they recognise how hard we work for them to achieve their goals. The phone calls from parents thanking us for running excursions or taking the time to listen to their child. These are the small things that keep us strong and remind us that our job is so valuable for our community.

So, what have we achieved?

Our Graduating Year 12 class achieved the greatest number of early offers into university than any previous year.

- ◆ We've competed in, placed in and won various STEM and academic competitions, including most recently our involvement in the ILLUMINATE challenge.
- ◆ We sang our hearts out and filled our school hall with the wonderful delight of our school musical. ABBA even made a special appearance for such a special occasion.
- ◆ We've taught over 27,000 lessons to just over 1000 students and we managed to stay calm during recent catastrophic conditions.
- ◆ We've participated in a myriad of sporting events, including the inaugural Muru Bulbi Shield, where we proved our sporting prowess against our neighbouring high schools.
- ◆ We've supported over 200 students who have presented with anxiety or requiring nurturing through our learning support centre, wellbeing hub and through access to our school counsellors.
- ◆ Our student leaders represented us with pride at significant community and school events.
- ◆ We provided additional learning support to over 300 students, from Year 7 to Year 12.
- ◆ Our Aboriginal Didge and Dance group performed at showcases and events throughout the community.
- ◆ Our students participated in TAFE programs, school based apprenticeships and work experience.
- ◆ Our students camped at the Great Aussie Bush Camp, the snow, at universities, the Gold Coast and at Leadership camps.

# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

## RELIEVING PRINCIPAL REPORT CONTINUED

- ◆ We provided a library stocked with the most contemporary young Australian reading list available.
- ◆ We built wonderful new learning spaces for our Special Education classes.
- ◆ We ran programs for our Gifted and Talented students and we taught valuable life skills to our students needing additional support.
- ◆ We've allowed students to lead the way with the introduction of various student lead initiatives, including most recently our "Wear it Green' Day to support our local environment.
- ◆ We've built things, drawn things, written things, sung things and all the while we've done it through supporting each other as a school community.
- ◆ Phew! Gorokan High School – I think we deserve a holiday!

To our students, staff and families, I wish you all a very relaxing, enjoyable and safe holiday break and a very happy Christmas. Finally – THANK YOU! I would like to pass on my appreciation to all of our school community for the wonderful support you have given me in the role as Reliving Principal and to our school throughout 2019. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2020.

**Shanie Singleton**  
**Principal (Rel.) December 2019**

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## NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – NEW ENROLMENT PROCEDURE

Gorokan High School at capacity.

Please be aware that any new enrolments are to be considered under the Department's, Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy and the General Enrolment Procedures (2019), available on the Department's internet site at-

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/enrolment-of-students-in-nsw-government-schools>

While parents may apply to enrol their child in the school of their choice, acceptance is subject to the child being eligible to attend and the school being able to accommodate the child. In some circumstances, where schools are over their designated enrolment cap and local enrolment buffer, non-local enrolment applications, including those of siblings, are not able to be accepted by the school. Please be aware that Gorokan High School has now exceeded their enrolment cap and are unable to accept non-local enrolments. For further information please refer to the school Student Enrolment Procedure and Protocols, available on the school's website.

## KEY DATES

TERM 1	2020	
Week 1	January 29th January 30th January 30th	Years 7, 11 & 12 Students return to school Years 8, 9 & 10 Students return to school Year 7 Photos
Week 2	February 3rd—6th February 7th	Year 7 Rock and Water program Year 7 Cyber Safety Program
Week 3	February 12th	Year 7 Parent Information Evening
Week 4	February 18th February 19th	P & C Meeting 6pm Swimming Carnival
Week 5	February 24th & 25th February 27th	Year 7 Immunisation Zone Swimming Carnival
Week 6	March 6th	Learning and Wellbeing Night 5pm
Week 7	March 9th—13th March 12th	Year 9 Naplan Challenge Selective School Placement Test
Week 8	March 16th—20th March 17th March 18th March 20th	Year 9 Naplan Challenge P&C Meeting 6pm Athletics Carnival National Day of action against Bullying
Week 9	March 23rd—27th	Year 9 Naplan Challenge
Week 10	March 30—April 1st April 3rd	Year 7 Camp Stage 3 Academic Olympics
Week 11	April 6th April 8th April 9th	7/8 Zone Gala Day REACH (ICAS) Competitions payment due Last day of term

# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 7 TERM 4 2019

Wow, how time flies! As Year 7 draws to an end, we look back at the year that has been. Many of our students have enjoyed an extremely successful year both inside and outside of the classroom. Students have excelled during their first year of high school, from sporting teams to academics, and wonderful performances in the Arts.

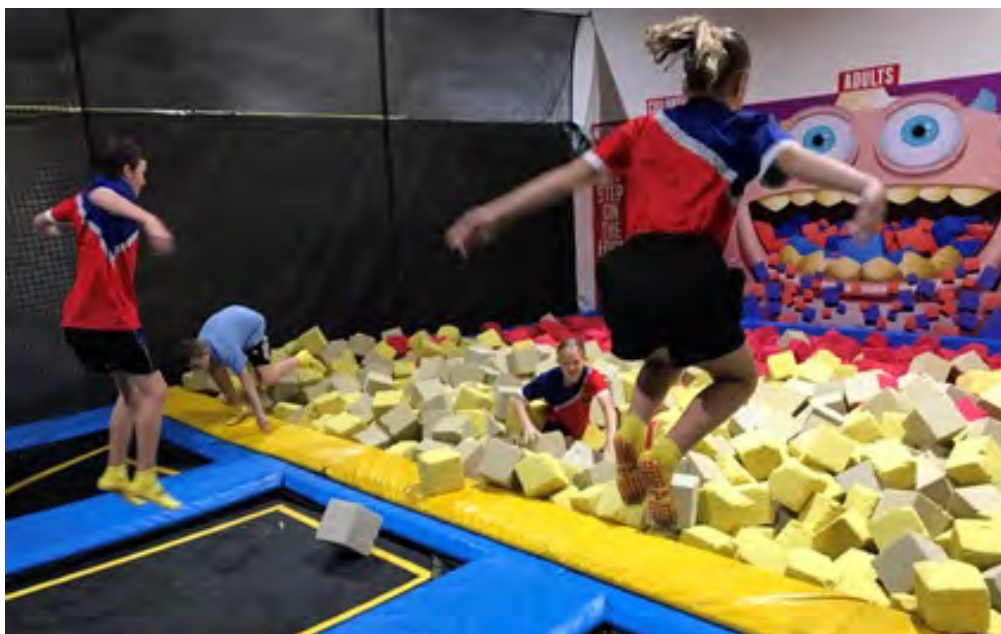
In Week 7, we held the parent information night for our Year 10 Excursion in 2022 to Central Australia. I thank all the families that attended on the night, and have promptly paid their deposits. I would like to thank Jeff Costa and Erin Manu for their organisation and support of what was a great night.

