KINDERGARTEN 2015
Our school is hosting a Parent Information Night for children starting Kindergarten in 2015 this Tuesday evening September 9 from 6:30pm until 7:30pm. It will be held in the Chapman Room.

It is a great opportunity to meet the staff of our school and to be confident in ways to assist children in having a smooth start to 'big school'.

Further information about our excellent transition program is available on the School App in the ‘Parent Information’ section. It would be appreciated if our current parents could encourage other parents with children who are eligible to enrol for next year to attend this important information session.

NAPLAN
Last week parents and carers of Year 3 and 5 students should have received a copy of their child’s NAPLAN results.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children.
Parents/carers can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. However it is important to remember that NAPLAN is a one off snapshot of student achievement levels and progress. Unlike other exams such as the HSC, OC and Selective High School tests where the final result has significant input via a school assessment, the NAPLAN scores reflect the abilities of the students in a test situation on a given day. As a school we value these results but know that they do not always reflect a definitive outcome of student achievement.

Our initial analysis of our school’s NAPLAN results is pleasing with both Year 3 and Year 5 results in Literacy and Numeracy being above the State average. Parents/carers may wish to discuss their child’s NAPLAN results with their child’s class teacher.

WELL DONE TO SCHOOL CONCERT BAND
I have recently reported about the outstanding efforts of our school training and concert bands performing so well at the Gosford Scouts 90th Anniversary celebrations. Last Sunday our concert band joined with several other local bands to perform at Kibble Park Gosford for a special Gosford City Council Father’s Day event. Band Coordinator Mrs Esther See reported that once again the students were fine ambassadors for Gosford Public School. Well done band members!

Thank you to Mrs See, Mr Dallinger and the parents of our band members for ensuring students were able to attend and represent their school.

FATHER’S DAY BREAKFAST and GIFT STALL
As is clearly evident by the happy faces in the photographs featured in this edition of the school newsletter the annual Father’s Day Breakfast held last Friday was a huge success. We are thankful for the support of staff, many of whom arrived very early to help set up. We had many helpers, especially our cleaners, Angela & Ian, our General Assistant, Mr Harrison, Canteen supervisor Nena and the members of the Gosford North Rotary Club.
Thank you also to Mrs Talty, Mrs Norris and helpers for organising such an impressive array of gifts that were also on sale. I am appreciative for the efforts of our Deputy Principal, Mr Francis for his coordination of this school community event.

SCHOOL DISCO
It appears from the number of tickets already sold that the school disco to be held this Thursday September 11 is going to be a big hit! The K-2 Disco is to be held from 4:30pm-6:00pm whilst the Year 3-6 Disco will be held from 6:30-8:00pm.
Tickets are still available and are $5 or $10 for siblings. Many thanks to Miss Scott and her team of helpers for volunteering their time to coordinate this fun event for our students.

RED CROSS BIG CAKE FUNDRAISER
Don’t forget to support the Red Cross BIG Cake fundraiser this Tuesday (K-2) and Thursday (Years 3-6). Miss Rose does a great job coordinating our school’s charities programs and this fundraiser is a great chance to support an Australian charity that supports people in critical need across the world. Thank you to everyone who supports this charity event either baking cakes or purchasing some of the cakes on offer.

CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS TEAM
Last Wednesday Gosford PS Championship Chess Team played Neutral Bay Public School in the semi-finals for the NSW Junior Chess League. Although Liam, Mitchell, Connie and Talon played extremely well, Neutral Bay PS were the victors. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate not only our Championship Chess Team for competing at such an elite level, but also our three intermediate Gosford chess teams teams. The Intermediate competition consisted of two zones, with Gosford B and C winning their zones, and Gosford D placing 2nd. An excellent result for all students and they are to be commended for the way in which they have represented Gosford Public School.

INFORMATION and ASSISTANCE REQUIRED for SESQUICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS
Next year will see Gosford Public School celebrate 150 years of providing a quality primary education service to families in the Gosford district. It is the oldest school in the Gosford Shire and the second oldest on the Central Coast. In fact, it commenced just two years after Ourimbah Public School who successfully celebrated their sesquicentenary (150 years anniversary) recently. We aim to make the Gosford 150 Year celebrations a memorable occasion for current and former staff, students and family members. Among other things, a 150 Year book has been discussed. Mrs Newton would be pleased to hear from people who have historical information such as articles or photographs concerning Gosford Public School that can be scanned and then returned.

WELL DONE
I was pleased to be able to attend the Performing Arts Night (PAN) at Laycock Street Theatre last Tuesday. I couldn’t help but be impressed with the talent on show. It was obvious by the large number of performers from Gosford Public School that PAN is highly valued and supported by our school. Typical of the dedication of our staff was having Mrs Latta, Mrs Barnfield and Mrs Douglas assisting Mrs See packing up the band equipment late in the evening (and in the rain!).
Mrs Szostak reported that despite the rainy conditions on the day our students performed very well at the district Athletics Carnival held last week at Mingara’s Athletic Centre. Gosford PS finished in a creditable 3rd place overall. Congratulations to Nash of class 5R who has achieved ‘Age Champion’ for his division.

