



GOROKAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Wednesday 14th August 2019

Term 3, Week 4 Newsletter

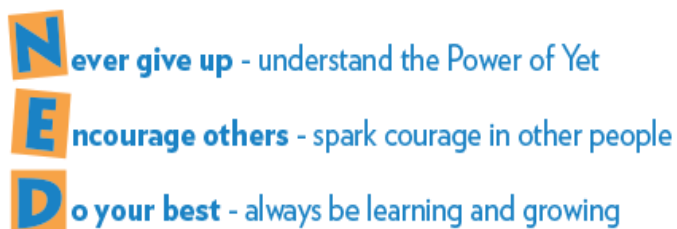
Dear Parents and Carers,

At Gorokan Public School we absolutely value and strive to encourage community involvement. Children love seeing their parents and carers involved at school. Parental presence has such a positive impact on student engagement in learning and results in improved educational outcomes.

Education Week - This year's Education Week events were well attended and highly successful.

The **NED yoyo show** was a brilliant and highly educational experience for the students. As they were entertained with yoyo tricks, the students were introduced to a cartoon boy named NED who was on a very important mission to find his mindset. Throughout the performance, the students discovered how to activate their growth mindset to overcome social, emotional and academic challenges.

Inspiring students to:



The **Education Day whole school assembly** gave our student leaders the opportunity to shine as they led the school in showcasing creative and performing arts. I would like to congratulate our **school choir** for their outstanding rendition of *This is Me*, the **school dance troupes** for their well choreographed performances of *Flashlight*, *Waka Waka* and *Dynamite*, the **junior recorder group** who performed *Peas Pudding Hot* and *A Sailor Went to Sea*, the **Opera House recorder group** who captivated the assembly with their performance of *Three Brothers* and *Bluz for Suz*, the **Ridgy Didgers** who added a unique touch to *Bella M's Acknowledgement of Country*, and 6H who closed the assembly with their djembe drum rhythms.

The **open classrooms** were also well attended with students thoroughly enjoying sharing their classrooms with their parents/carers. I too thoroughly enjoyed sharing this experience with the classes that I visited on the day.

The **Book Parade** was a great opportunity for parents and students to unleash their creativity in bringing book characters to life. The staff's *super hero* theme brought an added dimension to the parade and enhanced the enjoyment of the day for all in attendance. Thank you for the overwhelmingly positive feedback.



Photo: Mrs Bailey leading the parade

Enrol Now for 2020 Kindergarten - We are taking enrolments for 2020 Kindergarten. Thank you to all of the families that have already enrolled their child. If you have a child starting in 2020 please contact the school office. If you know of someone out there in the school community with children ready to start school in 2020 please encourage them to contact our school office for an enrolment package. Information regarding our Kindergarten orientation program will be provided in upcoming newsletters so please watch this space for this important information.

P&C - Thank you to the parents and carers who attended the P&C meeting on Monday. It was a great meeting with many people in attendance. The next meeting will be held on Monday 4th November at 3:15pm in the school library. All welcome.

Parent-Teacher Interviews - Thank you to the parents and carers who have attended, or who are planning to attend parent-teacher interviews. Your interest and partnership in maximizing student learning potential is gratefully appreciated.

Together we can make a difference.

Jermond Zammit

Principal

Dates to Remember

Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th August	Science Week
Friday 16 th August	PINK Mufti Day fundraiser for Breast Cancer
Thursday 22 nd August	School Athletics Carnival
Friday 23 rd August	Father's Day Stall
Monday 26 th - Wednesday 28 th August	Year 5 - Bathurst Excursion
Friday 30 th August	KL, KFL, KJ boys excursion to Girrakool Father's Day Breakfast
Tuesday 3 rd - Thursday 5 th September	Year 6 - Canberra Excursion
Thursday 26 th September	PDHPE Healthy Living Expo

Early Stage 1 Supervisor - Mrs D Jeanpierre

Class Awards - Congratulations to the following students for receiving class awards last week. **KC** - Aliya and Zachary, **KDT** - Uilou and Hunter, **KJ** - Loki and Beau, **KL** - James and Jye, **KFL** - Sienna, Havana, Henry and Jacob.

Excursion to Laycock Street Theatre - All Kindergarten students will have the opportunity to view Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes Performance on Friday 27th September. Permission notes will be sent home this week. Could you please return these promptly with payment. This excursion will provide a valuable experience for all students.