On Friday in Week 9 of this term, we are heading to Timezone at Kotara for this year's rewards excursion. It is a great opportunity for all those students who have shown exemplary commitment to the Gorokan High School core values of Respect, Personal Best, Empowerment and Cooperation, to enjoy a day of fun with their peers and teachers.

To conclude the year, we are holding the Annual Academic Presentation Night on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December in the New Hall. Invitations have gone out to all award recipients. If you are receiving an award, please make sure you RSVP, so we can confirm you will be attending. I look forward to seeing you all on the night and celebrating all your achievements.

Finally, make sure you enjoy your holidays and come back fresh and ready for what is sure to be a big 2020!

### Awezone



### Amazing Race



# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 7 TERM 4 2019



# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 7 TERM 4 2019

### Ninja Park



### Swimming Carnival



### Raw Challenge



# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 7 TERM 4 2019

### Great Aussie Bush Camp



### GOBC



# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 8 TERM 4 2019

As expected, Term 4 was an incredibly busy term with Yearly exams and extra-curricular excursions. As Year Advisor I cannot be prouder of year 8 and how they have conducted themselves both this term and throughout the year. The consistent attitude and application of students to all aspects of Gorokan High School life has been outstanding and I am very much looking forward to moving forward into the new year and seeing what 2020 will bring us. All the best for the holidays and looking forward to seeing everyone return happy, healthy and safe in the new year.

*"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore is not an act but a habit."* Aristotle.

## GREEN 4 MARINE DAY—FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29

Friday 29th November was the inaugural GHS Green 4 Marine Day. A committed group of year 8 students decided to raise awareness about the impact of humans on the environment and our local ecosystems. All money raised on the day, \$760, is going toward funding bottle recycling containers for our school.



Victoria K and Chase C two of our Year 8 Green 4 Marine ambassadors in their Green 4 Marine outfits.

Mr Matt Pascoe  
Year 8 Advisor 2019

# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 9 TERM 4 2019

Hello Parents, Carers and Students,

Firstly, I would just like to say a massive thankyou to everyone for making this year so enjoyable. You are now half-way through your high school journey and I look forward to making many more memories with you. Speaking of memories, we most recently ventured up to the Gold Coast for the annual Year 9 Gold Coast Excursion. Much like previous years, this excursion will be one that many of you will look back upon as one of the best times of your schooling life.

The Central Australia Excursion is taking place next year, which will be one of the greatest experiences students will take part in. For those students attending the excursion in both Year 9 and Year 10, continue making payments, we are under a year until we depart. I would like to take this time to thank Ann-Marie from Bunnings Lake Haven for allowing us to host the famous Bunnings Barbeque and for all the donations afforded to us over the past two years, I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

2020 will see even more opportunities for you all, so make sure you grab them all and push yourselves to achieve your personal best. Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas Break.

**Mr Daniel Jonovski**  
**Year 9 Advisor 2019**



# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 10 TERM 4 2019

Well another fantastic year is coming to an end! It has been an extremely busy time for Year 10. The majority of students have handled the added expectations, responsibilities and the importance of submitting assessments on time but this has proved difficult for some and has led to numerous N-awards being issued. Most students have met these demands whilst participating in many extra-curricular activities and sporting teams.

We have had a lot going on this term. At the beginning of the term we had our whole school Wellbeing Week which saw students participating in numerous activities with the main focus centred on “looking after yourself”. It concluded with each year group holding a food stall and raising awareness for a local organisation that we utilise to aid our students. As a year we chose to advocate Headspace.

Students will take part in work experience in weeks eight and nine this term and there has been a great response in the number of students participating which is a brilliant opportunity for the students. Students are also currently completing the prerequisite “All my Own Work” and “Work Ready” programs that are compulsory for entry to Year 11. If a student does not complete these programs they will not be able to commence Year 11 in 2020 until these are completed.

Some students have also taken part in the Yes Program run by Ms Jacobs which gives students time in TAFE to experience different courses that they may be interested in. This has been an overwhelmingly successful program and many thanks to Ms Jacobs for organising it.

There have been some students doing wonderful extra-curricular things, Zac L. and Harry W. participated in the MS bike ride to Wollongong raising money for such a worthwhile cause - Well Done!!! Also on the 9<sup>th</sup> November Shams R. and Zac L. were asked to present a speech at the Top Blokes annual dinner. They did an excellent job representing both their fellow Top Bloke participants and Gorokan High School.

Next year there will be a Snow Trip. It will be in either the week beginning the 3<sup>rd</sup> August or the following week. The cost will be approximately \$785 so start saving!

I wish all Year 10 students and their families a wonderful holiday season – stay safe!

**Mrs Kim McLean**

**Year 10 Advisor 2019**



# YEAR ADVISORS REPORTS

## YEAR 12 FORMAL 2019

Well another fantastic year is coming to an end! And for Year 12 their secondary studies have now concluded.

The Year 12 formal was held at Magenta Shores, on Saturday November 16th. A big thank you to all the students, parents and staff that attended the evening. It was truly wonderful to see everyone enjoying themselves so much. I know I had a wonderful night, from the mocktails on the lawn to the delicious meal, Joel the amazing magician and lastly the ceremonial cake cutting by our fabulous school captains. Thankyou to my friend and colleague Alana Folkes for taking such wonderful photos of our amazing Year 12.

I wish all Year 12 students and their families a wonderful holiday season – stay safe and all the best for your future!