John Anderson

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS
Thank you to all the families who have paid their voluntary contribution in response to the invoices sent out recently. In just over a week we have received $2552 in payments. However, this reflects approximately 10% of our possible total. All funds received go towards school programs and are gratefully appreciated.

Wendy Powe
School Admin Manager

The Puzzle Master’s Apprentice
Puzzle Master winner for last week was Georgia 3/4GB. Congratulations!

Mrs Hodgson
Puzzle Master’s assistant
This photo was captured at the recent commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Chapman Bequest. It was an opportune time to bring the trustees and beneficiaries together to celebrate the tremendous generosity of both Mr and Mrs Chapman.

Should my child repeat?

Information for Parents

Research into Repeating
When children are doing poorly in school, they seem immature or miss school due to illness, parents sometimes wonder if their child should repeat a grade to help them catch up. The decision to repeat or not, is best made after examination of evidence that there will be some benefit to the student and that they will suffer no harm. Some children do benefit from repeating. They seem to settle, to grow and learn. They make new friends and develop their confidence. However, many children repeat and still do poorly. It is difficult to predict who will benefit from repetition. Educational researchers have studied what happens to students who were struggling at school and then repeated, and compared them with students with the same difficulties who did not repeat.

Learning and Understanding

• Some students who repeat make good progress in the year they repeat. However, equally as many students who don’t repeat, make the same gains. Usually by the end of the following year, any gains the repeating students have made have faded away.
• Repeating rarely has long term effects on learning.
In cases where parents and teachers feel that a child will not cope with the curriculum in a higher grade, it may be necessary to change the curriculum to suit the child, rather than waiting for the child to be ready for the curriculum.

Socially
- Children who are socially immature sometimes seem to grow up in the year they are repeated, but so do the comparison students who are not repeated.
- Children who have difficulties fitting in with others may not be best helped by making them try to fit in with a whole new group of children.

Self-Esteem
- Research shows that children who repeat have less positive attitudes to school. Some students even view repetition as punishment for not doing well or trying their best.
- The feelings and memories associated with repeating are not positive. There can be teasing from classmates and feelings of failure. Most students who are repeated will say things like “I’m in Year 6, but I should be in high school.”
- A child’s attitude to repeating is crucial. Children who already have fragile self-esteem may be very distressed by repetition, which can be seen by them as a public declaration of their failure.

Who Repeats?
- Research shows that children who repeat are more often boys, more often poorly behaved, more often from disadvantaged homes, and more often have a language background other than English. These are not good reasons to repeat.
- Some children have intellectual disabilities which do not go away so the child will always learn school work more slowly than their peers. Some students have learning difficulties, which mean they can have average intelligence, but have problems with literacy and/or numeracy.
- Even children who have missed lots of school, or who are young for their year, don’t benefit from repeating when compared to similar students who did not repeat.

What If They Don’t Repeat?
- Children who repeat generally make the same progress as children who don’t repeat.
- Students having difficulties with their learning need careful assessment to find out why they are not learning and then planning for an individualised program that will meet their learning needs.

How Do We Make A Decision?
- Talk with your child’s teacher about what your child is expected to know by the end of the school year. If the expected outcomes are not reached, find out what the school can do to assess the difficulty and plan an individual program.
- Carefully consider your child’s feelings about repetition.
- Make this important decision, in consultation with the school, based on this knowledge of researched effects that repeating has on children, and what the effects may be on your child.

Lisa Stone
School Counsellor

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening hours Thursdays 2:15 to 3:30pm in the Chapman Room, or order through Munch Monitor or payment and order in the uniform box in the school office. Volunteers are more than welcome!
Do you start work early?
Does your child sit upstairs in the cold every morning, unsupervised and bored? Before School Care may be for you!
We’re open from 6:30am. Our brand new, purpose built OSHC room is Air Conditioned and filled with educational resources, activities and lots of children for your child to play with. We also provide toast for breakfast!!
Our Fully Qualified Diploma in Education and Care Educators have a daily program in place to meet each child’s developmental needs. Our service is also approved under the National Regulations and Law through Department of Education and Communities and ACECQA.
We are a Child Care Benefit approved provider and depending on your percentage from Centrelink, morning care could cost as little as $7.00 for our morning session.
If you have any enquiries please contact Emma our Nominated Supervisor on (02) 43493610 (Main) or 0451 371 713 (Mobile) or just come in and meet our friendly staff.
We also offer After School Care and Vacation Care during the school holidays.
We are located on the ground floor of Block E directly under the school office.