Parent-Teacher Interviews - Please try to meet with your child's teacher to discuss the progress made in Semester 1 and how to support your child further in Semester 2. A note has been sent home for you to indicate an appropriate time/day to meet.

Home Reading - Please sign your child's reading card nightly and return their books every Friday to swap for new ones. It is essential to support regular reading at home for enjoyment and to promote academic progress.

KindergAARten's Pirate Warrior Course - We are currently planning an exciting ES1 day for the PDHPE showcase on Thursday 26th August. It is a Pirate Warrior Course encompassing Fundamental Movement Skills. Students are welcome to dress up as a pirate on the day. We require the following recyclable materials. If you could please collect these and send to your child's teacher it would be appreciated - egg cartons, cardboard tubes but no toilet rolls, large pieces of white, cream, black, red, green or blue material with no patterns, newspaper, large

cardboard boxes, balloons, paper plates, brown paper bags. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Stage 1 Supervisor - Miss L Anderson

Education Week Celebrations - Congratulations to our creative students on a wonderful Education Week celebration. The performers in the assembly were outstanding and our students thoroughly enjoyed open classrooms where they were able to show off the wonderful work they have been doing so far this year.

Plant Donations - Year 2 students are beginning their STEAM project on nutrition and healthy eating. As part of this learning, we will be growing food in the garden to create recipes. We are looking for donations of herbs, seeds and food plants to assist us with this. We would greatly appreciate any donations.

Head Lice - Please check your child's hair regularly and treat as necessary. Students with long hair should have it neatly tied back while at school to decrease the risk of head lice.

Stage 2 Supervisor - Mrs R Ranse

Homework - It is recommended that your child should be completing at least 20 minutes of reading each night. Your child is also expected to practise their times tables in order to develop an automatic recall of multiplication facts. Mathletics and Reading Eggs computer programs are provided to all students free of charge. Usernames and passwords can be obtained from your child's teacher.

Public Speaking Competition - Congratulations to all of the Stage 2 students who participated in the public speaking competition. Well done on your outstanding efforts.

Stage 3 Supervisor - Mrs G Farrell

Education Week - Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our school Open Day last Thursday.

Parent-Teacher Interviews - These are available for the next two weeks. Please make sure you make a time to have a chat with your child's teacher.

Year 5 PSC Sport's Day - This will now be held on Friday 23rd August. New permission notes need to be returned this week.

Year 5 Bathurst and Year 6 Canberra Excursions - We are counting down the weeks and days for our excursions. An itinerary and note informing you what your child needs to take on their excursion has been sent home this week.

Special Education - Mrs S Crook

Belongings and Clothing - Please make sure that all of your child's belongings and items of clothing are labelled clearly with their name.

Reading With Your Child - Here are a few tips to encourage your child to read

- Create reading rituals and read everyday
- Snuggle up close and read a book before sleep each night
- Talk about the pictures and ask questions
- Read favourite books again

School News

Parking Around School - Could our parents and carers please remember to be considerate towards residents when parking in the school neighbourhood.

Bikes and Scooters at School - A reminder to all students and visitors to the school, that bicycles and scooters are not to be ridden on the school grounds. Students who fail to comply will not be permitted to ride their bikes/scooters to school.

PaTCH Program – The PaTCH (parents as teachers and classroom helpers) is a 10 week program to train volunteers to support children in developing literacy and numeracy in classrooms. An information session will be held on Friday 16th August at 2pm - 3pm in the SaCC. Afternoon tea will be provided.

Saver Plus - Would you like your savings matched? *Saver Plus* will match your savings. You could be receiving up to \$500 in matched savings for education costs, and building on your financial wellness and inclusivity.

A reminder that people may be eligible to join Saver Plus if you or your partner:

- have a Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card;
- are in receipt of a Centrelink payment;
- are at least 18 years or over;
- have some regular income from work;
- are a parent or guardian of a child at school this year OR are attending or returning to vocational education themselves.

Attached is a flyer with more information and contact details.

NED's Mindset Mission Tour - There are still yo-yos for sale this week ranging from \$8 to \$20. Extra sting is also available for \$5 or a holster for \$5.

Yo-yoing - We have made a NED's Mindset Mission Playing Zone in the tennis courts area where the students can learn to use and do tricks with their yo-yos. We have asked all students not to play with them in other parts of the school for safety reasons. A yo-yo is both a mindset tool and tangible reminder of NED's message. While learning to yo, children will make mistakes, try again, and improve. Read more at <http://www.MindsetMission.com/yo-yos>.

