Games-a-thon Incentive Prize Winners

I would like to thank all of the students and their families who contributed to the fundraising efforts for our Sesquicentenary Games-a-thon. The major incentive prize winners were drawn on Monday.

The winners are 1st prize Daniel 3L, 2nd prize Lara 6S and 3rd prize Lyndon 3/4B.

Thank you to Mrs Newton for organising the Games-a-thon and Harvey Norman Erina for providing the prizes.

Additionally, our office administration staff provided invaluable support with organising the weekly prizes and coordinating the major draw.

Central Coast Choral Festival

I was pleased to be able to attend the evening performance of the Central Coast Choral Festival last Wednesday at the Mingara Recreation Club.

This long running performing arts opportunity is highly valued by central coast primary schools. Mrs Karen Morrow has long been the driving force of this event and is continuing her involvement into retirement from full-time teaching service.

Gosford Public School’s performing arts coordinator Mrs Douglas has worked tirelessly with our senior choir as demonstrated by the outstanding performances at the sesquicentenary activities. Our students clearly enjoyed their performance opportunities and I sincerely thank Mrs Douglas for the time she has dedicated to this group of students throughout the year.

Thank you also to Mrs Barnfield who gave generously of her time to assist the evening being such a success!
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Staffing

The Deputy Principal position will continue to be filled by Mrs Newton whilst Mr Francis continues in the role of Relieving Principal at Lisarow Public School. The substantive principal position at Lisarow PS is expected to be filled by the end of this term.

Kindergarten 2016

Our office is continuing to take enrolments from parents and carers with a child who is due to commence kindergarten at Gosford Public School from the beginning of 2016.

With increasing enrolments at our school it is important to confirm the number of local enrolments for next year before we can offer non-local placements. It is also important to enable eligible children and their parents to participate in the remaining sessions of the invaluable Ready Set Go transition to school program.

I would be grateful if current parents can encourage other parents who reside within our school boundaries to contact our office (phone 43493600) if they have children who are due to commence school in 2016.

Non Returning Students 2016

To assist us with planning for 2016, we would appreciate names of any students who may not be returning to Gosford Public School next year. Please contact the office by telephone or by email to notify us of any changes.

Gosford Public School P & C Meeting

I hope you can join us at this evening’s P and C meeting which is to be held in the Chapman Room at 7:30pm. A light supper is provided.

Kids Day Out

Kids Day Out, the long-running event that promotes safe and happy communities is on once again this Sunday (November 1) at Kariong Mountains High School between 10am and 3pm. There is much to see for children and adults, including performances from our terrific school band.

Best Wishes

John Anderson

Whooping cough information for schools

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies. Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.

- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

Quality education in a nurturing, innovative learning environment
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

P and C news

Next P and C meeting is Wednesday 28th October in the Chapman Room at 7:30pm. This is the last meeting before the AGM in November. Come along, all welcome, light supper provided.

Uniform Shop News

For the next few weeks Uniform Shop is open on a Tuesday 8:45 - 9:15am in the Chapman Room. New price list coming out soon so come in for a few bargains before the price rises. Most stock available.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YEAR 2 BUS TRAVELLERS

Children currently in Year 2 must have a new pass application completed for 2016 as they will not automatically receive a bus pass for next year. Applications can be obtained from the school office and returned when completed.

Major raffle results

Thank you to everybody who bought tickets!

Prizes & Winners:

1st - Valencia classical guitar & $20 voucher to Xpress Hair Bar Angus 5M
2nd - 2 x adult passes to Taronga Zoo & $20 voucher to Xpress Hair Bar Oliver 1/2B
3rd - Family pass to Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park & $20 voucher to Xpress Hair Bar Tari 4H
4th - $50 voucher to Central Coast Leagues Club eatery & $10 voucher to Jimmy G's Sarah 3L
5th - Family pass to Gosford City Tenpin Bowl & $10 voucher to Jimmy G's Michael KG

YOU CAN DO IT NEWS – Parent Access to YCDI Resources Online

The YCDI Team is proud to announce that GPS has purchased an annual school membership to the new E-learning, parenting website; You Can Do It! Parents: www.youcandoitparents.com.au.

All the resources on the website are available for our school community (families and staff). Parents are invited to register to the You Can Do It Parents Website to gain access to the positive parenting resources.

Based on international research on parenting, the website contains the latest information on positive parenting and how parents can support their children’s success and happiness. The content on the website has been developed by Professor Michael E. Bernard, Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne, Founder of You Can Do It! Education and Patricia Bernard, author and parent educator.