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### **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](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

## WELLBEING TERM 4



### 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.



- 1300 22 4636
- Chat online
- Email us
- Online forums

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.



# 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.



## UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

### JUNIOR GIRLS

Light blue button through collared shirt, polo shirt or Blue/ Red Polo shirt with school logo

Navy PLEATED skirt, shorts, long pants or navy track pants

Navy cardigan / jacket with GHS LOGO

**NO- STRAIGHT SKIRTS**

**NO- JEANS OR BLACK TIGHTS**

### JUNIOR BOYS

Light blue button through collared shirt or polo shirt or Blue/ Red Polo shirt with school logo

Navy shorts, long pants or navy track pants

Navy jumper / jacket with GHS logo.

**NO- JEANS**

**ENCLOSED BLACK SHOES LACE UP LEATHER**

### SENIOR GIRLS

White button through collared shirt or polo shirt.

Navy checked PLEATED fabric skirt, navy shorts, long navy pants or navy track pants

Red cardigan / jacket with GHS LOGO

Red jacket / jumper

### SENIOR BOYS

White button through collared shirt or polo shirt.

Navy shorts, long pants or navy track pants

Red jumper / jacket with GHS logo.

Red jumper / jacket

**ENCLOSED BLACK SHOES LACE UP LEATHER**

#### NOTE :

NO DENIM AT ALL

BLACK IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR NAVY

NO TIGHT LEGGINGS

NO JEANS

## PE UNIFORM

**BLACK SHORTS** with blue side stripes and **WHITE GHS SHIRT OR BLUE/RED POLO SHIRT**

#### UNIFORM SHOP

This shop operates on Tuesday mornings and Thursdays from 7.30am to 9.00 am

#### CURRENT UNIFORM SUPPLIERS

Gosford Tailoring at The Entrance and GHS premises.

Yr 10 Photography students recently participated in a 'Multiple Me' Photoshop challenge, creating an image that composites multiple versions of themselves or a friend into the one scene. The final composite tells a narrative about a current social issue.

1. 'Rock-Paper-Scissors' by Ella H
2. 'Social Media' by Jessica R
3. 'Photoshoot' by Chloe-Maree J
4. 'Street Fighter' by Jaali D





The chart below will help to explain the new reward system.

# GOROKAN HIGH SCHOOL



## Year 7 Core Faculty Rewards System

### Individual Student Rewards



Trade in **5 x Core Cash** for a small prize  
(e.g. ice-block etc.)



**Five weekly prize draws** at assembly

### Class Rewards

The class with the most Core Cash at the end of the term will earn a:

- Class BBQ; and
- Time off class to play sport, watch a film etc.

## 2019 Remembrance Day

On Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November Gorokan High School held its annual School Remembrance Day Assembly. This year marks the 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 1 when at 11am on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, 1918, after more than four years of continuous fighting, the firing ceased along the Western Front as an Armistice was called.

After the end of the Second World War, the name 'Armistice Day' was changed to 'Remembrance Day' so that day would commemorate all of the war dead. We now remember the contribution of the more than 120,000 Australians who have lost their lives in wars, conflicts and peace operations over the past century. As a mark of respect to those who have suffered and died, people in Australia stop what they are doing at 11am to observe one minutes silence to reflect on the loss and suffering caused by war.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Gorokan High School Staff and Students for their cooperation on the day which ensured a respectful and dignified commemoration assembly.

**Organised By: Miss Carla Drummond**











## Year 9 History – Trench Warfare Game

On Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 9 HSIE 5 participated in a Trench Warfare Game as part of our study of World War 1. The game is played on the oval and is designed to simulate World War 1 Trench Warfare, whereby students participate in several role play activities to gain a more in-depth understanding of Trench Warfare during World War 1.

**Organised By:** Miss Carla Drummond



## Year 10 Geography – Hunger Banquet

During Week 2 of this term, 10HSIEP participated in an OXFAM Hunger Banquet, during class time with the aim of developing a first-hand experience of the inequalities inherent in our food system and an awareness of poverty around the world.

Students were separated into three tiers; High Wealth – the top 10% of the world population (only 2 students) and ate a meal consisting of lasagne and a cupcake. Middle Wealth – 50% of the world population (12 students) and ate a meal consisting of savoury rice and beans. Bottom Wealth 40% of the world population (10 students) and ate plain rice in a lettuce leaf.

This hands on activity allowed students to step into the life of other people around the world, develop their empathic understanding and aims to make students consider how their life is impacted by poverty. Students continued to develop their understanding surrounding food security and the role we have, as individuals, in raising awareness to reduce hunger. The students walked away with a humble appreciation of how lucky we are to live in Australia.

