Opportunity Class Orientation

It was pleasing to see a large number of parents and students attend our Opportunity Class Orientation on Monday of this week. It is a big decision especially for the families from a school other than our own to accept the placement offer at a new school for Year 5 in 2016.

We have had excellent feedback from many of the parents who attended the orientation. Parents were well informed and made to feel very welcome. The students who attended left with a very positive image of the class they will be entering and the tone of the school. One of the highlights for the students was to hear from two current Year 5 OC students, Rebecca and Peter who both recounted very eloquently their many positive experiences at Gosford Public School. Thank you also to the Years 5 and 6 Opportunity Class students who acted as tour guides and were able to promote the school’s facilities and outstanding resources.

Parents were also very impressed with our school band and there was a great deal of interest following the performances. My thanks to Mrs See, Mr Dallinger and Mrs Lockie for their assistance with the musical part of the program. Thank you also to our office staff for collating and organising the information packages, Mr Harrison with the hall organisation, Nena for preparing morning tea and Mr Thomas, Mrs Talty, Mrs Newton and bus company representatives for making the time to speak to our new families.

Our two Opportunity Class teachers, Miss Casamento and Mrs Bradshaw are to be congratulated for their excellent organisation and coordination of the orientation day.

Student Leader Elections

Well done to our twenty Year 5 students who will be presenting speeches next Monday, 7 December with the aim of being elected to a student leadership position for 2016. Having spoken to the Year 5 group and their teachers previously I am confident that we have many students who possess the qualities to be student leaders. It is important for all Year 5 students to be aware that there are many other opportunities for student leadership other than the captains and prefect roles. I look forward to congratulating the new student leaders in next week’s newsletter.

Thank you to Mrs Newton for coordinating this important process.
Reverse Santa
Our students and their families are invited to donate a present for a child whose family is in a state of crisis during this Christmas period. As in recent years, the gifts will be gratefully accepted by Coast Shelter, a local organisation that provides accommodation and support for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Donations are to be unwrapped and left under the Christmas tree in the office.

Thank you for your support with this very worthwhile activity and to Mrs Newton for organising the activity and an appropriate charity recipient.

Volunteers Working With Children check
Due to findings from our recent audit, we are asking all volunteers to obtain a Working With Children check through the Office of Children's Guardian.

This is a simple process which is outlined in an attached information sheet.

ALL volunteers, regardless of how long they have been helping at our school, will be required to undergo this process and produce the required documentation. Volunteers who assist in any capacity also need to ensure that they have signed on at the front office, collected a visitor lanyard and then returned to sign off at the end of their visit.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding these procedures please contact Wendy Powe in our school office.

These procedures are put into place to ensure the safety of our children and I am sure you will understand the need for stringent controls around visitors on school sites.

I thank you for your continued support of our school and its programs.

Helper's Morning Tea
This Thursday 3 December our staff will recognise many of our volunteer helpers by hosting a morning tea at 11am in the Chapman Room. School programs are enhanced greatly by volunteer help and their contributions are highly valued by staff and students. If you have assisted our school by volunteering in any way we would love to see you at the morning tea.

School Disco
Thank you to Mrs Lee and Mrs Griffiths and the students from our School Parliament for coordinating school disco to be held in the school hall this coming Thursday. I know our students are very excited!

The P&C has kindly supported this event and as such we have decided that there will be no charge for the sausage sandwiches, however, please feel free to donate to the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) fundraiser.

There are approximately 1900 people with MND in Australia and it may be diagnosed in adults at any age. Motor Neurone Disease is currently impacting on several of our families at Gosford Public School and this has encouraged our staff and students to support this worthy cause.

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.

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.

Best wishes

John Anderson
**Presentation Day**

Gosford Public School’s Presentation Day will be held on Wednesday 9 December 2015 in our hall. The K-2 assembly will be from **9:30am - 11:00am**, and Years 3-6 will be from **12:00pm - 1:30pm**. Class awards this year will include the Chapman award, 3 academic awards and 2 YCDI awards.

**Year 6 Farewell**

If any parents are keen to volunteer to help in the lead up to the Year 6 Farewell, please contact Ms Smith on 43493600 or gosford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

**School banking**

School banking has ceased for this year. All rewards already ordered will be distributed before school finishes.

**TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Thank you to the parents who participated in the BYOD evaluation survey. The data collected from both the parent and teacher surveys has been invaluable, the surveys indicated that the BYOD Trial was successful in 2015 and as a result the program will continue in 2016.

In 2016, the BYOD program will be implemented with all Year 5 and Year 6 students.
Some of the parent comments in the survey included “This has been very beneficial, and motivating. It would be devastating to not continue next year” and “The students enjoy having their own devices and take ownership of an expensive piece of equipment. They are a lot more mindful”.

The survey comments also revealed there were some areas of the program needed improvement, these areas have been addressed and the BYOD implementation policies have also been revised.