Why not visit an octopuses’ garden this school holidays!
‘Free’ ROCK POOL RAMBLES by Ocean & Coastal Care Initiatives
Come and explore the rock pools with OCCI’s expert guides and learn about the fascinating creatures who live there. Limited numbers, bookings essential. Walks are most suited to ages 8 years to adult.

Dates:
- Wed, 24th Sept at Terrigal Haven
- Thurs, 25th Sept at Norah Head
- Sat, 27th Sept at Toowoon Bay
- Tue, 30th Sept at Forresters Beach (evening spotlight)

To book, please phone OCCI on 0450 990 995

‘Proudly supported by Gosford City Council’
Dodgers Junior Baseball Club  
2014-2015 Summer Season  
Registration  

Dodgers Baseball Club has been fielding Senior and Junior teams on the Central Coast for over 50 years. We pride ourselves on being a family orientated club and many of our past juniors have worked their way up into our senior ranks. 

We are currently looking for Junior Players in the Under 8, 10, 12 and 14 divisions, for the up and coming season. 

Under 14 games are played on a Tuesday evening at around 5.30pm for one and a half hours, And the Under 8s, 10s and 12s play on Wednesday night at the same time. 

Playing venues vary from Adcock Park-West Gosford to Mingara and occasionally Watanobbi. 

Our Registration days will be held at Adcock Park on Saturday 13th and 20th of September between 10am to 11am. 

Bring a glove if you have one for a throw 

All enquiries can be directed to Jim Reardon on 0410 46 5551 or at reardonsranch@gmail.com 

You can also look up our club on Face book  
https://www.facebook.com/dodgersbaseballclub/info
Small Steps is a free anxiety awareness program for NSW primary school teachers and parents.

Did you know?

- An anxiety disorder affects one in ten children.
- Anxiety impacts on a child’s social, family and school life.
- Early intervention may assist in preventing the onset of more serious problems including depression and substance abuse in adolescence.
- Children with anxiety are generally not disruptive in class or at home.
- Anxiety disorders can be resolved with timely information, care, treatment and support.

Presentations last between one-two hours and cover:

- The difference between normal anxiety and anxiety disorders.
- Types of anxiety disorders.
- Signs and symptoms of anxiety disorders.
- Our free Small Steps presentations involve:
  - A visual presentation by a speaker from Mental Health Association NSW.
  - Reference materials and information.
  - A recommended reading list.
  - A question and answer session.

We’re holding a Small Steps presentation for Parents!

When and Where

Date: Thursday 16th October 2014
Time: 4.45pm
Location: Gosford Public School
RSVP: 7th October on 4249 3600

co-ordinated by The Mental Health Association NSW with the support of NSW Health and Centacare.
### Holiday Activities

**Sept/Oct 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Age &amp; Cost</th>
<th>Date &amp; Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archery (Indoor)</td>
<td>8-15 years $20</td>
<td>22 or 23 September, Gosford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoeing/Kayaking</td>
<td>10-16 years $33</td>
<td>26 September, Avoca Lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cares Bicycle Safety</td>
<td>School grade 3-6 only $10</td>
<td>2 October, Palmdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIRCUS SKILLS</td>
<td>6-12 years $40</td>
<td>30 September, Niagara Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIRCUS AERIAL WORKSHOP</td>
<td>8-16 years $31</td>
<td>30 September, Niagara Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GYMNASTICS INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>5-12 years $30</td>
<td>24 &amp; 25 September, Berkeley Vale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIDS MULTI-SPORTS</td>
<td>6-13 years $27 first child, $22 for every other sibling</td>
<td>26 September or 2 October, Avoca Lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sailing</td>
<td>7-16 years $166</td>
<td>24, 25 &amp; 26 September or 1. 2 &amp; 3 October, Gosford Sailing Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stand Up Paddle</td>
<td>11-16 years $33</td>
<td>1 October, Avoca Lagoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surf Life Saving</td>
<td>5-13 years $20</td>
<td>29 September, Terrigal Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surfing</td>
<td>7-16 years $95</td>
<td>20, 21 &amp; 22 September [w/e]; or 1. 2 &amp; 3 October, Umina Beach or 24, 25 &amp; 26 September, Avoca Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennis Wyong</td>
<td>5-16 years $67 (third sibling free)</td>
<td>22, 23 &amp; 24 September, Wyong</td>
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All program fees include GST. For other information on each program or bookings, please phone 02 4362 3184 or 13 13 02 or see www.dsr.nsw.gov.au
North Avoca SLSC 2014/15 Nipper Registration is on at the North Avoca Surf Club Sunday 7th and Sunday 14th September between 2.00 – 4.00pm.

All new and existing members are welcome, however we ask that any new members bring along a copy of your children/s birth certificates.

Please visit: www.northavoca.com.au for more information or contact the surf club office on 43843607.