**Organised By: Mrs Jessica Sanchez**

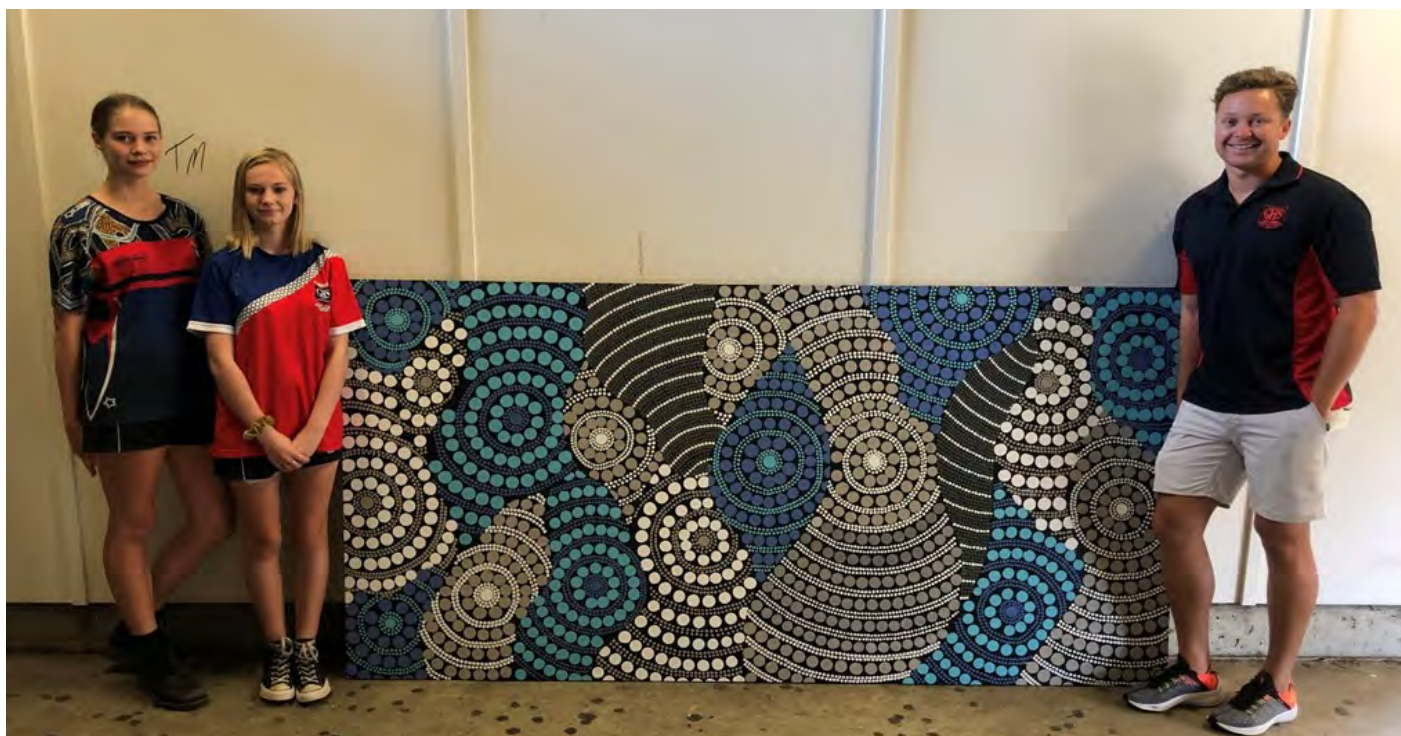




## Aboriginal Art Work

Gorokan High School has a deep connection with Aboriginal Education and its history. All staff and students embrace and take part in the Aboriginal culture whether it be through celebrating NAIDOC week or participating in small cultural activities at school events. Over the last few months the HSIE faculty have been working on redesigning the outside look of all classrooms with new Aboriginal Art to be displayed. Below is a piece that was designed and painted by both students and staff within the school. These students are immensely talented with their art and have spent lot of their own time finishing off this piece.

**Organised By: Mr Trent Lake**



## Year 12 Ancient History – A Day in the Life as a Pompeiian

On Friday, November 22, our new Gorokan High School Year 12 Ancient History class, experienced a small taste of what it would have been like to live in the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum in 79 AD. This is part of their Core Study: Cities of Vesuvius – Pompeii and Herculaneum. Students dressed up like members of the different social classes in Pompeii (Slaves, Gladiators and Elites) and had the opportunity to try some of the local delicacies such as -Bread, Garum (Fish Sauce), Cheese, Fruits, Olives, Seafood and Wine (Red Cordial) to aid in their understanding of the everyday life of the citizens of the ancient cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

Organised By: Miss Carla Drummond





There has been plenty happening in PDHPE during Term 4.

7-10 PDHPE classes have been working through the Physical Fitness, Striking and Modified Games units, where students have demonstrated some outstanding hand-eye coordination skills in a variety of activities; including, Cricket, Softball, Badminton, Hockey, Bocce, Finska & Multi Sports. Students have then been able to apply the common strategies and tactics across multiple sports with modified games such as; Chicken Run, Mat Hockey and Crushball.



Elective PASS, Outdoor and SLR classes have been participating in a variety of controversial and hands on learning experiences during Term 4; including, Issues in Sport, Futsal & Modified Games and First Aid. A great topic of discussion has been the use of performance enhancing drugs in sport and students have been encouraged to justify their beliefs on the topic, leading to outstanding and insightful class debates.



Senior PDHPE and CAFS classes have now progressed into the HSC Courses. CAFS students are currently working on the Individual Research Project and PDHPE students are creating their Sports Medicine Teaching Tool. The previous HSC group are busy reflecting on their performance in the HSC Examinations and are nervously waiting on their results.

Due dates for Assessment Tasks are as follows:

12 SLR – Healthy Lifestyle Research Task (week 9)

12 CAFS – Independent Research Project (week 10)



We recently recognised Gorokan High School students on their sporting achievements throughout the year at the sports presentation at Wyong Leagues Club. It was an excellent night for all involved and we thank all the parents, students, teachers, sponsors and special guest Jayme Fressard for being a part of it.

The Gorokan High School 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. Keep an eye out on the GHS Facebook for some upcoming initiatives such as; 'Year 6 Sport & Transition Day', 'Life Ready', 'Physical Activity 4 Every 1', 'Goro Cup 3.0', Year 7 Beach Safety Course and the next 'PSC – Leading with Action Day'.



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



Finally, we would like to congratulate all students on a successful year within PDHPE with many students being recognised at the upcoming presentation night held in Week 8. From PE, have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year period and we look forward to working hard in 2020.

Thanks for a great year.

**Mr Benjamyn Glachan**  
**Relieving Head Teacher - PDHPE**

### SCIENCE 2019

In 2019, the Staff of the Science Faculty have worked to provide our students with every possibilities to explore Our World, and even beyond it.

There has been excursions to Port Stephens for whale watching, Luna Park, Newcastle University, University of NSW, RAAF Base Williamtown, Warnervale Airport, Shark and Ray Centre, Taronga Zoo and Norah Head headland to name a few. These experiences have brought the world as a classroom to our students.



This year has seen Science expand the Marine Studies elective to Year 11. 2020 sees this expand into Year 12. Mr Watson and Mr Fearnley have worked so diligently, both in the classroom and “behind the scenes” to achieve this. They have undertaken extra training in their own time to expand what they offer their students. Through scuba diving off Port Macquarie, First Aid training, looking after the fish tanks on weekends and holidays... nothing has been too much. Students in Marine Studies have gained Boat Licences, bred fish, seen whales for the first time and learnt about the effects of “micro plastics” in our environment. They have seen first hand and gained a much greater understanding of their own environment. They have embraced the “Take Three of the Sea” initiative and have led the school in picking up 3 pieces of rubbish and putting it in a bin, before it ends up in our storm water and washed out to sea.



