Congratulations

Well done to our new House Captains and Vice Captains who were elected last week to represent their respective houses and assume the responsibilities associated with their new roles.

The elected students are:

**Bradman Captains:** Nash and Bethwyn  
**Bradman Vice Captains:** Luke and Gabrielle

**Cuthbert Captains:** Mackenzie and Bianca  
**Cuthbert Vice Captains:** Austin and Lara

**Fraser Captains:** Corey and Jasmine  
**Fraser Vice Captains:** Lennox and Chelsea

**Laver Captains:** Marlon and Clare  
**Laver Vice Captains:** Damon and Bridie

I am sure these students will be fine ambassadors for their respective houses and our school. We were able to recognise the new House representatives at last Friday’s school assembly when they were presented with their badges.

Thank you to our Mr Lincoln, our primary school sport coordinator, for his organisation of these leadership positions.

**Kindergarten Students**

I was very impressed with our new kindergarten students at last Friday’s school assembly. They are demonstrating great familiarity with school routines and protocols.

I commend the work of Mrs Owens, Mrs Douglas, Miss Gately and Miss Spackman who have worked as a team to ensure consistency and routines are in place for our new students.
For children catching a bus home parents/carers are requested to advise the class teacher (in writing) of the bus number so a senior student (bus buddy) can be arranged to collect them from the classroom to ensure they get on the bus safely.

Thank You
Last week we had a lovely presentation on behalf of Mannering Park Public School in appreciation of the facilities obtained from our former school site. These included the covered outdoor learning area (COLA), covered walkways and air conditioning units.

The presentation to the school was an aboriginal artwork by artist and school learning support officer, Tracey Howie. The gift was presented by Sharnae and Maikiira and accepted by our P & C Vice President, Amber Dobie, as many of the items gifted to Mannering Park Public School were originally purchased through our P & C.
**GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**150 Year Sesquicentenary Celebrations**
With many exciting activities planned to celebrate our school’s 150 Year anniversary we are seeking parental assistance with activities.

This **Friday February 20** we are having an initial meeting to discuss the design of the 150 Year Commemorative Garden. Starting at 3pm we will discuss the specifics of plant types with Gardening Australia’s (and former Gosford PS student and parent) **Angus Stewart** and landscape design with local landscape gardener **Rolph Den Besten**. Should parents be interested in being part of the planning process please contact the office and leave their details for additional information to be passed on or attend the planning meeting on site directly below our ball court.

We are also seeking sponsors for our 150 Year Sesquicentenary book. Please contact **Mrs Newton** via our office if your family or business would like to sponsor a page.

In future newsletters we will be featuring an informative article about Gosford Public School’s past and the first one appears this week on **page 4**.

**Annual School Contributions**
Thank you to the parents who have contributed their annual school contributions. I appreciate the financial demands on families at this time of the year and appreciate the efforts to support our school financially. This year the voluntary contribution is $45.00 per child or a maximum of $90.00 per family. We also accept lesser or greater amounts. Remember that our office will accept payment in installments to assist families paying their contributions. Our office will continue to accept the annual school contributions throughout the year.

**Sign-In Reminder**
Please remember that it is mandatory for all visitors to our school to **sign in** and **sign out** at the office. This is important for several reasons. Firstly, it enables the school to have a register of who is in the school at any given time. This is especially relevant when an emergency requires the school to be in evacuation or lockdown mode.

Also, as a common courtesy, it is requested that parents and carers **do not** enter classrooms unannounced. Should a message need to be relayed to a student this should be done by our office staff. I would appreciate your cooperation with these matters.

**COMING UP**
**Friday-February 20:** Parents and carers and students are **invited to the Welcome Back Breakfast between 7:45am and 8:25am**. Following this we encourage parents and carers to attend the class information session in their child’s classroom. This will **conclude at 8:55am**. Should parents have more than one child at our school I ask that the **class information** sheet is carefully read and if additional information is required then an interview with the class teacher can be arranged via an email to the school, via the school app or phone call to the school office.

**Wednesday- February 25:** Parents and carers are invited to come along to the Chapman Room at 7:30pm and become a member of our school’s **P&C**. With the school’s 150 Year Sesquicentenary celebrations this year we are especially encouraging parent participation to help with activities throughout the year. A light supper is served. All welcome.

**Friday- March 6:** Students should bring their best SMILE and wear FULL school summer uniform as it is **School Photo Day**. This year is especially significant being the school’s 150th year anniversary. For this special occasion we have commissioned a whole school 150 Year photograph taken by Master School Portraits.