The YCDI Parents website covers three main areas:

• Positive Parents - How to be a positive role model, manage stress and enjoy parenting.
• Effective Parents - Skills for effective discipline, motivation and relationship building.
• Positive Children – How to develop children’s resilience, confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along skills, positive attitudes and values of good character.
The website contains a large number of e-learning programs for parents on ‘best’ practices of parents, Parent Insight Articles on topics of importance dealing with child development and parenting, and e-learning video and audio e-learning programs for children and adolescents that help build a variety of personal and social skills and positive attitudes.

To be able to login to the website and register to receive access to all the material available please complete the steps included below:

Six Steps to Register to You Can Do It! Parents and Access All the Resources

www.youcandoitparents.com.au

SUMMARY STEPS
Step 2. Enter Gosford PS Password: Gosfordps430
Step 3. Complete Your Registration Details (you will be setting up your own username and password)
Step 4. Activate Your Account
Step 5. Login to YCDI Parents Website
Step 6. Enjoy All the YCDI! Parents Resources

Please visit the GPS School Website if you require more EXPLICIT STEPS. If you experience any issues with the registration or logging in process, please contact Jodie McCabe via the school office. We hope you find this resource useful.

Katrina Bianchi & Jodie McCabe
Values Education Coordinators

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

This year our school implemented a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Trial with several of our primary classes, including 4/5N, 5M, 5R, 5B and 6C. The trial was based on recent educational research that 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.

What is BYOD?

BYOD simply means students were able to bring Technology equipment from home to utilise for educational purposes, within the classroom.

Students today have an expectation that the same technology they use at home will be available at school too, however in reality this is often difficult to deliver and it is no longer best practice for a school to remain the sole provider of technology.

The BYOD Trial commenced in Term 2 of 2015, and as this program was a trial we are now asking our parent and staff community to evaluate its success, including recommending changes to the program, so that we can ascertain the future direction of BYOD at GPS.

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.

Below you will find a link to a ‘BYOD Trial Evaluation -Parent Survey’ that we are asking all parents to complete, regardless of whether your child was directly involved in the BYOD Trial classrooms. 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. The parent survey is an extremely valuable part of the BYOD process and your input will help the school decide the direction of BYOD for our school in the future.

Please click the link to access the parent survey https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDGC6VN

We would ask that you please complete your survey by Tuesday 10th 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
Parent overview of the selective high school placement process

This is a general overview to alert you to important stages throughout the placement process. Read the Information about applying for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2017 so that you know the placement procedures and requirements.

For placement in 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>How</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before 13 October 2015</td>
<td>Parents of Year 5 students advised of the opportunity to apply for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2017</td>
<td>Newspaper advertising Newsletters from school Intention to apply letter from school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 October 2015</td>
<td>Application website opens on the internet at <a href="http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shplacement">www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shplacement</a></td>
<td>Read the application information and submit an application online Parents without internet access can apply at a public library. If parents have a disability and cannot use a computer they can contact the Unit for assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 November 2015 10.00 pm</td>
<td>Application closes No late applications will be accepted</td>
<td>Parents provide documentation about disability, behavioural or medical conditions Government school student details are provided directly to the principal for school assessment scores Non-government school parents must print a copy of the principal’s page that was sent by email and hand it to the principal to complete. They then send the principal’s page to the Unit by 8 December 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 February 2016</td>
<td>Parents receive a Test authority letter Parents advised of special test provisions granted, if applicable</td>
<td>Ring the Unit if you haven’t received the Test authority letter or email by this date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 March 2016</td>
<td>Selective High School Placement Test</td>
<td>Make sure your child attends the test. Parents are responsible for taking their children to and from the test centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By 25 March 2016</td>
<td>If appropriate, parents submit illness/ misadventure claims</td>
<td>If an illness/misadventure prevented the student from attending the test or may have affected the student’s test performance you may submit an illness/misadventure form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 April 2016</td>
<td>Last day for parents to request a change of choice without explanation</td>
<td>Choices may be changed up until this date as selection committees have not yet met. After this date you must explain in writing why you wish to change your choice. A change is subject to approval.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May–June 2016</td>
<td>Selection committees meet</td>
<td>A selection committee for each school considers students who have listed the school as a choice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early July 2016</td>
<td>Parents receive the placement outcome</td>
<td>You are advised whether the child is: receiving an offer placed on a reserve list unsuccessful Parents accept or decline offers and reserve places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 July 2016</td>
<td>Parents submit appeals to the principal, if applicable</td>
<td>Principal completes and sends appeals to the Unit by 25 July 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early August 2016</td>
<td>Reserve list progress shown on the website</td>
<td>You can check how the reserve list is progressing. Movement on the reserve list is updated regularly as offers are made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2016</td>
<td>Appeals panels meet</td>
<td>Appeals panels consider appeals provided by the parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2016</td>
<td>Outcomes of appeals sent to parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2016</td>
<td>Offer and reserve reminders sent</td>
<td>You will receive a reminder asking if you still wish to retain an offer or remain on a reserve list. If you do not, you should notify the Unit immediately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 December 2016 3.00 pm</td>
<td>Students who have accepted an offer to a selective high school and have not subsequently declined are removed from the reserve list(s) of higher choice schools</td>
<td>If you wish to remain on a reserve list for a higher choice school you will have to decline the current offer. There is no guarantee that the reserve list position will be reached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-January 2017</td>
<td>Students who have accepted an offer will be sent an Authority to attend</td>
<td>Present the Authority to attend on the first day of school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of January 2017</td>
<td>Successful candidates enrol at a selective high school in Year 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads

