Another Significant Year Concludes

As this is the final newsletter for the year I would like to take this opportunity to thank the school community for all they have done to ensure our school’s 150th year was a very successful one.

Earlier this week I was inspired by the twenty two speeches that were delivered by the Year 5 candidates for the 2016 student leadership team. One of the students, Jackson, spoke about what made a great school. He stated that it wasn’t so much the buildings and facilities that made a school great; rather it was how people GOT ALONG with each other and worked together as a team that really mattered! Jackson’s view point is consistent with the ‘You Can Do It’ (YCDI) program’s Foundation Values which were introduced to students across the school this year. Students and many parents and carers have embraced this program built around social and emotional competencies and I would imagine that the Foundation Value of ‘Getting Along’ not only resonated with Jackson but many of the other 540 students at the school! This and the 4 additional Foundation Values are all critical keys to success and happiness in life and I thank and acknowledge the hard work of Mrs Bianchi and the student well-being team for implementing the YCDI program so effectively.

As Jackson stated, a great school is built on the foundation of teamwork and partnerships. Our school has a cohesive and learning focused student body who are directed, guided and supported in their learning and well-being by a caring and dedicated staff.

I would like to thank our teaching and executive staff for their untiring efforts in what has been a very busy and exciting year. Their focus was to consistently ensure students were first and foremost in the decisions made.
The school’s administration team, Mrs Powe, Mrs Davies, Mrs Hillan and Mrs Loschi deserve credit for the multitude of roles they assume in any given day. Our General Assistant, Mr Harrison continues to maintain our grounds and facilities to a very high standard.

The P and C and Department of Education have provided important funds that have allowed our school to be highly resourced. The school’s P and C administered canteen managers, Joy Angel and Nena Goldman have worked very hard to keep the canteen menu appealing and affordable. They have big plans for next year aiming for recognition at a high level with Area Health’s accreditation scheme! The Uniform Shop was kept very busy and was again coordinated by volunteers Helen Talty and Wendy Norris and supported by the school’s administration staff.

I also pay tribute to band staff: Coordinator Esther See, conductor David Dallinger and tutors Pauline Ainsworth, Joe Smith and Emma Jones. They are assisted by volunteer helpers such as Suzanne Lockie who provide invaluable support.

Our School Learning and Support staff: Helen Talty, Helen Borthwick, Karen Morgan and Ed Johnson provided excellent aid and programs for students. They often volunteered their own time to assist with activities in and around the school.

And finally, staff who often do not receive due recognition are the school cleaners Angela Daley, Ian Scarlett and Anastacia Bakopoulos. All have taken great pride in their work and their friendly demeanour is always welcomed.

I congratulate and thank all of our staff at Gosford Public School. We are very fortunate to have an outstanding staff who really strive to make a difference for students in so many ways.

I wish all staff a merry Christmas and a well-deserved and hopefully relaxing summer break.

Temporary 150 Year Book Recall

Due to an amendment being required to be made to the Gosford Public School’s 150 Year book I request that anyone who has purchased a copy return it to the office so that the amendment can be made by our office staff. It shouldn’t take very long at all for it to be done and if possible the office staff will complete the amendment whilst you wait. Otherwise your details will be taken and the book returned as soon as possible.

I would appreciate if this could occur prior to the end of the school year.

For those who have been waiting to purchase a book a recently updated amended version can now be purchased and collected from the office for $30.

Presentation Day Assemblies

Today’s K-2 and Years 3-6 Presentation Day assemblies were an important opportunity to celebrate the academic, cultural and sporting achievements and efforts of our students.

Congratulations to all award winners at the Presentation Day assemblies and to all students who applied themselves and strived to achieve their ‘personal best’ in 2015!

Presentation assemblies would not have been possible but for the hard work and organisation by Ms Smith, Mrs Owens, our office staff who have assisted with the coordination of the awards, Mrs See, Mr Dallinger, Mrs Douglas and Mrs Barnfield for performance items and Mr Harrison for his hard work in setting and packing up the school hall.

Student Leaders

Also at the Presentation Day Assembly, we acknowledged and thanked the 2015 school captains Samantha and Tom and prefects: Iona, Dahsohm, Mason and Solon.

I would like to congratulate our 2016 student leaders who were announced at the Presentation Day Assembly. School Captains Jackson and Maikiira will be supported in their leadership roles and responsibilities by our prefects Lachlan, Vivienne, Joshua and Arabella.

2 Quality education in a nurturing, innovative learning environment
In total twenty four students were nominees for the final six leadership positions. The staff were very impressed with the high quality of candidates and we know that these students will all have opportunities to display leadership capabilities as parliamentarians and in a variety of other roles in 2015.

**Student Reports**

Teachers have been busy writing end of year reports for all children in all 21 classes. I have been pleased to note and verify the students’ efforts and academic successes. I anticipate all reports going home early next week.

Thank you to the teachers for their hard work in writing these reports and well done to the students whose reports reflected a sustained and consistent high effort throughout the year.

**School Disco**

It was great to see our students having so much fun at the school disco last week. This event was coordinated by our Student Parliament, Mrs Lee and Mrs Griffiths and was supported by staff, parent helpers and our P&C.

