It was great to see such a large number of mothers & carers in attendance at last Friday’s Mother’s Day Breakfast. These events are important to help create a real sense of community at our school. Such events proceed only with the goodwill and efforts of our school staff. It was certainly a team effort with Mr Francis, Mrs Powe and Mr Harrison leading the organisation and the many staff who rose early and played an important role on the day. For instance, Miss Gately and Miss Spackman were busy taking 135 individual photographs of students with their mothers and/or other significant family members. Mr Thomas, our P & C President has asked to pass his thanks onto the staff on behalf of the P & C that contributed to make this such a successful event.

Mother’s Day stall

I am sure many mums were ‘surprised’ on Sunday morning with a gift from their child/children that had been purchased from the P & C coordinated stall that operated on the Thursday of last week and also at the Mother’s Day Breakfast. This group of hard working parents who ensured our students had the opportunity to purchase gifts for Mother’s Day deserve special accolades for their efforts. The children had a lovely selection of gifts to choose from.
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Thank you to **Helen Talty and Wendy Norris** for their coordination of these stalls and to the helpers who donated their time.
I hope all mums had a happy Mother’s Day on Sunday.

**NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual activity for schools since 2008.
This week on Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May, students will undertake the 2015 NAPLAN tests.
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 Australia children.
**All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for special provisions that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom.**
Individual student NAPLAN reports will be sent to the school later this year. The school retains a copy and parents/carers will also receive a copy. Parents/carers can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents/carers may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at [www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au)

I urge parents and carers to encourage children who will participate in these assessments to simply do their best. The nature of NAPLAN is to challenge all students in the different aspects and children should not to be worried if they are unsure about part/s of the test as this is normal for all students.

**New school mural now on display**

The most recent ceramic mural that was created by students and staff has been entered in the **Reconciliation 2015 Art Competition** coordinated and hosted by the Gosford Regional Gallery. The exhibition is held to coincide with **National Reconciliation Week** which is celebrated across Australia each year between **27 May and 3 June**.
This outstanding mural was the result of many hours of work from **Mrs Boulton** in conjunction with staff, students and a dedicated group of parents.
Last Friday **Mr Harrison** along with **Mr and Mrs Sprague** managed to carefully transport this large mural to the Regional Gallery. I sincerely thank **Mrs Boulton and all who have contributed to the mural for their hardwork**.
We aim to have the mural unveiled at the 150th celebrations in October where it will be on permanent display for all to see and admire.

**Sporting news**

I enjoyed watching our boy's softball team in action last week. After a first up win they narrowly went down in the second game. Also in action last week was our girl's basketball team.
These teams would not be able to enter these competitions and have such great experiences without the teachers and parents who assist with coaching duties.
Thank you **Miss Young, Mrs Greaves and Mrs Lee** for your recent assistance with our sporting teams.

**Stranger danger**

I ask all parents to reinforce the **Stranger Danger** message to their children. This is pertinent for children whether they be pedestrians, travelling on public buses or in shopping precincts. I have not had a recent incident involving our students but am aware that strangers have approached students from other schools. Students should report any approaches from strangers immediately to a trusted adult and the police and school should also be contacted immediately.
150 Year Sesquicentenary celebrations

As part of the 150 Year celebrations students will complete a unit of work focusing on the history of our local area. Last Saturday many of our staff attended a streetscape study of the local area as a professional learning activity with local historians Mr Geoff Potter and Mrs Pam Williams. Both provided many interesting insights to the local history of Gosford and its immediate district. Of particular interest to our staff was a visit to the ‘Old School on the Hill’ which was the first purpose built school in Gosford and the second, behind Ourimbah PS on the Central Coast. I thank our School Promotions coordinator, Miss Smith for organising this opportunity for staff.

A reminder that our reclaimed bricks from the former site are selling steadily so I advise you to be quick to order a brick/s for your family to avoid disappointment. They will be a feature in our new Commemorative Garden and come complete with you or your family’s name attached to an engraved plaque. They are $30 each or $50 for a brick and a commemorative book.

I would also like to remind everyone that we are currently seeking sponsors for our 150 Year Sesquicentenary book. Please contact our office if your family or business would like to sponsor a page. For families and ‘Not-For-Profit’ organisations it will cost $20 to sponsor a page and ‘For Profit’ organisations it will cost $100 to sponsor a page. To pre-order the limited edition 150 Year Sesquicentenary book please pay $30 to our office. Find out more about our 150 Year celebration activities by looking at our Gosford Public School app, website and Facebook page.

