CONGRATULATIONS SAMANTHA
To reach the final four from an original field of over 1800 students statewide in any competition is a great feat - but to do it in an environment whereby one solitary error rules you out of the competition adds even more prestige to the result.
This is exactly what Year 5 student Samantha from class 5E achieved at the ABC studios in Ultimo last week in the State Finals of the DEC Spelling Bee Competition. As a school we recognised and applauded Samantha's impressive efforts at last Friday's assembly. To make her result even more creditable was the fact that the majority of Samantha's competition came from students in Year 6!
Samantha's ability in spelling is matched by her love of reading and her results follow last year's efforts in making the State finals of the Junior Primary section of the Spelling Bee Competition. She is an excellent ambassador for our school, humble in nature, always does her best in class and is proud to represent her school.

COMBINED BANDS PERFORM
Last week we were treated to a combined band performance with our own concert band and the visiting band from Leichhardt Public School.
These events provide our students not only with another performing opportunity but also a chance to socialise with other students with similar interests. In this case it was whilst enjoying a sausage sizzle cooked by master chef, Mr Harrison.
Thank you to Mrs Latta, Mrs See, Mr Dallinger and Mrs Lockie for their hard work on the day and well done to all students from both bands!
I also congratulate our students who performed at The Central Coast Band Festival held at The Central Coast Leagues Club on November 9.
BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE
BYOD TRIAL
I recently met with the Principals of Point Clare Primary School and Henry Kendall High School, who form part of our local Gosford City Learning Community. The meeting was very insightful, specifically in regards to both schools plans to implement a BYOD program, something I have been considering for our school.

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) simply means a student would be able to bring technology equipment from home to utilise for educational purposes, within the classroom. A growing number of our students already have their own personal technology; they are confident and happy using these devices. Research has shown that students in BYOD classrooms feel empowered using their own devices as they are familiar, resulting in a more creative and personalised learning environment.

Henry Kendall High School introduced a BYOD program earlier this year and this affirms our plans to implement a **BYOD trial in 2015**.

A successful BYOD program requires careful planning and community consultation. Our staff has been engaged in Professional Learning in BYOD and this week we are seeking input from parents through a **BYOD Parent Survey**. Your feedback is an integral part of the BYOD planning process and will assist the school to determine a suitable BYOD Trial at GPS. I thank you in advance for taking time to complete this survey. I would also like to thank Mrs McCabe, the Technology team for their efforts and contributions to technology programs within the school.

SESQUICENTENARY

We are seeking the return of our original school bell which would be included as an integral part of our garden project. The bell hasn't been sighted for quite a number of years and the return of it (with no questions asked) would be greatly appreciated.

We are also continuing to collect newspaper articles and photographs that are related to Gosford Public School. These are being collected by Mrs Newton for the 150 Year Sesquicentenary book. We have the facility to scan documents at our office and return them whilst you wait.

Thank you to the local businesses and individuals who have donated money and/or products towards our school’s 150th celebration. If any businesses or individuals would like to donate items for our sesquicentenary event, please contact our School Promotion’s Team Leader, Karen Smith, on 43493600 or karen.smith114@det.nsw.edu.au. Possible donations include: a specified cash amount, products to be raffled as prizes, products for our BBQ or stalls, products to assist in the building of our commemorative garden, sponsorship of our commemorative book etc.

Listed below are our generous sponsors and we thank them for their ongoing support of our wonderful school.

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**2 Quality education in a nurturing, innovative learning environment**
This week we have received a donation from:

1. **Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park**  
   Enjoy a true-blue Aussie bush, wildlife and Aboriginal experience  
   2375 Peats Ridge Road, cnr Darkinjung Road, Calga NSW 2250  
   p.43751100 | f.43751257 | www.walkaboutpark.com.au  
   (A family pass valued at $62 to be raffled in 2015)

2. **Mars Food Australia**  
   4 Corella Close  
   Berkeley Vale NSW 2261  
   T: +61 2 4389 6700  
   F: +61 2 4389 6799  
   (A donation of products for our celebration)

Please note that I will be on leave from Wednesday November 12 until Monday November 24. During that time **Mr Francis** will relieve as principal.