This year students in the opportunity classes participated in the Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO) competing against high-achieving students in Australia and New Zealand. The Olympiads consist of 5 separate timed contests of 5 problems each designed to stimulate enthusiasm and strengthen problem solving skills in a creative manner – as opposed to simply reaching a solution using a prescribed method.

Congratulations to the following students for achieving outstanding results:

Mitchell and Serena – top 2% score in the competition
Austin, Abbey-Mae, Hayden, and Samantha - top 10% score in the competition.
Luke, Pranav, Zaree, Aleena, Jee-Sue, Iona, Savannah and Rebecca - top 20-25% score in the competition.
Savannah – Highest Individual Score trophy for 5B
Mitchell – Highest Individual Score trophy for 6C

Have a go at solving one of our problems!

The sum of five consecutive whole numbers is 75. What is the largest of the five numbers?

*Be the first student to share your correct solution with Miss Casamento score a prize!

Canteen Roster

Monday 2/11 - Tanee
Tuesday 3/11 - Janene
Wednesday 4/11 - Jennifer
Thursday 5/11 - Annette, Narumi
Friday 6/11 - Lannssa
Our first LORIKEET LEGEND BADGE recipient!!!
Congratulations to Emeliana Kimber (KG) for earning 10 foundation values. Emeliana received her Lorikeet Legend Badge at assembly last Friday. Along with the important responsibility of setting an example of being a Respectful and Responsible student, Emeliana will enjoy extra privileges while wearing the Lorikeet Legend badge.

Students who earn their badge are able to go to the front of canteen and bus lines. Lorikeet Legend badge holders also receive free admission to the school disco, which is to be held Thursday the 3rd December, week 9. The possibility of special seating at assembly is also being considered, along with other ideas.

A Lorikeet Legend Lunch with Mr Anderson is planned for first break, week 8, Friday 27th November.

Go for Gold Movie/Popcorn Afternoon
Students who reach their goal of obtaining the Gold You Can Do It certificate will be able to attend a movie and popcorn afternoon in the Chapman room week 7, Wednesday the 18th November from 12:30pm. The movie planned at this stage is “Inside, Out”. Gold certificate award winners are invited to bring a pillow pet/pillow or other comfortable item to help them relax during the movie.

YCDI Coordinators
Mrs Bianchi & Mrs McCabe
Congratulations to our Year 6 students at James An College Gosford who have been offered a place in a Selective School. 14 out of 16 (87.5%) students have been successful in this year test. Great effort by all our students and best wishes for your future studies.

Yr 5 SUPER SELECTIVE TRIAL TEST COURSE
(Only 14 weeks left)

James An College offers an intensive Selective Trial Test course for all year 5 students who are going for the NSW Selective Test In March 2016. The Course focuses on the Subjects of English, Mathematics, General Ability and Writing.

HURRY! PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT!!!
The more you do, the Better you become.
It all boils down to Competition!

2015 - 2016
JAC Year 4 O.C. Trial Test Course
5th Oct 2015 ~ 17th July 2016

Congratulations to our Year 4 students at James An College Gosford who have been offered a place in a Opportunity Class. 4 out of 7 students have been successful in this year test.

Exclusive to James An College, the Year 4 O.C. Trial Test Course prepares students to sit for the O.C. Placement Test by practising and solving over 2,400 test questions.

CALL Gosford JAC (02) 4300 0167
Over 45 branches nationwide