## SCIENCE FACULTY

Our Stage 6 senior students have just finished completing the new Year 12 syllabus for each subject. Year 11 to year 12 have seen Earth and Environmental Science reintroduced to our school in the science fields. This subject adds to the skills offered by Science at GHS, preparing our students for future careers. With our environment in the news every day, this subject is a welcome addition to our Faculty. Mr Fearnley has put his heart and soul into preparing this class for the challenges they face.

Year 12 had our first Science Extension students. This subject requires our students to present a Research Report on a subject of interest in Science. Dr Rudmann has been a mentor as well as a teacher to these students. They have presented University level work before they have finished year 12! Mr Penfold in particular has made himself available to construct experiments to test the ideas these students investigated. All science staff have made themselves available 24/7 to help these students.

Next year we see all the Sciences running at GHS for the first time in Stage 6 for some time. This is a testament to the dedication of your Science teachers at GHS. The effort of all the teachers of Stage 6 classes has been outstanding. The hours both at school and at home show their dedication to the students and their professionalism. Students continue to show the results of this dedication by choosing Science courses and more importantly enjoying the challenges presented in these classes.

The STEM academy group have been working together. This dedicated band have given up every Monday lunchtime to work on their STEM projects. This has not been an easy process and these students are learning “hands on” skills that will prepare them for the STEM focused jobs of the future. They have travelled to the RAAF base Williamstown (where we learnt how to change a bus tyre... very STEM, in the purest “hands on” experience... not to mention the mozzies) and to the V8 Supercars in Newcastle to inspire them. The STEM group also formed the basis of the team that participated in the “Science and Engineering Challenge” at St Edwards College, Gosford. These mostly Year 9 students took on Year 10 students from other schools, including Gosford High School. THEY WON!!! Not only did they win, but they also score record scored a in some of the events. It will be interesting to see how they go next year. Mr Mesina’s secret weapon (TimTam biscuits) will definitely be available... but don’t tell the other schools.



## SCIENCE FACULTY

The Science teachers go out of their way to make Science as enjoyable as possible. That happens thanks to such a wonderful staff working together. Extra activities included transition lessons for Year 6 students (thank you Mr Finlayson) and Academic Olympics (thank you Dr Rudmann) just to name two more activities that help Science function at GHS. Behind the scenes Mrs Prest, helped by Ms Bond, our wonderful Lab Coordinators, as always do a fantastic job allowing Science teaching to make it happen at GHS. At the same time we have helped train 6 University students, training to be Science teachers this year. This too is a testament to the quality of teachers in our Science faculty.

A truly MASSIVE Thank you to the Science staff for their tremendous effort throughout 2019.

It has been an even busier year than last year, and it looks as if 2020, using my perfect vision (sorry could not resist the pun) will be even more busy.

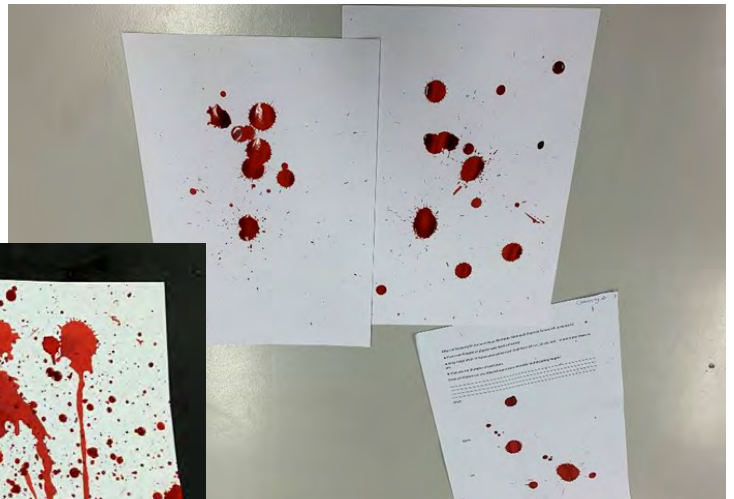


Science has been very busy with our students participating in many different activities during the term. Our Year 10 students have been completing a unit on forensic science and are currently working on a topic covering environmental issues.

