Dear Parents and Caregivers,

**New School App for your Smart Phone, tablet or iPad:** Our school now has a mobile phone app. What’s that you may ask, it is a little application that sits on your phone and gives you instant access to our school information when you click on it, 24/7. The app is going to give parents the ability to instantly access newsletters without going to the website, or to send in a sick note while you stand outside the school because you forgot to write a paper note! Another feature that parents may be interested in is advertising their business on the school app at a cost of $50.00. For more information regarding advertising please contact the school. You can download the App to your smartphone by going to either the Apple App Store or Android Google Play Market and search for **Gorokan Public School**. Once you have found it press install or download. The App is free to download. Pop-up instant messages can be sent to your mobile device telling you important information e.g. cancellation of carnivals.

**Scripture Classes** - Scripture will commence on Thursday 28th February. If you have any changes to your child’s Scripture preferences please contact the school.

**Anniversary of Sorry to the Stolen Generation Day** - A ceremony for this anniversary was held with the students last Thursday. Thank you to Danielle of Year 6 for talking to the Year 3 to 6 assembly about the important significance of this event.

**Sports Captains** - Sports Captains were elected by the students last week. Congratulations to our new captains, I hope you enjoy your position for 2013.

**Swimming Carnival** - Our Swimming Carnival was held last Thursday. Thank you to the staff who supervised the carnival and to the parents who helped on the day. Congratulations to the students who participated with enthusiasm.

**Star 104.5FM** - will be broadcasting live from Gorokan Public School between 5.30am and 9.00am on Wednesday 6th March. The P & C will be selling egg and bacon rolls with tea, coffee and hot chocolate. Order forms for breakfast will be sent home with the children.

**Nomination for Executive Position for P & C for 2013 – 2014** - Nomination forms for the following positions must be handed into the Principal before the close of business on 22nd February, 2013: President, Vice President (2 positions), Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer. The Annual General Meeting of the Gorokan Public School P & C is to be held at 3.00pm on Monday 25th February, 2013.

**New Student Welfare Worker** - Mellita Bate is a new member on staff at our school; Her task is to support the wellbeing of students. The school and P&C Association applied for funding through the Chaplain/Student Welfare Worker Program and were successful. They sought the person to fill this position through Interrelate. Interrelate is a state wide company which has been helping families build relationships since 1926. Interrelate run a number of school programs and have a number of publications on many children’s issues.
Mellita’s role in the school is to provide care for the children, especially having an extra adult accessible on the playground for a chat and to run specific programs in classes across the school. We envision running some classes on the importance of healthy friendships and anti-bullying across the school. As well as ‘Kids Connections’ a program designed to help Year 6 students as they prepare to transition into high school.

For more information on the program please see attachment.

SCHOOL PHOTOS: Envelopes were sent home with the majority of students yesterday. The photographers will be organising envelopes for the students who were omitted from class lists as soon as possible. If you require a family package please call in to the office or have your child collect an envelope from the ladies in the office.

GRADE SUPERVISORS FOR 2013:

Kindergarten: (Early Stage 1) Mrs Kim Lansdowne (Relieving)
Year 1 & 2 (Stage 1) Ms Belynda Gruden Co-ordinator
Year 3 (Stage 2) Mr Jason Clenton Co-ordinator
Year 4 (Stage 2) Mrs Dru Glencorse Co-ordinator
Years 5 & 6 (Stage 3) Ms Annette Bertram (Relieving)

If you need to speak with a grade supervisor for any reason you must contact the office to make an appointment first.

MORNING BELL: Our first bell rings at 8.57am. This bell is for all students to line up in their grade area. It would be appreciated if all parents could say goodbye to their child/ren at this time and leave them to line up and wait for the 9am bell and not wait around for the morning assembly as this disrupts students when they should be listening to information which the teachers are telling them. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

OOSHC: The panel for tenders for the Out of School Hours Centre will meet this Monday. We should have information when the Centre will commencing operation at our school shortly. This centre will be made available to all working parents who would like their child/ren cared for before and or after school.