‘Kiss and Drop’ zone

Last week I recorded the names of many of the children whose parents use the Faunce St West ‘Kiss and Drop’ zone in the afternoon to collect their children. This follows on from the trial in Term 1 where volunteers trialled a ‘NAME CARD’ system. The name card is to be displayed once the vehicle has stopped in the ‘kiss & drop’ zone. The aim is for the teacher on duty on the footpath to relay the name of the student/s to the teacher on duty in the Skillion area where the students are seated. This is especially advantageous when children do not see their parent’s car pull into the ‘kiss and drop’ zone. It saves the parent having to remove themselves from the car and breach the ‘No Parking” regulation if they have to walk into the school grounds to locate their child/ren.

Additional NAME CARDS can be printed and sent home upon request to our office. Currently we are using 2 way ‘walkie-talkies’ for teachers to communicate with each other. However, with the noise level emanating from the Skillion area it can be difficult for teachers to hear each other. By the end of this term I hope to have a wireless microphone system installed which will make the name of the children more audible once parents display their NAME CARD and the teacher announces the children’s names.

Lost property

Currently there are many items of lost property available for collection. If as recommended you have recorded your child’s name on their uniform items and they have gone missing, now is the time to pay a visit to the LOST PROPERTY collection.

Keyboard donation

A big thank you to the Harland family for their kind donation of a musical keyboard and stand. The keyboard is now being used by Mrs Douglas for the choir.

Best wishes

John Anderson
**Family Invoices**

This year invoices will be sent home during week 6. Please ensure your student’s mailing address is current as invoices will be sent home by mail.

The school invoices families to assist with the day-to-day to accounting practices which are outlined by the Department of Education.

If there are any problems with any of the invoices received, please contact Jenny in the school office on 4349 3600 or by email at gosford-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Invoices will also show outstanding amounts which should have been paid out last year under payment agreements entered into with families. Please honour these agreements by finalising these items.

Please note: The voluntary contribution is invoiced to every child. The school is grateful to receive any amount families can afford. The contribution is voluntary.

**Wendy Powe**  
School Administration Manager

**Multicultural Homework Support Group**

This will commence later than planned.  
Details will be in a newsletter later in the term.

**Jan Hinton**  
EALD Teacher

**ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

The whole school Athletics Carnival held on Tuesday 28 April was a great success. Students participated in both track and field events. There was a high level of participation and good sportsmanship. The students in Kindergarten to Year 2 had fun doing a rotation of activities as well as running in their class races.  
Thank you to the parents, grandparents and friends who were able to come along and watch and cheer the students on.  
Thank you to the canteen workers who cooked a great sausage sizzle and to the parents who helped out on events when needed. The whole day was a great team effort.

**Jan Hinton**

**Athletics Carnival Results**

Congratulation to all students for their participation in the Athletic Carnival events.  
Special congratulations go to the following students. Well done.

**Tiarne 3/4B: Junior Girl AWD.** Tiarne participated in 100m, 200m, 800m, shot put, long jump, and discus smiling and laughing all the time. A great effort and tremendous sportsmanship.

**Meadow 4H: Junior Girl Champion**

**Tyler 4G: Junior Boy Champion**

**Bethwyn 6C: 11Girls Champion**

**Nael 5B & Luca 5M: 11 Boys Champions (equal points)**

**Clare 6L: 12/13 Girls Champion**

**Nash 6L: 12/13 Boys Champion**

**Bradman: House winner for 2015 Athletics.**
GOSFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

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

**P and C News**

**Next P and C Meeting 27 May 2015 @ 7:30 pm in** the Chapman Room. Come along, only 50c membership for the year. All welcome.

Light supper provided.

**MOTHER’S DAY STALL**

A huge thank you to all the people that helped with the Mother’s Day stall, wrapping gifts and selling gifts. The stall was a success with many lovely gifts for mums and grandmas. Thanks to Wendy Norris for co co-ordinating and Alison Peck, Helen Talty, Kristina Riley, Lisa Wyatt, Claire Ross, Judy Worth, Suzanne Watson, Emily and Caitlin.