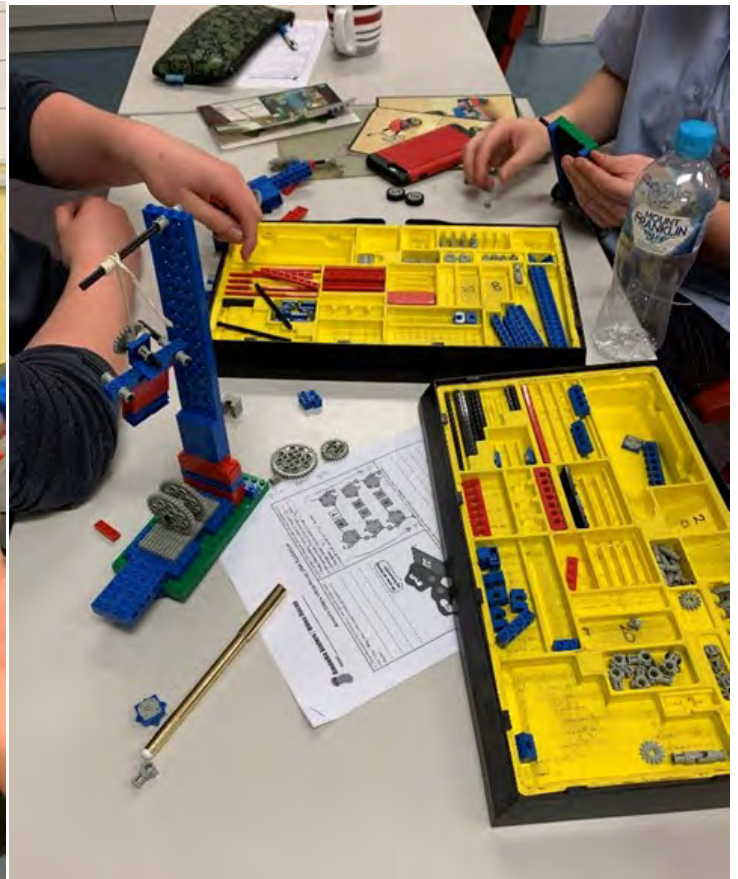
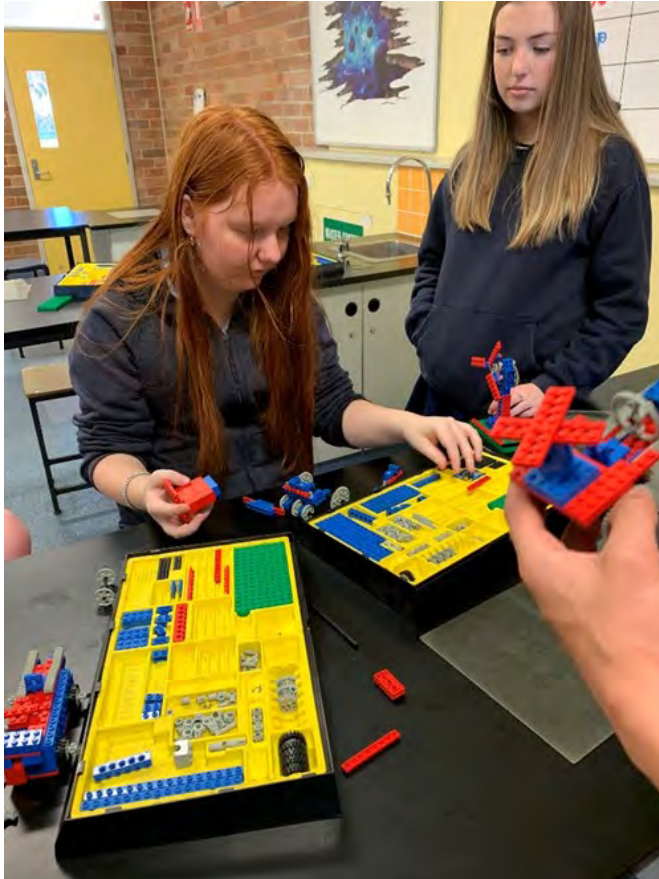




DNA extraction from strawberries



Blood spatter analysis



Emma R. and Riley S. working on Lego models

Year 7 is working on a STEM project, with many ideas being used to build models demonstrating concepts that we have learned about during this year.



Justin R. and Alex M. working on their project

## SCIENCE TERM 4, 2019

Science has also been working on establishing gardens around the school, with success in growing some vegetables!



Mrs Karen Wallwork

## MARINE STUDIES

Marine Studies students were soaking up the rays and sharks at the Irukandji Shark and Ray Centre at Port Stephens. Students had close encounters and learnt about the marine ecology of our wonderful marine environment. Thanks to everyone for a great day.





Congratulations to the ten students that will be on the water this summer by completing their boat licence at Gosford Sailing Club as part of the Boat Smart Program. Mr Zak Watson.

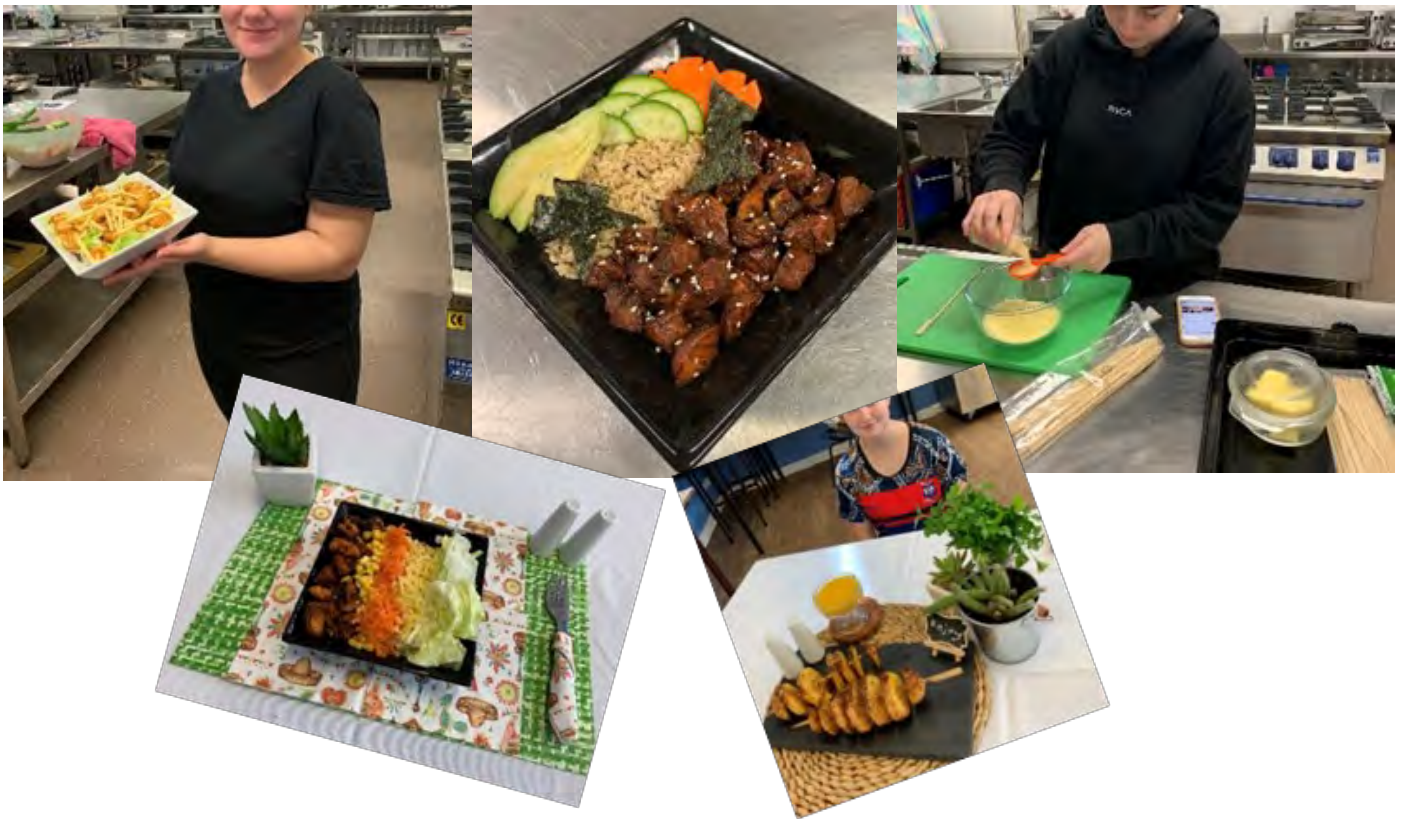
Best wishes to all our Gorokan High School family for Christmas and the New Year. See you in 2020.