Mrs Alanna Bell
PRINCIPAL

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - TERM 1, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 25th February</td>
<td>P &amp; C Annual General Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th &amp; 19th March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 23rd March</td>
<td>School Fete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th March</td>
<td>Final day for payment of Uni Tests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL NEWS

Aboriginal Learning Hub - The Learning Hub will operate from 3.00 to 4.00pm on Monday and Wednesday afternoons commencing on Monday 25th February in our Aboriginal Room. Students can attend either session or both. The Learning Hub will operate under Department of Education and Communities Guide lines and Gorokan Primary School Policies. A permission note for the Hub will be sent home with your child this week.
UNIVERSITY TESTS – 2013: A separate note will be sent home outlining Uni Tests and costs available to students in Year 3 to 6 this year. The final day for payment for these will be Thursday 28th March 2013.

KINDERGARTEN SUPERVISOR - KIM LANSDOWNE

Home reading and homework began this week. Books are to be returned on Friday in their bag.

If you are helping in your child’s classroom please remember to sign in when you arrive at the office and sign out when leaving.

Mathletics passwords have now been issued to Kindergarten. The cost is $8.00 for the year or $2.00 a term. Please send money in an envelope with their name, class and amount on the front. Children will be able to access from home and school.

We would appreciate if you could check your child’s hair regularly for the presence of head lice. If you find any please treat immediately. It is only when we work together that we can keep this little pest under control.

School photos are on the 18th March. Order forms were sent out this week.

Children are to line up in our Kindergarten area of a morning not at their classroom. Please keep this area clear.

YEAR 2 SUPERVISOR - BELYNDAA GRUDEN

Meet and Greet and Interviews - Stage 1 meet and greet was held on Monday and Wednesday. Thank you to all the parents and carers that attended one of these sessions, it was great to see so many of you there. All Year 1 and 2 teachers will be holding interviews in the coming weeks.

All Year 1 and 2 classes have sent home an interview request sheet. Please fill in three preferences and return it to your child’s teacher as soon as possible. Your child’s teacher will send you a confirmation letter confirming your time and date. If you cannot attend your interview time please call the school as soon as possible.

Student Information Sheet – Please return your child’s information sheet as soon as possible. This information provides us with vital information about your child.

Home Reading - all students should be reading each night and returning their log to their teacher daily. Please encourage home reading.

Supplies - All students require a sharp lead pencil, a whiteboard marker, glue stick and a home reader bag.

Homework - All Classes have begun homework for this term. Individual teachers set homework for their class. Each class may have different homework.

Sport - Your child’s sport day for this term will be: Year 1 - Friday 2 – 3pm
Year 2 Thursday 2 – 3pm

Year 2 Awards - 2E - Tyrone, Shayla, Tallas
2F - Fallon, Dallas
2B - Seth, Logan

YEAR 3 SUPERVISOR - JASON CLENTON

Maths Text Book + Mathletics Internet access - All Year 3 students will require a Maths text book and Mathletics internet access. The Mathletics program is used at school and can be accessed at home if your child pays for the login and password at school.
We are offering both of these wonderful educational resources at a discount of $21 (or $15 if you sign the pink school assistance form which is printed on the back of the Text Book note.) All classes would like to start using these resources on the 1st March, 2013. Please ensure your child has paid for theirs by this date so that they don’t fall behind.

Parent/Caregiver Information sharing Surveys and Interviews - All year 3 teachers will be inviting all our Year 3 parents and caregivers to our Term 1 Parent/Caregiver Information sharing meetings. If you would like to meet with your child’s teacher please request an appointment on the information sharing sheets which are being sent home this week. The purpose of this meeting is for you to spend 10 – 15 minutes sharing any information that you think will help us teach your child in Year 3. Please return all student information surveys regardless of whether you want an interview or not.

