Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Kindergarten 2015 - If you have a child who is starting Kindergarten next year can you please complete the form in this newsletter and drop it into the office as a priority so that plans can be finalised for the Kindergarten orientation programme which is due to start next term? It would be greatly appreciated if you could inform parents of children who will be starting school next year and who do not receive a GPS Newsletter of this request also.

Staff News - Mrs Margaret Evans will be joining the Gorokan Public School team of teachers this week. She has been employed to support students in learning, including students who are from non-English speaking backgrounds. Please join me in welcoming her to our school community.

Reforms to P&C Federation - The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure, which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations.

Each school’s P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation’s Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation’s Board of Management.


Zone Cross Country – Last Friday the Zone Cross Country Carnival was attended by the Gorokan PS Cross Country Team. The students involved made valiant efforts to achieve the best results they could for themselves and the school team. Congratulations to all students who competed and good luck to Abi S, Connor V, Joel M, Isaac K and Lachie R who qualified for the Sydney North Cross Country trials. This is a record number for our school and a fabulous result. Mrs Farrell and Mrs Ranse reported that the students tried their best and represented Gorokan Public School outstandingly in their athleticism and behaviour.

You Can Do It Assembly – This term’s first You Can Do It assembly was held last Friday. Our Koori Choir performed the song Innaway while Kindergarten students performed the Connie Confidence Song. Congratulations to children who received recognition for their confidence over the first part of this year and I would encourage all students to continue to strive towards developing this key attribute in all they do.

Term 2 You Can Do It award winners:


Head Lice and Nits – I hope you found the information provided in last week’s newsletter useful. I would strongly encourage all families to be persistent in the continual checking of the children’s hair for lice and eggs. Regular use of hair conditioner and the combing out of eggs with a fine tooth comb is strongly recommended if we are to get on top of this ongoing problem.

Netball Gala Day – Congratulations to the girls who represented our school in last week’s Netball Gala Day. I am very proud of their efforts and sportsmanship and would like to thank and encourage them to continue with confidence in future competitions.

Special thanks are also extended to Mrs Raleigh who assisted and supported Mrs Carty and Mrs Shoesmith and the girls on the day.
Gorokan High 5 – Thanks for supporting and encouraging your children to use the Gorokan High 5. It’s worth noting and reminding your children that this approach will help them to resolve minor problems that arise across different settings.

Together we can make a difference.

Jesmond Zammit
Principal

**Dates to Remember**

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<td>Pyjama Day – Egg &amp; Bacon Lunch</td>
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<td>Monday 9th June</td>
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<td>Tuesday 10th June</td>
<td>Sydney Excursion Year 4</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24th June</td>
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<td>Friday 27th June</td>
<td>Mufti Day (Red, yellow &amp; black)</td>
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<td>Tuesday 15th July</td>
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**School News**

**Netball Gala Day 2014** - What great weather we were blessed with on our Gala Day! Last week 9 students from year 5 and 6 attended the PSSA Netball Gala Day at Baker Park. These girls have been training twice a week for well over a term and I’m sure they have been driving their families crazy with talk of netball. While we were knocked out in the first game, the girls picked themselves up and played two more “friends” winning one game and coming oh, so close in the other.

The joy of the day was the camaraderie of the girls, the smiling faces and their love of playing together. Not once was there a complaint when asked to play out of position, there were no angry voices and there was even “Go Gorokan!” coming from a very quiet, unlikely source.

You have done yourselves and your school very proud girls. Thank you to Belinda Raleigh for umpiring the entire day for us. Also a big thank you to the parents that attended and cheered from the sideline.

See you next year.

**Mrs Carty and Mrs Shoesmith**

**Pyjama Day** - Friday 6th June. Students are encouraged to wear their pyjamas to school and donate a gold coin. This money supports the children’s section of both Wyong and Gosford hospitals.

No slippers or ugg boots are to be worn to school on this day. **Orders have now closed for the egg and bacon lunch.**

**Health Alert** - We would like to bring to your attention that we have reported cases of hand, foot and mouth disease. If your child presents with a rash on their palms, mouth or feet please contact your local doctor.

**School Photos** - Students have been given their school photos today. If you have any problems with your order please contact the photographer Master School Portraits on 49668292.