**Best Wishes**

John Anderson
Pictured here are our 2015 House Captains and Vice Captains with Mr Lincoln, our primary school sport coordinator

GPS Historical Fact
The Catholic Chapel School was the first public school in Gosford. It was established by The Council of Education in 1865. Classes were held in an old timber slab hut with shingle roof which also served as the Catholic Chapel, near the corner of Donnison Street and Dane Drive. The building was a 30 x 20 foot, and was reported to be a “substantial size” with four rooms. This was located not far from the Church to the right of this picture. In 1865 Miss McGrath, at 18 years of age, started as the Head Mistress, teaching 28 students in one room. The students came to be educated in what is known by many of us as the 3Rs; reading, writing and arithmetic.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION
Did you know...? There are several ways to obtain an electronic copy of the GPS newsletter? You never need to miss a thing, read your newsletter via:
- The GPS app – Download our Skoolbag app (apple & Android) and each week you will receive an alert when the newsletter is available.
- The GPS website – The newsletter is loaded onto the website each Tuesday afternoon ready for viewing http://www.gosford-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/
- The GPS Newsletter Email Service – visit the school website and join the Chimpmail Email Service and each week your newsletter will be emailed to your nominated account.
We understand that some families are not able to access an electronic copy of the newsletter. If you require a printed copy of the newsletter, please contact the office and arrange to have a newsletter delivered to your child’s classroom. Please be aware that printed copies of the newsletter cannot be arranged through classroom teachers.

Applications for joining the school band close this Friday 20 February!! Band has already started and the students are making amazing progress. We look forward to a huge musical year.

Concert band has a performance on Sunday at Gosford Waterfront, Masons Parade at 9:30am.

Any queries please call Mrs Esther See 0408 241098.

P and C News

Welcome to Gosford Public School to all our new students and families and welcome back to all our returning students and families.

Gosford Public School P & C meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month during term time at 7.30pm in the Chapman Room. All are welcome.

During the last year P & C have provided funding for the air-conditioning at our new school, K-2 fixed equipment, home readers, curtains for the hall, awards at presentations day and many other resources to assist our students and teachers.

Membership is just 50c for the year so come along and have a vote and meet other parents.

P and C is always looking for volunteers in our canteen and uniform shop if you have some spare time, just come into the canteen and see Joy or Nena.

To place items on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting, email to The Secretary at gosfordpspandc@gmail.com, or in writing to the school office addressed to The Secretary P & C. by the 20th February 2015 3pm.

Next meeting is 25th February 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Chapman Room.

All welcome, light supper provided.
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL
CANTEEN NEWS

The canteen still requires volunteers so please come in and see us if you can spare some time. Only 3 hours a month is all you need to volunteer!

Roster

Monday 16 February - William
Tuesday 17 February - Janee
Wednesday 18 February - Jennifer
Thursday 19 February - Colin
Friday 20 February - Lanssa, Mariko

YCDI - LORIKEET LEGENDS
Gosford Public School has a new playground reward system, to compliment the You Can Do It (YCDI) program which teach the 5 Foundation Values; Resilience, Confidence, Persistence, Organisation and Getting Along.

The Lorikeet Legends is a playground reward system that acknowledges the students when they display one of our 5 Foundation Values and follow the School Rules (Do Your Best, Show Respect, Be Responsible and Behave Safely), whilst playing in the playground. The students receive a Lorikeet Legend, given by the teacher on duty.

When a student receives a Lorikeet Legend they may choose to either, collect 10 Lorikeet Legends and receive a small gift from the principal (book, ball, stationary) or place their Lorikeet Legend in a draw for a chance to win a $4:00 canteen voucher.

The Lorikeet was chosen to symbolise YCDI program and the Lorikeet Legends award, as this beautiful bird is a frequent visitor at GPS. The Rainbow Lorikeet is a native Australian bird that displays every colour of the rainbow, including the four colours that represent the YCDI values (red, yellow, purple, orange and green).

Values Education Committee
It is a very exciting week in the library this week. Kindergarten students are allowed to borrow for the very first time! The Kindergarten library days and teachers are outlined below:

**K/1O – Tuesday (Mrs Harpur)**  
**KD – Thursday (Mrs Frost)**  
**KG – Thursday (Mrs Frost)**  
**KS – Friday (Mrs Frost)**

Please send your child to school on these days equipped with a library bag. Library bags ensure that our beautiful library books stay looking at their very best, and protect them from damage. School library bags can be purchased from the school library or uniform shop for $10. Alternatively, children can bring a library bag of their own choosing from home, however please keep in mind that library bags that are water proof (or at least water resistant) are preferred.

Kindergarten students are allowed to borrow 1 book for 1 week. Please make sure your child returns their library books every week on their library day. Please also decide with your child a safe place to keep their library books whilst they are at home.