Sport News

School Athletics Carnival - This event will be on Thursday 22nd August at Mingara Athletics' Centre. New permission notes have been sent home. Please sign and return by Friday this week.

Special Swimming Scheme - This will take place in Weeks 7 and 8, Term 4. All Year 2 and 3 students are encouraged to attend. Lessons are free. The cost of \$50 is for bus travel and pool entry for the 10 day program. It is a great opportunity for your child to learn how to swim, improve their swimming skills and learn water safety skills. Get in early and pay a \$20 deposit to secure your child's spot.

Oz Tag - Stage 3 Oz tag teams participated in a Gala Day last week. Stage 2 teams played yesterday. All teams showed great sportsmanship, team spirit, were competitive and did well. Huge thanks to Mr Foley, Miss Bates and Mrs Duke for training and taking the teams away.

P & C News - Miss J Daunt

Pink Day Fundraiser - On Friday 16th August, the P & C will be holding a fundraiser for Breast Cancer NSW. Students can wear pink mufti and bring a gold coin donation. 'Pink' cakes and biscuits will be sold during recess and lunch for \$1-\$2. Don't forget to get your last minute guesses in for the pink jellybean guessing competition which will be drawn on Friday - 50c for 2 guesses. Please help raise some much needed funds to support those affected by breast cancer. If you can help selling cakes on Friday at recess or lunch, please contact jasmine.daunt3@det.nsw.edu.au.

Father's Day Stall - A Father's Day stall will be held on Friday 23rd August. Students can purchase a variety of gifts for their dads, grandfathers, carers or special males in their lives. Gifts will range from \$1 to \$8. *Cash only on the day - PLEASE DO NOT PAY ONLINE.* If anyone can offer any help on the Father's Day stall, please contact jasmine.daunt3@det.nsw.edu.au.

Father's Day Breakfast - We would like to welcome all dads, grandfathers, carers or special males to join us for our Father's Day breakfast on Friday 30th August from 7:30am to 9am.

Father's Day Breakfast RSVP

*Please return to school by Wednesday
28th August*

*I _____ will be attending
the Gorokan Public School Father's Day
Breakfast on Friday 30th August with my
child/ren _____.*

The loss of healthy rites of passage

by Dr. Arne Rubinstein

Rites of Passage have always been a significant part of community life, until now. Each stage of a person's life was marked and celebrated including the significant step of moving into adulthood.

The shift from childhood to adulthood has always been marked by a rite of passage, which represents entry to the adult world and the rights that go with it. This new set of rights is also accompanied by a responsibility to serve and contribute to the community.

The loss of healthy rites of passage

For many young people Schoolies Week, the annual Year 12 endless party, is the only rite of passage they have. The loss of meaningful rites of passage is having disastrous consequences on young people.

Too often we see young men in their twenties and beyond acting like boys in constant need of acknowledgement from their peers, dodging responsibility and still seeking approval from their mother. Many young women are stuck in perpetual adolescence, more worried about how they look than how they can contribute to their communities.

Adults have a role to play

It's the role of adults to recognise and bring out children's strengths and natural gifts so they can contribute fully to their communities as adults. One of the most significant roles of the elderly is to care for and pass on wisdom to the young. Not surprisingly in the past it has been the elders who were responsible for

overseeing the Rites of Passage and their timely delivery.

Rites of Passage are not supposed to be done in isolation. As a child becomes a young adult parents also need to take a step and move to the next stage in their lives. Each new stage of development for a child or young person represents a new beginning for parents as well.

Unfortunately, elderhood is not highly coveted or respected in these modern times and there is a global marketing campaign telling us that youth is the desirable and only really acceptable life stage. When adulthood is not fully appreciated or understood, then it's little wonder that many young people are hanging on to their adolescence well into their twenties. Some never make the leap into adulthood.

Families and communities can rediscover the notion of rites of passage and begin to invent their own pathways to adulthood, complete with markers and appropriate recognition. They can put their own celebrations in place that mark significant ages, and the all-important transition to adulthood. These celebrations should include a bringing together of significant adults and a passing on of wisdom and stories from past generations to a young person. These rites of passage can be creative, must be inclusive and need to be appropriate to each family or community situation.

Dr. Arne Rubinstein

Dr. Arne Rubinstein is an internationally recognised expert on Rites of Passage and adolescent development. He is the author of the best-seller 'The Making of Men' and has won multiple awards for his work including being nominated for Australian of the Year 2008 for his work with youth. Dr Arne is the proud father of two wonderful young men and a mentor to many others.