



GOROKAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Thursday 1st August 2019

Term 3, Week 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Gorokan Public School, we believe that a good start to the term ensures great results by the end of the term. Students can set themselves up to be highly successful by ensuring they eat well, sleep enough and strive to be safe and respectful learners at all times during the school day.

Resilience Assembly - The students and staff celebrated the important personal quality of resilience at last week's whole school assembly. My key message to the students was that when faced with challenges, mindset is the key to building resilience and that if they add the simple but powerful word "yet" to the end of their thoughts, how this enables a positive perspective towards facing challenges. For example, *I can't do this...YET, I don't understand...YET*. The students were also reminded that most new things are difficult before they become easy - something that we adults also have a tendency to forget in the midst of our busy daily lives. Congratulations to the students from each class who were awarded a special resilience award.

Education Week - The students and staff are looking forward to welcoming parents, carers, family and friends to the school on Thursday 8th August for Education Day. The schedule for the day is as follows:

Gorokan Public School Education Day Activities	
9:30	Whole School Assembly
10:30	Open Classrooms for parents/carers to visit
11:00	Book Fair in the school library
11:30	Book Parade Primary COLA
1:00	Book Fair continues

Excursions - Our Kindergarten students have enjoyed their excursion to Girrakool learning first hand about Australian native flora and fauna. Stage 2 classes will complete their field studies to Bulgandry and Girrakool learning about Aboriginal history and culture this week. These excursions are highly engaging and play a critical role in enhancing learning through the experiential learning process. Thank you to our organising teachers. Our Stage 3 overnight excursions to Bathurst and Canberra are only a few weeks away now. Please contact Mrs Farrell with any enquires.

Year 6 Commemorative Shirts - Each year our Year 6 students design a commemorative shirt that becomes an optional part of their school uniform for their final year of Primary school. This year's shirt is a real work of art and I congratulate the students on their efforts. The shirts have

received many positive comments from the school community.



Photo: Year 6 2019 Commemorative Shirts

Sydney Opera House Performance - Congratulations to the following students who performed in the *Festival of Instrumental Music* at the Sydney Opera House Tuesday night: Aimee M, Chelsea O, Cassie May B and Haylei M. This was a truly incredible experience for our students, performing to the public in such an amazing venue and I was so proud to be there watching them shine. Thank you to Mrs Morrow for preparing and supporting the students for this remarkable event.

Sports News - The *Sport in Schools* program will continue to be provided by the school free of charge to students this term. The students will participate in gymnastics and fundamental movement skills activities.

Congratulations to our Touch Football teams who participated in the recent Gala Day. All students played with skill, confidence and great sportsmanship and should be proud of the outstanding way that they represented our great school.

Parent Teacher Interviews - As mentioned in last week's newsletter, parents and carers will have an opportunity to take part in our parent teacher interviews that will take place in Weeks 4 and 5 this term. Please ensure that you book a time via the return slip attached to the invitation that will be sent home this week.

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.

Together we can make a difference.

Jesmond Zammit

Principal

Dates to Remember

Friday 2 nd August	Year 2 Excursion – Woolworths Lake Haven
Monday 5 th - Friday 9 th August	Education Week and Book Week
Thursday 8 th August	Education Day and Book Week Parade
Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th August	Science Week
Thursday 22 nd August	School Athletics Carnival
Friday 16 th August	PINK Mufti Day fundraiser for Breast Cancer
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

Early Stage 1 - Mrs D Jeanpierre

Class Awards - Congratulations to the following students for receiving class awards last week. **KC** – Victoria, Adam, **KJ** – Brock, Eric, **KL** – Lachlan, Maxon, **KFL** – Shyloh, Kal El, **KDT** – Noah, Lorana.

Permission Notes - The students in KC, KDT and the girls from KJ thoroughly enjoyed their excursion to Girrakool on Monday. They behaved impeccably and were good role models for our school. The students in KFL, KL and the boys from KJ will now be attending the excursion to Girrakool on Friday 30th August, Week 6. Please ensure your child wears their sports uniform to the excursion and has a packed lunch with water. They may also take a small Australian stuffed toy animal for their picnic lunch.

Excursion to Laycock Street Theatre - All Kindergarten students will have the opportunity to view Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes Performance on Friday 27th August. Permission notes and further details will be sent home shortly. This experience will be well supervised and provide a valuable experience for all students.

Sports in Schools - Our Sports in Schools program began this week and the students participated actively in many exciting and challenging activities. Please send your child in their sports uniform every Monday this term.