**Mr Frank Mesina**  
**Head Teacher Science**

Another busy term, and a year that has almost past.

The Society and Culture students attended a day at the Wesley Conference Centre, Sydney where they gained valuable information about the Personal Interest Project process. It is important that students adhere to the timeline as advertised and I hope that each family has received a copy of this important information. It is important that family members are aware of the PIP and offer any support possible. This may mean accommodating them with a quiet place for them to sit and reflect on their research, participate in questionnaires or interviews. Students have been asked to blue tack important information to the walls and even behind the toilet door. If you have any questions about this process please do not hesitate to call Mrs Sheahan in the TAS staffroom.

### Hospitality students - final assessment task practical.



Students are in the process of completing many forms of projects and folios as seen in the snap shots below.

Year 7 - burnt carvings



Year 8 – tie dyed cushions

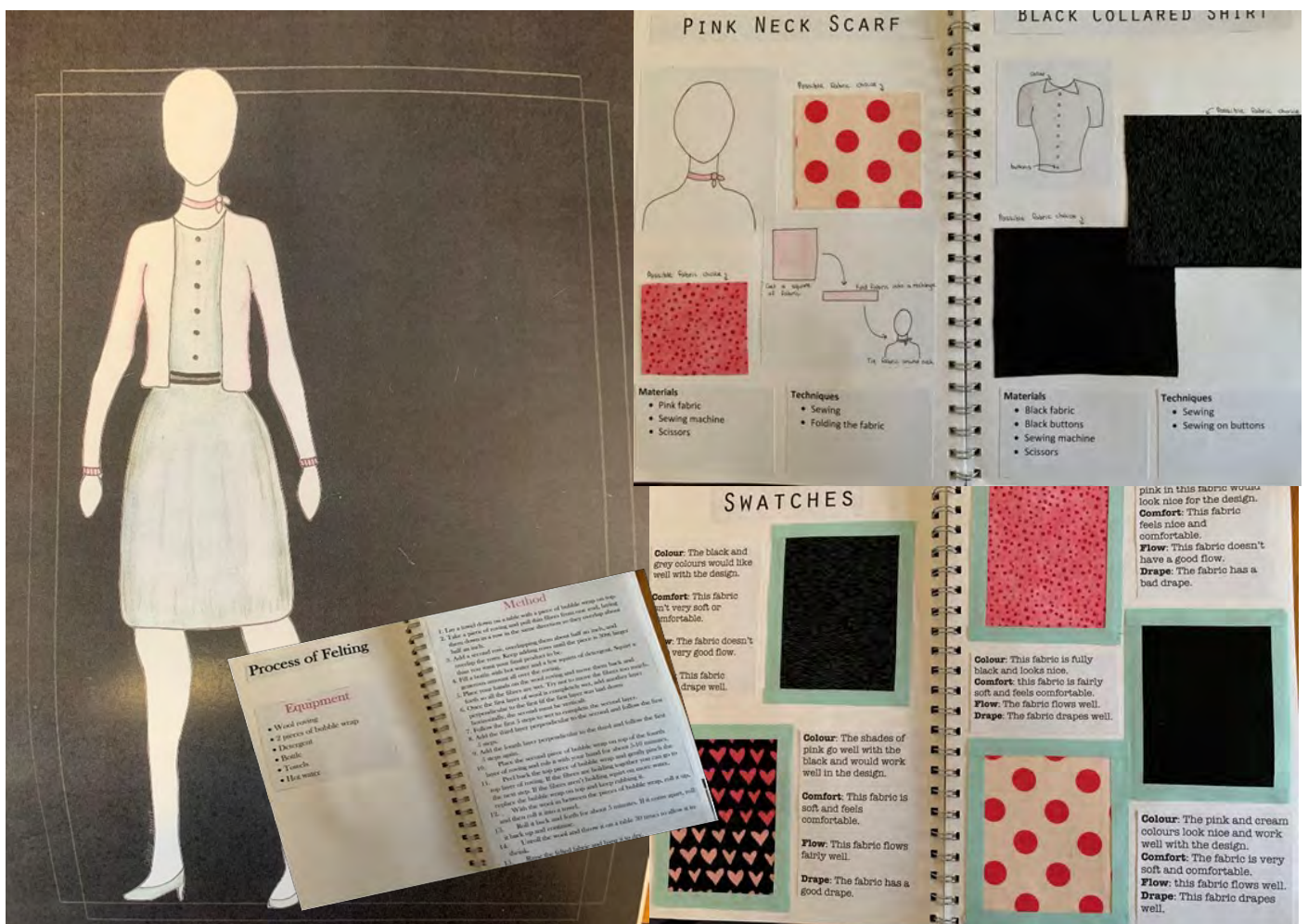


Year 8 - tie dye fabric to make stuffed animal toys and are at present embellishing the characteristics on the faces, students are eager to complete them.



5Y Fashion and Beauty students have been creating a costume design. Some of the requirements are a folio, tiara, shoe / slipper, and fashion drawing.

Students were also given instructions to create a wire structure using beads. Below are some of our exceptionally talented students folios and drawings .





5Y Fashion and Beauty and Child Studies class combined and have began their preparations for the Christmas Season.



Year 7 – felted shapes with the LED light – the students were so excited when they switched the ‘ON’ and the light came on.