**Best wishes**

John Anderson

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**GOOD NEWS SPORT**

**Soccer**  
2 Gosford Public School boys have been selected in the highly competitive under 12's Central Coast representative soccer team. 40 boys trialled and 14 were selected. Conor in 6S and Luke in 5E were selected with training starting this week. They will train 3 times a week from January and games every weekend with every 2nd weekend playing in Sydney. Congratulations!

**Trampolining**  
On Sunday 2 November Charlotte, Miranda, Mitchel and Lara competed at a levels competition against Sydney clubs. Here are the following results: Lara 2nd level 1 tramp & 3rd level 1 single mini, Mitchel 1st level 2 tramp & 3rd level 2 single mini, Miranda 1st level 4 tramp & 4th level 4 double mini, and Charlotte 1st level 5 tramp & 1st level 5 double mini. The kids all performed extremely well and a big congratulations for Lara competing in her 1st competition.

**PUZZLE MASTER**  
This week’s Puzzle Master winners are Aaron 1J and Charlotte 2G. Congratulations!

**Mrs Hodgson**  
Coordinator
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

COMBINED BANDS PERFORM
Presentation Day 2014

Gosford Public School's Presentation Day assemblies will be held on Friday 12 December 2014 in the Multi-Purpose Centre of Henry Kendall High School. The K-2 assembly will begin at 9:30am and the 3-6 assembly will begin at 12.00 midday. Certificates and presentations are awarded to students to recognise their achievements in the academic, social and sporting areas.

If your child is receiving an award, a letter will be sent home inviting parents to attend the end of year Presentation Assembly.

Presentation Day awards punctuate an important phase in our students’ lifelong learning journey. It is a time when we are able to formally recognise outstanding effort and performance by many of our students. We reward all children throughout the year in line with our school merit system therefore this day is not intended to recognise the efforts of every child. This day is to recognise the special and extraordinary efforts and achievements students have made throughout their current school year at Gosford Public School.

Making a decision about which child gets an award is a difficult and well-discussed decision. Although many students are deserving of an award we have limited them to highlight their importance and significance. Awards are based on in school performance and effort throughout the year.

What to do if your child is not receiving an award?

Q Why don’t we give an award to every child?
A If every child received an award, children would soon work out that the award was token and the value of the award would diminish.

Q What if my child has worked really hard all year and has received good results but is not given an award?
A Congratulate your child for their efforts. Remind them that they would have received awards and praise throughout the year from their teacher.

Q Many children deserve an award but only some children get one, why?
A Many children are considered for an award. Teachers take into consideration many children's efforts and performances. In the end however only a few children will receive an award.

Q My child is disappointed, how can I help them feel better about their efforts?
A This is an ideal time to impart the value of resilience and persistence. Encourage your child to congratulate their peers, learn from their friends and to plan ways to build on their efforts in the coming year.

Janine Szostak
Presentation Day Coordinator

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Welcome to the launch of Technology News! This new section of the newsletter will appear each week to keep you up to date with everything Technology related in our school. It will also provide advice on how to manage your child’s use of technology, including ergonomic advice, CyberSafety tips, cool website links, and apps to try to name a few.

Technology at Gosford Public School

Students today have grown up with technology and want to use it in every aspect of their daily lives — including school. Here at GPS, we have worked hard to ensure all our students have access to the best and latest technology. **GPS students enjoy a digitally enriched classroom experiences.** They have access to a wide range of technology every day, including a Video Conferencing room, Smart boards in every class, computers (4 -5 desktops in every classroom), a Y6 1:1 notebook program, a computer lab containing 30
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

desktops, a well-equipped library computer bay and most recently the development of a class loan system where teachers can borrow iPads, Windows8 Tablets (2 in 1 tablet/ laptop devices) and notebooks for group and class activities. This diverse range of equipment has always been school purchased and stayed on school grounds. We are extremely fortunate to have the support of the Chapman fund and a generous P&C who have always supported and enriched Technology within the school.