Parent Teacher Interviews - Will be held in Weeks 4 and 5. Please try to meet with your child's teacher during this time to discuss their progress made in Semester 1 and how to support your child further in Semester 2. A note will be sent home shortly for you to indicate an appropriate time/day to meet.

Public Speaking - Please support your child to create a 1-2 minute speech on a topic of their interest. They will present their speech in class this week if not already done so. Finalists will be chosen to represent our school in the Public Speaking Competition this Friday. A note will be sent home if your child has been selected, explaining the details.

Book Parade (Education Week) - Thursday 8th August will be our Book Week Parade. Please start thinking of a costume for your child to wear. Costumes need to be of a book character.

Late to School - Please escort your child to the office if you are late in the mornings. We require you to sign them in upon arrival. This will ensure all students arrive safely at school.

HATS, HATS, HATS - Please remember to send a hat with your child to school every day and ensure it is labelled with their name.

Stage 1 - Miss L Anderson

Year 2 Excursion - Year 2 will be enjoying a Fresh Food Tour at Lake Haven Woolworths on Friday 2nd August. All Year 2 classes, including 1/2V will be participating in this excursion. This excursion is FREE and will kick start their STEAM project on nutrition. Extra notes will be sent home this week. Please send the signed permission note back to your child's teacher as soon as possible. All attending students are required to wear full school uniform.

Public Speaking - Congratulations to our Public Speaking finalists who have been selected to present their winning speeches in the hall on Friday 2nd August. Good luck to all participants.

Stage 2 - Mrs R Ranse

Attendance and Punctuality - In Stage 2 we follow a sequential program of learning which begins promptly at the start of each day. Absences and late arrivals at school can impact on your child's learning. Please ensure your child is absent for only genuine reasons. Arrival at school at 9:00am is essential and allows your child to start the day on a positive note, as the day's routines are outlined and the first lesson begins immediately. If your child arrives late, or is required to leave early, please make sure you visit the front office. Absence notes should be sent to the class teacher.

Stage 3 - Mrs G Farrell

Year 5 Bathurst Excursion - 26th August - 28th August and Year 6 Canberra Excursion - 3rd September to 5th September - All payments should now be finalised, however there are still some outstanding payments for these excursions. Please finalise now as we need to finalise bookings and payment with our tour companies by this Friday 2nd August.

Special Education - Mrs S Crook

Reappraisal and Review Meeting - We have booked in two days for our reappraisal and review meetings for this year. If you have not already, you will be receiving a phone call to organise a time to come in and talk to your child's classroom teacher, Justin Sims our school psychologist and myself. This will give us an opportunity to discuss how your child is progressing towards their learning goals and plan for any changes that need to be made. I look forward to seeing you on either 15th or 16th August.

School News

Resilience Winners - Congratulations to the following students on receiving the awards for Resilience this term:

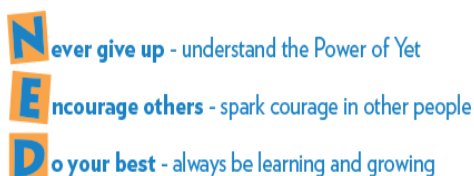
K-2 - Indigo F, Athena-Olina T, Mia D, Noah S, Layla H, Trevor M, Bentley J, Aleeyah L, Liam C, Molly J, Isabella M, Riley M, Alessandra O, Amealia E, Chloe C, Jason R, Deaon L, Mahni P, Indianna D, Kye C, Harry R, Lily S, Heath D, Lacey E, Ryand M, Noah B, Claudia S.

3-6 - Bailey S, Harley S, Liliarnah W, Troy M, Zoey H, Maddison B, Aliesha C, Nykiah J, Emily C, Jack R, Daniel M, Zali Y, Monatanna-Maya P, Riley M, Gabriella D, Jesse C, Mervyn P, Dyrius L, Heath C, Patti K, Tyne H, Lars O.

Entertainment Book Fundraiser - The New 2019/2020 Entertainment Memberships are available. The book or app costs \$65 with 20% of every membership sold going to the school. There are great deals, which include special rates and up to 50% off on activities, dining, shopping, travel and leisure. It does not take you long to save the \$65 you spend. Anytime you use it, the savings are dollars in your pocket! Please help us achieve our goal by purchasing an Entertainment membership online at <http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/345h40> or contact the office for a form to complete.