Thankyou - Thank you for ensuring your children have their equipment for work each day. It really does save a lot of time when every child has their own pencil, scissors, glue and rulers. Well done Year 3. Thank you also for the kind donations of tissues, paper towel and pump soap that we have already received. Your generosity is appreciated by the students and teachers.
Year 3 Teachers

YEAR 4 SUPERVISOR - DRU GLENCORSE

Maths Text Book + Mathletics Internet access - All Year 4 students will require a Maths text book and Mathletics internet access. The Mathletics program is used at school and can be accessed at home if your child pays for the login and password at school. We are offering both of these wonderful educational resources at a discount of $21 (or $15 if you sign the pink school assistance form which is printed on the back of the Text Book note.) All classes would like to start using these resources on the 1st March, 2013. Please ensure your child has paid for theirs by this date so that they don’t fall behind.

Parent/Caregiver Information sharing Surveys and Interviews - All year 4 teachers will be inviting all our Year 4 parents and caregivers to our Term 1 Parent/Caregiver Information sharing meetings. If you would like to meet with your child’s teacher please request an appointment on the information sharing sheets which are being sent home this week. The purpose of this meeting is for you to spend 10 – 15 minutes sharing any information that you think will help us teach your child in Year 4. Please return all student information surveys regardless of whether you want an interview or not.

Thankyou - Thank you for ensuring your children have their equipment for work each day. It really does save a lot of time when every child has their own pencil, scissors, glue and rulers. Well done Year 4. Thank you also for the kind donations of tissues, paper towel and pump soap that we have already received. Your generosity is appreciated by the students and teachers.

Year 4 Teachers – Mrs Glencorse 4G - Grade Co-ordinator
Miss Clarke 4C
Mrs Moon 3/4M
Mr Henderson 4/5H

Congratulations to the following award winners:
3/4M - Lachlan R
4C - Bo G, Che-Maree W
4G - Alanah J, O’Shae L

YEAR 6 SUPERVISOR - ANNETTE BERTRAM

Welcome back to your child’s last year of primary school. As stated in the blue information note that went home earlier this week, we have a very busy year ahead. Notes will be sent home this term regarding the Year Six t-shirt orders, year Six camp (to be held in Term 3) and the school photo envelopes. In March we will be sending the Enrolment for High School. It is extremely important that these are correctly filled out and returned to school.
Hats - It is school policy for all children to wear a broad brim or bucket hat when they go into the playground and when participating in Sport. Please make sure that your child brings the correct hat to school as caps do not provide adequate protection from the sun.

School App - It is great to hear that a number of the Year Six parents are using the new school app. It can be used for a variety of things including requesting an interview with your child’s teacher and finding out what’s happening in the school.

Interviews - We will be sending notes home this week that will give you the opportunity to make an appointment to see your child’s teacher. We hope to see as many parents as possible.

CANTEEN NEWS

BOOK CLUB - Orders for Issue 1 have been processed. It usually takes a little longer to receive books from Scholastic on the first issue. Hopefully the books will be returned to the children within two weeks.

CANTEEN ROSTER 2013 – Week 4 Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Roster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st February</td>
<td>Leanne Gainey, Maria Brunton, Paul Tydeman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd February</td>
<td>Susan, Tina, Alicia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 25th February</td>
<td>Janine Vine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26th February</td>
<td>Steve Naish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th February</td>
<td>Belinda Bermingham, Vicki Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th February</td>
<td>Paul Tydeman, Sue King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 1st March</td>
<td>Sally Brookes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P & C NEWS

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - This year’s P&C Annual General Meeting is to be held on Monday 25th February, 2013 at 3.10pm in the SAC Centre. The following positions will be vacated: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. If you wish to stand for or nominate someone for these positions, please fill in the Nomination Form which can be picked up from the office foyer. Please note you must be a financial member to stand for any position. Please return the completed Nomination forms to Mrs Bell by Friday 22nd February, 2013.