Over $800 was raised to support the Motor Neurone Foundation charity. A great effort everyone! And don’t forget our ‘Crazy Hair or Hat’ day this coming Friday to support the same charity. Presently at school we have students and staff affected by this debilitating disease. Please give generously!

**Coming Events**

Along with our staff I am looking forward to memorable evening to farewell our Year 6 students this coming Tuesday. The event will be held in our school hall.

On Wednesday afternoon our school community is invited to farewell our Year 6 students. I hope to see you there.

**2015 School Year Conclusion and 2016 Commencement Dates**

Please note that the 2015 final school day for all grades is next Wednesday 16 December.

The 2016 school year commences for Year 1 to 6 students on Thursday 28 January.

Kindergarten children will start their first day on Tuesday 2 February.

Best Start assessments will take place on Thursday 28 January, Friday 29 January and Monday 1 February.

Parents will shortly receive a letter informing them of the Best Start assessment appointment day and time and their child’s allotted time for commencement on Tuesday 2 February.

To all our Gosford Public School students and families I take this opportunity on behalf of our staff to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe summer break. We look forward to seeing you return in 2016, ready to engage in an exciting year where social and emotional competencies form the foundation on which to build teaching and learning opportunities.

**Best wishes**

John Anderson
We would like to thank Amanda Juillerat who has volunteered as our School Banking Co-ordinator since March 2014. We welcome Elisa Kissick who is our new volunteer.

Our volunteers in School Banking are vital in helping teach students the importance of saving regularly.

Thank you for your time and efforts Amanda, you will be missed!

Uniform Shop News

Last day for Uniform Shop trading for 2015 is this Thursday 10 December 2015.

During the school holidays Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday 21 January between 7am - 9am then again at 4pm -6pm. The Uniform Shop will also be open on the Wednesday 27 January between 9am - 3pm.

Orders can be placed on Munch Monitors ready for collection on 27 January 2016...

PUZZLE MASTER

Well, another year of problem solving has come to an end with the winners of the Stage One competition announced on Monday.

The class winners were Claire from 1C, Jo from 1/2B, Bianca from 2Y, Ethan from 2W, Livvi from K/1O and Samira from 1S.

The highest point scorer overall, and the Puzzle Master’s Assistant for 2015 was Bianca from 2Y.

Congratulations to all the little problem solvers. You all did a great job.

Mrs Hodgson
Puzzle Master’s Assistant

Canteen

14 Dec - Glenda
15 Dec - Janene
16 Dec - Jennifer

Sausage sizzles this Friday 11 December. Sausage sandwich only $1! All proceeds to MND Australia.
PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE
WITH
GOSFORD KARIOG RLFC
UNDER 6’S – UNDER 17’S, open age

ENQUIRIES: Ed - 0457 810 564 (Mr Johnson)
or
Renee - 0402 190 282

Registration Days: 13 and 20 February @ Wyoming Shopping Centre (S.A.mart sports TBC)
10am-2pm
OR
come to training Wednesdays & Fridays 5:30pm @ Narara Valley High School in February 2016

Fee: $130 includes insurance, shorts, socks, club shirt & show bag for mini.
Family discounts & payment plans available.

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Nathan Hawes X The Market

SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER

LIVE MUSIC * MARKET STALLS * FOOD * DRINKS

4 - 8:30 PM

TERRIGAL SCOUT HALL
Pretty Beach Markets
Sunday 13 Dec 2015
Pretty Beach Public School
9am - 2pm

This time with Santa’s Grotto, where children can have their photo taken with Santa! Also face painting, a magician, karate presentation, entertainment by local musicians, and as always, lovely homebaked goods by our parents.

Australia’s No.1 JAMES AN COLLEGE
www.jamesancollege.com

Attention 4r 5 Students,

Dear Parents & Students,

James An College offers a 10-Day Special Intensive Trial Test Course for Year 5 Students during this Summer Holiday!

This 10-Day Special Intensive Trial Test Course will offer essential preparations for the upcoming March 2016 Selective School Placement Test in English, Mathematics, General Ability & Writing.

Each day, students will be given a Trial Test Paper covering all four subjects (English, Maths, GA & Writing). Each test question will be marked and fully explained by experienced teachers. Students’ progress is closely monitored during this 10-Day course period.

This course is a must for those students who would like to take this great opportunity during summer holiday and give their learning ability & study marks a final boost before the Big Test!

Please note: All test papers & questions (including all diagrams and vocabulary) are NOT available outside of this course in any shape or form.

TIMETABLE:

Monday 11th Jan ~ Friday 22nd Jan 2015
10:00am ~ 3:00pm
(No Classes on Sat & Sun)

Pay & Enrol by 12th December 2015 and get a 10% discount! ▪▪▪

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

Please complete the enrolment form below and return it to the office.

ENROLMENT FORM – Year 5 Summer Holiday 10-Day Special Intensive Trial Test Course

Name: __________________________ D.O.B: __/____/____
Address: ____________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Mobile: __________________________

☐ Yes, I would like to enrol in the Y5 Summer Holiday 10-Day Special Intensive Trial Test Course.