NED's Mindset Mission Tour - The NED Program is coming to our school in Education Week, on Wednesday 4th August for all of our students. This 45 minute performance is a journey filled with humour, yo-yo and magic tricks, puppetry and storytelling. The assembly introduces a cartoon boy named NED who is on a very important mission: to find his mindset. Led by clues and memorable characters, he overcomes Mt. Everest's toughest obstacles, uncovers inner-treasures on a Caribbean island, and grows his brain while repairing a sputtering spaceship. Throughout the performance, our students discover how to activate their growth mindset to overcome social, emotional and academic challenges.

Inspiring students to:



Sport News

PSSA Touch Football - Last Thursday, both our girls and boys touch football teams represented our school at the Touch Football Knockout. Both teams played fantastic winning both Round 1 games. The girls and boys held their ground for the majority of game 2 and showed tremendous growth in skill and ability to work as a team. Unfortunately, they were eliminated after a close game with Kanwal. The students are to be congratulated for their efforts and for showing great sportsmanship. Mr Foley and Miss Bates had a wonderful day watching the students have fun and improve with every game.

School Athletics Carnival - will be on Thursday 22nd August at Mingara Athletics' Centre. New permission notes will be sent home shortly.

Special Swimming Scheme - This will take place in Weeks 7 and 8 of Term 4. All Year 2 students are encouraged to attend this program. 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. Please return money and notes asap.

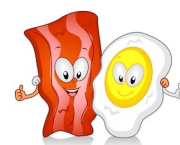
Oztag and Cricket Gala Day - Both boys and girls in Stage 2 and 3 will be given the opportunity to try out for our school teams. Try outs for Stage 3 will be held on Wednesday 7th August and Stage 2 will be held on Tuesday 13th August.

P & C News

Save the Date for Pink Day - Please note a change of date since last week's newsletter. This will now be held on Friday 16th August. The P & C will be holding a fundraiser for Breast Cancer NSW. Students can wear pink mufti and are asked to bring a gold coin donation. There will be pink cakes and biscuits which will be sold during recess and lunch and a pink jellybean guessing competition. Please join us in raising some much needed funds to support those affected by breast cancer. A note will be sent home soon with more information.

Father's Day Stall - We will be having a Father's Day Stall on Friday 23rd August for students to purchase a variety of gifts for their Dads, grandfathers, carers or special males in their lives. Gifts will range from \$1 to \$8.

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.



P & C Meeting - Parents and Carers are invited to our Term 3 P & C meeting. It will be held in Week 4, on Monday 12th August at 3:15pm in the school library. Afternoon tea will be provided.

Developing leadership skills in your child

by Michael Grose

Your child has the potential to be a leader given the right circumstances and environment. The following five leadership skills have been observed in student leaders in Australian primary schools and can be promoted by parents at home.

Responsibility

Being a leader means that your child is willing to take responsibility and be accountable for their actions. Personal responsibility is shown when your child is accountable for their behaviour, for their belongings and for others. Practical ways to develop responsibility include:

- Giving them responsibility for part of their day
- Encouraging them to restore relationships with others when they mess up
- Taking responsibility for household chores

Communication

While most leadership positions require your child to speak publicly their communication skills can be developed through regular one-on-one or small group experiences at home and at school. Practical ways to develop your child's communication skills include:

- One-on-one conversations with adults
- Regular discussions at the meal table
- Encourage your child to participate fully in speaking activities at school

Organisation

Personal organisational skills and the ability to organise others are important for effective leadership. Practical ways to develop organisational skills include encouraging your child to:

- Keep their personal space tidy and organised
- Use a diary to help manage their time
- Organise a weekly chores roster including all members of the family

Teamwork

Cooperating, encouraging and accepting others are essential qualities of an effective leader. Practical ways to develop a sense of teamwork include:

- Play team games where children work together
- Encourage siblings to cook and do other chores together
- Focusing on your child's contribution to a team or group rather than individual achievement

Emotional intelligence

An underestimated quality shared by most admired leaders is their ability to remain calm when things don't go well. This emotional intelligence skill requires self-awareness, an ability to recognise their emotions and respond appropriately to the emotions of others. You can nurture these skills in the following way:

- Help your child recognise their emotions
- Help your child recognise emotions in others
- Teach your child to shift their mood

Leaders are needed in all walks of life – at work, in school, in families, in sport and in the wider community. The skills of leadership are sewn in the first group that they belong to – their family. By encouraging your child to be a contributing member of their family you are also helping to develop leadership skills they can practise outside their family.