5Y Child Studies - prototype of a child's bedroom



9X Food Technology – cakes for a special occasion



I would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody associated with Gorokan High School a safe and happy holiday season.

**Mrs Narelle Sheahan**  
**Head Teacher TAS**



## SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS

Much of Gorokan High Schools CAREERS faculty focus in Term Four revolves around the YR 10 work experience program. Approximately 80 Year 10 students from Gorokan High School will participate in work experience during weeks 8 and 9 this term.

Work Experience is a school organised program in which the workplace becomes an extension of the learning environment. It constitutes an important part of the School to Work program which is part of the school curriculum. This program is usually undertaken in Year 10. It is distinct from Work Placement which is undertaken by senior students as a compulsory part of their HSC Vet subjects.

### Work Experience enables students to be:

- actively involved in gaining firsthand knowledge of the world of work
- helps the student make relevant career choices
- gain valuable job seeking skills and work skills
- develop social and communication skills
- acquire an evaluation and reference which will help the student in the job market.

In order to gain full value from Work Experience, students should select a position that is within their capabilities and in which they have an interest. Most host employers are very accommodating to students provided they demonstrate enthusiasm and a willingness to learn.

Students should realise that, in one week, they will not be able to undertake the full range of tasks involved, but may spend much of the time observing. They should use this opportunity to ask questions. Where possible, students with the help of parents and friends are encouraged to find their own Work Experience. Making contact with employers is a skill all students should develop and networking is the most valuable source of jobs for school leavers. All work experience participants organised their own work experience this year.

There was a diverse range of work experience placements during the program, such as Engineering, Education, Retail, Trades, Medical, and Vet services.

All host employers will be contacted or visited and host employers will complete a feedback and evaluation report. Students will be able to use these evaluation sheets as an employer reference when applying for jobs in the future. A successful work experience will enable students to gain an invaluable reference that they can use when applying for future jobs.

Gorokan High would like to extend our congratulations to all Year 10 students on a successful completion of their work experience.

**Mr Stephen Robertson**  
**Relieving Careers Adviser**



## GIFTED AND TALENTED UNIT

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

The **GHS Academic Olympics for Stage 4** (year 7 and 8) will happen Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> of December. This academic competition has been very successful for the past 8 years and getting stronger. This extracurricular activity allows students to have fun, develop social skills and improve in their problem solving strategies while working in teams. Results for the Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be published in our web page and in next years Term 1 newsletter.

The ICAS competitions has changed names, from now on it will be the **REACH competitions**. The dates and cost for Mathematics, English, Science, Writing and Digital technologies are listed below. The University of New South Wales wants the final numbers of students participating in the exam by the end of Term 1. Therefore, payments must be made promptly. The competitions are compulsory for year 7C, 7P, 8C and 8P classes. Students enrolled in those classes are going to be invoiced. Students in other classes will receive a note at the beginning of Term 1. Please, pay the fees at your earliest convenience. The last day payments will be received will be April 8, 2020. The UNSW is very strict with this due date, they need the numbers to order the papers.



Test	Sitting week	Cost
Digital Technologies	4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> May	\$ 10.00
Science	25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> May	\$ 10.00
Writing	15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> June	\$ 20.00
English	27 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup> July	\$ 10.00
Mathematics	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> August	\$ 10.00

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

The NSW Department of Education has changed the gifted and talented policy this year. The new policy is called **high potential and gifted students policy**. GHS is revising its policy for our students and it will be implemented in 2021. During next year all teachers teaching the selective stream will be re-trained to up skills to keep providing an exemplar quality teaching and learning programs.

More information about the policy for [parents and carers can be found in the NSW DET](#) web page.

Finally, the GATS Unit would like to congratulate all our students who have achieved their personal best this year and received special awards and mention in our presentation night. Keep up the good attitude towards your learning for 2020.

Have a wonderful holiday!

**Dr Silvia Rudman**

## Abseiling Canyoning



## Abseiling Canyoning



## MTB



## GHS SRC NEWS

SRC has been quiet during this term, with exams and other activities keeping us busy in our classes.

On October 25, we participated in Bandanna Day as a fundraising activity for CanTeen. We sold bandannas and cupcakes, raising a total of \$850 on the day. These funds go towards helping young people who are living with cancer.

Our annual conference will be held first week back at school (Friday January 31, 2020) – more details to come.









Thankyou all for a wonderful 2019 and looking forward to working with you all again next year!

**Mrs Karen Wallwork**  
GHS SRC co-ordinator



# Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  laptops & tablets  |  lessons & activities |
|  uniforms & shoes   |  books & supplies     |
|  sports fees & gear |  camps & excursions   |

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner), have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*



\* many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information.

## Contact

your local Saver Plus Coordinator

## Phone or SMS


your name and postcode to 1300 610 355

## Email

CentralCoastSP@thesmithfamily.com.au

## Online

[saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)

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PO Box 4338 LAKE HAVEN 2263

Goobarabah Avenue GOROKAN 2263 Phone:- (02) 4393 7000

The Uniform Shop is located in the Welfare Hub (old Admin Block)

## UNIFORM SHOP PRICE LIST

### GIRLS Uniform

Snr Skirt	\$45.00		
Jnr Skirt	\$40.00		
Blouse	\$25.00		(Snr and Jnr)
Zip Jacket	\$35.00		(Snr)
Cardigan	\$23.00		(Snr and Jnr)
Track Pants	\$30.00		



### BOYS UNIFORM

Hoody	\$35.00		(Boys and Girls)
Shirt	\$25.00		(Snr and Jnr)
Zip Jacket	\$35.00		(Jnr)
Polo Shirt	\$25.00		
Micro Fibre Shorts	\$20.00		

### SPORT UNIFORM

Polo Shirt	\$28.00		(Boys and Girls)
Shorts	\$25.00		(Boys and Girls)



### PAYMENTS

EFTPOS and CASH

Layby's welcome

Online Orders @  
[gtschool.com.au](http://gtschool.com.au)

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS:- 7.30am – 9am Tuesday and Thursday mornings

### School Holidays Opening Hours

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, January 2020

9 am– 12pm Purchases ONLINE Pickup 12pm – 1pm