In recent years, keeping up-to-date with the ever increasing advancement of technology has proven difficult, and it is no longer best practice for a school to remain the sole provider of technology. Students today now have an expectation that the same technology they use at home will be available at school too. Students as young as kindergarten are now some of the most enthusiastic and savvy users of state-of-the-art mobile computing devices. At GPS we are considering this shift very carefully and are contemplating trailing a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program in 2015.

What is BYOD?
BYOD simply means a student would be able to bring Technology equipment from home to utilise for educational purposes, within the classroom.

A growing number of our students already have their own personal technology; they are confident and happy using these devices. Research has shown that students in BYOD classrooms feel empowered using their own devices as they are familiar, resulting in a more creative and personalised learning environment. There are numerous benefits to students and schools who adopt a BYOD program; however a successful BYOD program requires careful planning and communication with the whole school community. We realise the BYOD program is very different to our current technology practices at GPS and so are seeking your thoughts on the program.

In this week’s newsletter, you will find a link to a BYOD Parent Survey that we are asking parents to complete. The survey is anonymous and is a multiple choice style questionnaire that will only take a few minutes. There is space for comments and I would really encourage you to express your ideas and concerns. The parent survey is an extremely valuable part of the BYOD process and your input will help the school decide which type of BYOD trial would be suitable for our school in 2015.

Please click the link to access the survey. https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SRS6ZVC

We would ask that you please complete your survey by Tuesday 25 November. The results of the survey will be published in the following newsletter.

Your time is really appreciated, thank you. We look forward to reading your feedback on the possibilities of a BYOD program at GPS.

Jodie McCabe
Technology Coordinator GPS

CHERRY PICKER USE

We are looking for a cherry picker to be used for a special 150 year photo on Friday 6 March 2015. If you would be able to donate the use of one, please let either John Anderson or Karen Smith know on 43493600.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YEAR 2 BUS TRAVELLERS

Children currently in Year 2 must have a new bus pass application completed for 2015 as they will not automatically receive a bus pass for next year.
Applications can be obtained from the school office and returned when completed.

CANDY CANES

‘Sweets’ have never been a healthy option and nor are they supposed to be. They are ‘treats’ and are meant to handed out sparingly or they lose both their appeal and can cause trouble. Obesity, sugar cravings, bad teeth, poor health are all potential consequences of consuming large amounts of sweets. As we near the end of the
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

year and the 'Christmas' season our students tend to share 'Christmas' cards with their friends (which is lovely) but, unfortunately, the cards often come attached with a *candy cane*. In previous years we have noted large numbers of this sweet being consumed by our students on a daily basis over the last month or so of the school year. As a school we are concerned about this level of consumption over a concentrated period of time. Additionally, our concerns extend to those children who may have an undiagnosed food allergy – a risk we are always attempting to manage.

So, this year, we are asking parents to support us in not attaching a *candy cane* sweet to any Christmas card to be shared at school. Of course, this request only pertains to school-based exchanges of gifts and cards.

**OZ TAG**

Yesterday the boys’ and girls’ Oz Tag teams played 4 to 5 games each. At the gala day the games were fifteen minutes long. Year 4 and Year 3 played the games. There were 3 girl teams and 1 boy team. Some of the schools we played were Niagara Park and Wyoming. Thank you Mr Johnson, Mrs Wade and parents for the day.