**It's Story Time**

Many thanks to Hailey in 4/5N, Arabella in 5M, Lilliana in 5B and Tamika in 6C who did a wonderful job leading the way this week being our first seniors to read to our juniors during ‘Story Time’ this week. These students definitely displayed our school values of Confidence and Getting Along!

The children who attended had a fabulous time and can't wait to come back again! ‘Story Time’ runs in the library every Thursday and Friday at 2\textsuperscript{nd} half of 1\textsuperscript{st} break.

**WORLD BOOK**

We now have access to this wonderful resource online. The students will use this at school and are most welcome to use it at home to help them with any homework or assignments.

**Go to:**  
http://worldbookonline.com

**Login ID:** gosfordps  
**Password:** library

**Worldbook KIDS**

- Is ideal for K-2 and perhaps year 3  
- This site offers simple navigation, easy-to-read articles, multimedia, and a wealth of engaging games, interactive tools, science experiments and activities.

**Worldbook STUDENTS**

- Is great for yrs 4 -6.  
- It includes all the articles from the print versions of the World Book Encyclopedia, plus thousands of additional articles, learning resources, and research tools.

The ‘Early World of Learning’ site also has wonderful resources for our junior students. The ‘Early World of Learning’ section of World book Online has three parts:

**Trek’s Travels** offers narrated stories, interactive games, and original videos that teach critical early childhood themes, including numbers, shapes, colors, opposites, and more.
Welcome to Reading provides levelled reading practice to develop and strengthen phonics, vocabulary, phonemic awareness, and comprehension skills. This site incorporates The Lexile Framework® for Reading to make sure every child meets with success.

Know It offers a richly visual interactive encyclopedia that will captivate early learners with non-fiction topics of interest and importance to them.

I am sure you will enjoy using this resource with your children!

The 2015 Premier's Reading Challenge opens on 2 March!
Gosford Public School wholeheartedly supports the Premier’s reading Challenge. The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

Students are provided with a list of books from which they can choose to read. Students are set a goal number or books (depending on their age) and keep a record of their reading over the course of the challenge. Once they reach their target, students can submit their reading list online and receive a certificate for their efforts. Students who participate in the challenge for 4 years receive a gold certificate, and students who participate for 7 years receive a platinum certificate.

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten-Year 9. The Challenge runs from 2 March to 28 August (11:59pm) 2015. Students must complete their online Student Reading Records by 21 August (11:59pm).

Remember: Ongoing reading is encouraged. Books read from 1 September 2014 can count towards the 2015 Challenge, so start keeping your reading records now! (These cannot be done online until after 2 March, however a paper copy is available on the website).

For more information on the Premier’s reading challenge, please go to https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html. Here you will find the official book lists, rules and other important information.

Thank you for your support and happy reading!

Mrs Kayla Frost and Mrs Christine Harpur
Teacher Librarians

Panel training for Indigenous school community members
The local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) will be holding a training session for Indigenous people who would be interested in sitting on a staff selection panel in the future. The training session will be held at Henry Kendall High school in March. If you would like to participate in the training process could you please contact the school office so that your details can be given to the AECG secretary.

Mrs Liz Sprague
Coordinator

Helping your Kindy kid succeed at school
A great way to kick off your child's formal education is to understand the school culture and what your child is doing in the classroom.
Speech problems
All kids learn how to talk and listen at different rates but did you know there’s a general pattern to your child’s language development?

Friendships to boost your child’s learning
If children are happy socially they tend to be more engaged in their learning. So teaching your child about the importance of making friends is as vital as learning their ABCs.

Yr 6 SUPER SELECTIVE TRIAL TEST COURSE
James An College offers an intensive Selective Trial Test course for all year 6 students who are going for the NSW Selective Test in March 2015. The Course focuses on the Subjects of English, Mathematics, General Ability and Writing. It is a 45 weeks (Only 4 weeks left) intensive course with subject:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEM (Selective English and Mathematics)</td>
<td>3hrs 2x40min tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWS (Selective Writing Skills)</td>
<td>1.5hrs 20min test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGA (Special General Ability)</td>
<td>2hrs 40min test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A total of 138 sessions and a combination of 10000 questions (including homework questions)!

Each week, students will sit a test and a professional teacher will explain every question in the test paper. For each subject, students will be expected to complete a unit of homework before the next lesson begins.
Through these courses, students will develop an advanced level of writing skills, mathematical abilities and problem solving techniques necessary to give them an advantageous position over others in the Selective High School Placement Test.

FINAL REVISION
★ Date: Saturday 7 March 2015
★ Time: 10am – 4pm
★ Apply by: Saturday 28 February 2015
◆ Test papers are not available outside of this course.
(Parents/guardians will not have access to papers.)

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