Why BYOD?
Educational research indicates that:

- Technology is already an integral part of students’ lives and therefore technology should be an integral part of learning in the 21st Century
- Students are more motivated to learn and more engaged in classroom activities when using their own personal technology device
- A BYOD program strengthens the learning links between the home and school environment
- BYOD programs are a sustainable way for schools to fund a 1:1 technology programs with their students. A BYOD program that is also financially supported by the school provides more equitable access to technology, as the students who cannot afford BYOD equipment have greater access to school owned resources.

BYOD Information on the Website
Please take the time to look at the Technology Section of the Gosford Public School Website, where you will find information about the BYOD program in 2016. Here, you will find information on the specifications your device must meet to be suitable for the BYOD program, student responsibilities and how to access free Microsoft and Adobe software available only to DoE students. There is also a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section that is worth reading. Please click the link to access the device specifications and information regarding BYOD at Gosford PS on our website: http://www.gosford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/years/technology-lab/byod-bring-your-own-device

Advice on Purchasing Devices: If you are purchasing a new device, please be aware that the HP Stream 11 laptops and Chromebooks, although both devices are easy to transport, light and compact, the devices do not have enough memory space or processing power, therefore they ARE NOT suitable for the BYOD program.

A word of caution, please check the device specifications carefully before purchasing devices and ensure that the device will serve the students’ needs now and in the future.

Jodie McCabe
Technology Coordinator

P and C News

Thank you to all the attendees last night at Caseys Toys.

Last Wednesday was the P & C AGM. It was voted at this meeting that the current executives stay in office as there will be an AGM in March 2016.

$1.00 membership can be paid at 23 February 2016 meeting allowing for voting rights at the March 2016 AGM.

All new parents and carers are warmly welcomed to our P & C meetings on the 4th Wednesday of each month in term time only.

Come along as it’s a great way to be involved in the school community.
All welcome. Light supper provided.

P & C executives would like to wish all our school community a safe and happy Christmas.

**Uniform Shop News**

Coordinators would like to thank Elize and Suzanne for helping at the OC Orientation morning.

Uniform shop is open Thursday 2:15 -3:30pm **3 December** and **10 December** being the LAST DAY OF TRADING for 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 Staff Development 27 January between 9am - 3pm. Orders can be placed on Munch Monitors ready for collection on 27 January.

**Canteen**

7 Dec - Tanee  
8 Dec - Janene  
9 Dec - Judy  
10 Dec - Annette  
11 Dec - Dannielle

Christine Harpur  
Teacher Librarian

"**Journey to Recognise" Stage 3 Government Unit**

On Friday 4 December at 10:00 am a speaker will visit our school to give a short talk to Stage 3 students about constitutional recognition.

By way of background, Recognise is the Campaign to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia's Constitution and to ensure there is no place for discrimination. Recognise is part of Reconciliation Australia.

The Journey to Recognition is a national relay raising awareness of and support for Constitutional Recognition. To date we have travelled over 35,000 kms through VIC, SA, WA, QLD, NT and parts of NSW. We have held over 305 events in 282 communities ranging from a community walk to a morning tea with casual questions and answers to school visits to a formal panel discussion.
This is the time of year when our school library closes for stocktake and students will no longer borrow from our library. Please return all books as soon as possible.

Our public libraries are open during our holidays and have some wonderful programs operating, so why not drop in and meet some new friends, enjoy some art and craft or read a great book.

Thank you to all the parents who have supported our Book Club this year. The online orders make the process a lot easier for us at school. We will continue with this in 2016.

Volunteers are always welcome in our library to help with covering new books or re-shelving our library books.

Thank you to Mrs Smit, Mrs Onozawa and Ms Robertson for your continued support.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year. Stay healthy and safe.
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) | (Lunch Break 1:00 – 1:30pm) |

-pay & Enrol by 12th December 2015 and get a 10% discount! -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.

GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL
## FUN KIDS HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Dec 2015/Jan 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE/COAST</th>
<th>DATE/LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANOEING/KAYAKING</strong></td>
<td>Experienced guides will ensure safety is the number one priority, followed closely by lots of fun. Participants must be able to swim 50 metres. 10am-12:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-16 years</td>
<td>$33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 January</td>
<td>Avoca Lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CIRCUS SKILLS</strong></td>
<td>Clown around! This action-packed workshop and, try riding a mini clown bike, spin a plate on a stick, use a flower stick, have a juggling lesson, walk the slackline, and more! Learn to make your own balloon animal or flower to take home. – 10am-1pm (3 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-12 years</td>
<td>$43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 January</td>
<td>Niagara Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CIRCUS AERIAL WORKSHOP</strong></td>
<td>Aerial skills are great fun and in this workshop you will get to have a go on the aerial hoop, the static trapeze and the skills. All participants will need to arrive on time to join in a warm-up and basic tumbling skills before participating in the aerial skills. 10am-11:30am (1.5 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-16 years</td>
<td>$34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 January</td>
<td>Niagara Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GYMNASTICS INTRODUCTION</strong></td>
<td>2 day program. This introductory program includes basic fundamental movement and gymnastic skills which will be taught which would include specific apparatus safety in a fun and friendly environment with accredited coaches. 12pm-2pm both days (4 hours in total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-12 years</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 &amp; 13 January</td>
<td>19 &amp; 20 January, Berkeley Vale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARKOUR</strong></td>
<td>Parkour is a non-competitive physical discipline of training to move freely over and through any terrain/surfaces using only the ability of the body principally running, jumping, climbing improving attributes required for movement which include functional strength, fitness, balance, spatial awareness, agility, co-ordination, precision, control and creative vision. When booking, please advise your child’s experience (if any) with Parkour. (10am-12pm both days – 4 hour program in total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-13 years</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 &amp; 13 January</td>
<td>19 &amp; 20 January, Berkeley Vale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SAILING</strong></td>
<td>Join in on the fun on the water and learn to sail. This program is taught by Yachting Australia instructors on dinghies. Participants will be entered into the Yachting Australia Database going towards an accreditation. Participants must be able to swim 50m. 9:30am-3:30pm (18 hours in total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-16 years</td>
<td>$195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13, 14 &amp; 15 January</td>
<td>20, 21 &amp; 22 January, Gosford Sailing Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STAND UP PADDLE</strong></td>
<td>It’s fun and easier than you think. Within just one lesson, we will have you up and paddling. This program is packed with useful tips and techniques so you quickly gain skill and confidence. 10:30am-12:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-16 years</td>
<td>$33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 January</td>
<td>Avoca Lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURF LIFE SAVING</strong></td>
<td>Kids will learn about beach and surf recreation whilst having loads of fun. 10am-2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-15 years</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 January</td>
<td>Terrigal Beach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURFING</strong></td>
<td>Learn to surf with Central Coast Surf School in a fun, safe environment with professional experienced instructors. Soft surfboards, wetsuits, rash vests and sunscreen are supplied. You’ll be stoked with your progress in our 3-day program. (4.5 hours in total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-16 years</td>
<td>$95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30, 31 Dec &amp; 8 January</td>
<td>20, 21 &amp; 22 January at Umina or Avoca Beaches (times vary at both beaches, please check on booking)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURFING WITH BJ</strong></td>
<td>Hang 10! BJ’s excellent ‘Learn to surf’ program teaches you all you need to know to tear up the waves with the best surfers on the coast. Kids will learn the fundamentals of surfing, safety, rights and reading the ocean. Spaces are limited in this popular activity, so book early to avoid disappointment. This program is for both beginner and intermediate surfers. Boards and rash shirts are provided. (3-day program, 4.5 hours in total). Vessels may change according to beach conditions on the day. Parents are recommended to meet with BJ on the first day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-16 years</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21, 22 &amp; 23 December</td>
<td>7, 8 &amp; 9 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TENNIS GOSFORD</strong></td>
<td>This great value clinic for 5 to 16 year olds is run by experienced coaches from Gosford Tennis Centre and caters for all levels. It doesn’t matter whether you have never played or if you want to improve your skills. The clinic covers all aspects of the game including court etiquette, the different shots (forehand, backhand, volleying etc.) and learning the rules, matchplay and scoring. Lunch is included each day. 8am-3pm (16 hours in total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-16 years</td>
<td>$180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6, 7 &amp; 8 January</td>
<td>13, 14 &amp; 15 January, Gosford Tennis Centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All program fees include GST. For bookings and more information on each program, please phone 4362 3184 or see www.sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au
Dear Volunteer

Thank you for volunteering to work within our school. Your help is very much appreciated by our school community. Before you begin, there is a mandatory ‘Working with Children Check’ requirement which the school requires you to have completed.

We understand that not everyone has computer or internet access or an available printer. Therefore, the school office and library staff are happy to help you with your application if you require it.

The following is a guide to help you complete the Working with Children Check online at the Office of the Children’s Guardian website.

PLEASE NOTE: There is NO payment required for a VOLUNTEER check.

2. Have your driver’s licence or NSW photo card ready — Enter your details EXACTLY as they appear on your ID
3. Make sure you select volunteer as indicated on the screen shot below
5. Take your application number and identification documents to your local RMS. They will issue you with a WWC (Working with Children’s check) number within 4 – 21 working days.

6. When your WWC check number comes back to you please supply it to the school. We will then register you as a volunteer with our organisation via the Office of Children’s Guardian.

Please make sure that you come to the administration office every time you enter the premises. The sign on book is located under the trophy cabinet in the main foyer. Please sign on, take a visitor pass lanyard and wear it so it is visible. It is essential that the book is signed off EVERY time you leave the premises and a time of departure entered.

In the event of a lock down or evacuation, this book is checked for persons on site. By not signing on and off each and every visit the safety of others may be put at risk as our staff attempt to account for all visitors on site.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in complying with these checks. We know you will understand that the safety and well-being of our children is our foremost concern.

John Anderson
PRINCIPAL