Zoe

Last Wednesday, Year 2 had a very special visit from Polly the koala. Polly is an eighteen-month-old female, who resides at the Australian Reptile Park, Somersby. The students (and teachers) had a lovely time finding out more information about this endangered, Australian marsupial. After the show the students had these facts to share:

- The joeys eat their mother’s poo when they’re 6 months old, so that they are able to get a special bacteria that will let them eat the same foods as their mother when they grow up (Sarah)

- Koala’s have 2 thumbs that help them climb (Jonathan)

- A group of koalas have no name, because they are solitary animals (William)
• Koala’s are unable to jump many metres from tree to tree (Charlotte)

• When baby joeys are born they are as small as a jelly bean (Olivia, Alyssa)

The koala visit wouldn’t have been possible without the help of the Australian Reptile Park. We would like to say a very big thank you to Kerri and Alex for organising the visit as well as Caroline and Kylie who brought Polly to our school and gave an entertaining and informative presentation! We would also like to extend our thanks to the rest of the Australian Reptile Park staff who assisted with bringing Polly to our school!

Year 2 will continue fundraising with the K-6 raffle for the rest of this week. All money raised will be donated to the Australian Reptile Park in the hopes of sponsoring a koala. Tickets are on sale during first break near the Chapman Room. Tickets prices are as follows: 1 for $1, 3 for $2 and 10 for $5. First prize is 4 adult passes and 4 child passes to the Australian Reptile Park (valued at $200). Second prize is 2 adult passes and 2 child passes to the Australian Reptile Park (valued at $100). There are two second prizes up for grabs! The raffle will be drawn this Friday 15 November, so be sure to get your tickets!

Miss Gately, Mrs Wade and Mrs Boulton

Little Aussie Songsters competition
An Australia Day competition where primary students can video their singing of our national anthem. For further details, visit http://www.aussievault.com.au/vault/136/detail/little-aussie-songster.

The competition is now open and will close on Saturday 14 February 2015.

Ready for high school
Just to let you know that the Transition to high school, Ready for High School Checklist is now available in 36 languages.
Search by language:
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL
2014 YEAR 6 FUN DAY

WHEN: Wed 12th November
       K-2: 10 to 11am
       3-6: 12 to 1pm

WHAT: Bring your money and have a go at some fun
       stalls and activities. (Students only)
       HAUNTED HOUSE; PIE THROWING; COIN TOSS; DIZZY PENALTIES;
       BEAUTY BAR; PIE THROWING AND MANY, MANY MORE.

WHERE: Quadrangle, Oval, Ball Court- All over the school
       playground

WHY: Year 6’s Major Fundraiser
      All proceeds go towards the gift to the school.
Gosford Public School P & C Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in the Chapman Room on 26 November 2014 at 7:30 pm

All office-bearer positions are open for election

Minutes of previous AGM will be distributed prior to AGM

P & C now also has an email address:

gosfordpspandc@gmail.com

Please send any items for the agenda to the secretary by the Friday before meeting.

The AGM consist of Presidents annual report, treasurer’s annual report and any other relevant annual reports. All reports must be strictly relevant to the AGM. In addition new by-laws will be tabled for adoption. These draft documents will be distributed by email. The positions determined at the AGM are:

- President
- Two vice Presidents
- Secretary - Correspondent
- Secretary - Minutes
- Treasurer
- Canteen sub committee
- Uniform sub committee
- NSW P&C Federation delegate

The Auditor for the following year will be determined at the AGM

ALL WELCOME, ONLY FINANCIAL P & C MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO STAND OR VOTE FOR A POSITION
Year 4 O.C. Trial Test Course!!!

ALL YEAR 3 STUDENTS!!

Exclusive to James An College, the Year 4 O.C. Trial Test Course prepares students to sit for the O.C. Placement Test by practicing and solving 2,450 test questions.
The course duration is 35 weeks from October 2014 to July 2015.
Each class is for 2 hours per week.
Each week students will complete two test papers of English, Mathematics & General Ability questions.
The test format is exactly the same as that in the real Opportunity Class Placement Test.
Students will also receive computerized test reports every week.
These individualized student reports will give a close indication as to how the students will perform in the real O.C. Test.

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Fresh Produce Homewares
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Cakes Jewellery

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5.00PM TO 8.00PM

LISAROW PUBLIC SCHOOL
27 MCDONALDS ROAD, LISAROW

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