MEGA FETE - Plans are going ahead for our Mega Fete to be held on Saturday 23rd March, 2013. We are looking for volunteers to help on the day. If you can spare some time please send in your name, email address and times you can help out. We are also looking for donations of non-perishable foods, which can be left at the canteen. Updates for our Mega Fete can be seen on the Gorokan Public School website.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Groups - Groups meet for up to 2 hours for a coffee and a chat in a casual, confidential and welcoming environment. Providing an opportunity to meet other caregivers, to relax and take time out and to receive support and information about other services.

Wyong Group - Meet the first Thursday of the month 9.30am – 11.30am during school term at Wyong Public School, Cutler Drive, Wyong – Schools as Community Centre (SACC) building. First Term Groups 7th March and 4th April

For more information please contact Sarah Grey at Central Coast Family Support on 43401585 or email sarah@ccfss.com.au

Crane Academy of Dance - Classes are held at Gorokan Public School in Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Modern and Musical theatre. Boys and girls welcomed. All ages and standard of dance are welcomed. Monday nights we have an Adult fun jazz/exercise class and for this you are never too old. For any enquiries please call Janelle Crane on 43927505 or 0425238695.
To Parents/Guardians

Interrelate Family Centres in conjunction with your school; have employed a Student Welfare Worker funded by the Chaplaincy/Student Welfare Worker Program provided the Federal Government. 1000 new schools who received the funding were selected from a vast range of applications, had to have the agreement of the school community before taking part in the program, and priority was given to schools in regional and remote areas, and in disadvantaged communities.

Your Student Welfare Worker is Mrs. Mellita Bate. Mellita works both Tuesdays and Wednesdays and will be easily accessible in the playground, from 8:30am before school begins, during recess and lunchtimes.

Mrs Bate will deliver programs focused on improving the welfare of children by developing healthy relationships through school-based education. We envision teaching K – 4 about making healthy friendships and anti-bullying strategies. Years 5 & 6 will be learning about accepting themselves, healthy relationships and the transitions of life at this stage of their development.

Australian research has indicated that it is important for children to voice their experience and this can support healthy development of self esteem and resilience. Lessons are interactive, conducted in an ethical, strength-based environment where questions are encouraged, appropriately addressed fulfilling an integral part of the program.

If you would not like your child to participate in the Student Welfare Program please contact the school and notify them of your decision.

...and your assurance of quality

Mellita is fully trained and experienced Student Welfare Worker from Interrelate, who adheres to a strict code of ethics, is working in your school for your children.

As an organisation, Interrelate has more than 80 years of experience in this field and has a reputation for providing excellence in relationship education. Today over 38,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate school and family programs each year. Interrelate is committed to protecting the privacy of clients (compliant with the Privacy Act 1998) and maintains an on-going commitment to quality service delivery.
Annual General Meeting of the Gorokan Public School P&C to be held at 3.00 p.m. on Monday, 25th February, 2013.

Nomination For Executive Position For 2013-2014

Nomination forms for the following positions must be handed into the Principal before the close of business on 22nd February, 2013. President, Vice President (2 positions), Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer.

Name of person nominated:  ____________________________________________

Position Nominated for:  ____________________________________________

Name of Nomintor:  ____________________________________________

I am a financial member of Gorokan Public School P&C.

Signature:  ____________________________________________

Name of Seconder:  ____________________________________________

I am a financial member of Gorokan Public School P&C.

Signature:  ____________________________________________

Acceptance of Person Nominated:

I accept the nomination to the position of

for the Gorokan Public School P&C.

I am a financial member of Gorokan Public School P&C

Signature:  ____________________________________________

These nominations will be taken on the day of the Annual General Meeting: Canteen Delegates, Fund Raising Committee, Book Club.
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Events Dates  Change of Details
Notes Due  Pop-Up Alerts
Venue Maps  Contact Us

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