A couple of weeks ago Nikita competed at the Gymnastics NSW State Championships as a Level 6 Trio. The girls competed very well over the day and were successful in placing 2nd in NSW. The girls are now heading off to Melbourne to represent NSW at the Australian Gymnastics Championships. The girls will be holding a fundraising BBQ at Officeworks West Gosford on 23/05/15 if you would like to come along and support the girls.
You Can Do It and Lorikeet Legends

Well done to the children who have collected 10 lorikeet legends and been rewarded with a book or stationery item. Almost 50 children have reached this goal.

Lorikeet Legends are given out by teachers for keeping school rules:
- Show Respect
- Be Responsible
- Behave Safely
- Do Your Best

In 'You Can Do It' lessons students have been learning about GETTING ALONG. The foundation value of Getting Along includes keeping all four of our school rules.

Below is a chart which outlines ways to Get Along and keep the school rules and ways that do not demonstrate keeping the rules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respect</th>
<th>Having No Respect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Speaking nicely to everyone  
• Saying nice things to people  
• Listening carefully to what others think and want to do | • Making negative comments about others from different backgrounds  
• Making mean comments to others  
• Not respecting another’s point of view |
| Responsible | Not Being Responsible |
| • Sorting out problems without fighting  
• Being helpful to family, friends and teachers  
• Caring about nature and living things  
• Taking care of belongings | • Fighting to get your way  
• Not offering help to others who need it  
• Littering and not caring about living things  
• Not taking care of belongings |
| Behave Safely and Do the Right Thing | Not Behaving Safely and not doing the Right Thing |
| • Doing the right thing when a teacher isn’t looking  
• When saying you’ll do something doing it  
• Making good choices when someone wants you to do the wrong thing | • Only following rules when your teacher is watching  
• Not doing what you’ve said you would do  
• Making poor choices to do the wrong thing because someone wants you to |
| Doing Your Best | Poor Effort |
| • Using your best handwriting in your work book  
• Practising your reading every day  
• Choosing to behave well  
• Persisting and keep on trying | • Having sloppy writing  
• Doing very little reading at home  
• Not really trying to follow school rules  
• Giving up and not trying |

Please discuss with your child the importance of keeping school rules.

**You Can Do It** coordinators
Mrs Bianchi & Mrs McCabe
Canteen Roster

Monday 18 May - William
Tuesday 19 May - Janene
Wednesday 20 May - Jennifer
Thursday 21 May - HELP NEEDED
Friday 22 May - Rebecca, Amber

Gosford Tennis Centre

The Gosford Tennis Centre offers a host of exciting programs for Junior’s and Adults to enjoy, and for all standard of players from Beginner to Elite.

Our all new Membership system caters for all your families tennis needs and begins for as little as $5 per week. Member benefits include Free Court hire, Coaching classes, Competitions, Member Prize Draws and much, much more.

The daily Program includes:
- Tennis Australia Hot Shots Program
- Group Lessons
- Private Lessons
- Competitions
- Tournament play
- A host of fun filled events
- Fully stocked Pro Shop
- Delicious Café food

Call to speak to our friendly staff on 43252921 or email us at info@gosfordtenniscentre.com.au

Join us at Gosford Tennis Centre and let the games begin!
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. It is a 45 weeks intensive course *(9/03/2015~28/02/2016)* with subject:

SEM (Selective English and Mathematics) 3hrs 2x40min tests
SWS (Selective Writing Skills) 1.5hrs 20min test
SGA (Special General Ability) 2hrs 40min test

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 week's 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.

**CALL Gosford JAC (02) 4300 0167**

Over 45 branches nationwide

Is your child making friends at school?

Kids who get on at school tend to be more engaged in learning. Here are some ideas on how to help your child with social skills:

Now in its 15th year, Century Challenge attracts everyone with an interest in cycling and keeping fit – elite riders, social & family riders and children. Last year approximately 600 riders registered.

**What:** Cycling challenge for Children, Beginners (20km), Intermediate (50km) and Elite riders (100km)

**When:** Sunday, 17 May, 2015

**Where:** Start at Mount Penang Parklands and cycle through lush hinterland

**Why:** Great exercise, fresh air and support for Coast Shelter and local charities. Receive recognition for completing the challenge and enjoy free refreshments along the way

**Registration:** Register yourself or your team and online sponsors at www.centurychallenge.com.au

*Early bird registration by 11 May, 2015.*