**Kindergarten News- Supervisor – Kim Lansdowne**

Thank you to the families that have sent in photos of the children to share with their class. Next term the Kindi farm will be visiting Kindergarten. There will be a cost of $11.00. A note will be sent home early next term.

In semester one the children have been leaning about:

1. **Our Place and Me in HSIE.**

2. **In Science the children have been investigating- Why things move? and What things are made of?**

3. **In Visual Arts the children made simple pictures and other kinds of artworks about things and experiences. In Dance they participated in performing dances. In Music they were learning about chants and rhymes. In Drama they were expressing themselves through mime and role play.**

4. **In PDHPE they were involved in learning the school rules, being confident, dance and fundamental movement.**

**Class Awards:**

KE/T - Nathan, Chloe  
K/1H - Jayden  
KL - Jorjah, Huntar  
KS - Maddison, Owen

**Stage 1 News - Supervisor - Cathie Behringer**

**Reports** will be sent home in week 8. We will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews early in Term 3. All teachers highly value this time with you to discuss the positive aspects of your child and their learning. A note will be going home towards the end of the term with information concerning times and days for each class.

**Key Learning Area** topics that have been covered this semester are as follows-

**Year 1: HSIE** ‘Identifying Us’ and ‘The need for Shelter’.  
**Year 2: HSIE** ‘Workers in the Community’ and Families Past and Present’.  

In science all Stage One students covered the topics ‘Look and Listen’ and ‘Spot the Difference’. In PD and Health we have been learning Fundamental Movement skills and learning about making ‘Healthy Choices’.

**Class Awards:**

1C - Felicity and Jessica  
1B - Lara, Jack  
1SA - Grace
Excursions - Make sure you have paid any monies owing for the Year 3 and 4 excursions which are next week. Year 4 - Tuesday 10th May
Year 3 - Thursday 12th May
A note will be sent home on Friday with reminders and information regarding the excursions.

Key Learning Areas - Last term in HSIE Stage 2 students learnt about Australia and have continued our studies on the British Colonisation of Australia this term. Students have been learning about the First Fleet and will begin to learn about different explorers.

In Science Stage 2 students have studied units called ‘Night and Day’ and ‘Smooth Moves’. They have learnt about the planets with a focus on Earth. Forces and gravity have been explored in the smooth moves unit. During PD/H/PE lessons, students have participated in a variety of sports and dances including Zumba. They have also been learning about confidence and organisation following our school You Can Do It program.

Class Awards:
3G - Brooke, Lachlan  3M - Sheree, Kayla P
4H - Elise, Wadee  4C Luke, Hannah

Key Learning Areas - Throughout this semester stage 3 has been studying a broad and varied curriculum across the key learning areas. In Science and Technology stage 3 have been studying a unit of work titled ‘Earth’s Place in Space’ and ‘Light Shows’. In Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) the topic title has been ‘Global Connections’ and ‘Cultural Groups’ where Bali has been our focus Asian country. Throughout Creative Arts your child has been involved in various learning experiences across visual arts, music, drama and dance with the content varying in each class. In Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) your child has learnt about ‘safe living’, ‘personal health choices’, ‘interpersonal relationships’ and ‘growth and development’. Your child has also been learning how to live an ‘active lifestyle’ and the study and practice of various ‘games and sports’.

Canteen News

Canteen roster 2014 - Week 6 Term 2

| Thursday 5th June | Paul Tydeman, Vicki Smith |
| Friday 6th June  | Susan Cheney |
| Monday 9th June  | Public Holiday |
| Tuesday 10th June | Susan Cheney |
| Wednesday 11th June | Vicki Smith, Collette Edwards |
| Thursday 12th June | Paul Tydeman, Sue King |
| Friday 13th June  | Belinda Bermingham |

Pyjama Day - Egg & bacon lunch - Orders have now closed for our egg and bacon lunch to be held on Friday 6th June, pies and sausage rolls will be the only items that can be ordered on Friday.

Book Club - Brochures for Scholastic Issue 4 have been sent home and orders with money should be returned by Friday 13th June, 2014.

Thompson Pies Fundraiser - Help us raise money for new educational iPad apps for your children to use in class. Order forms have been sent home and should be returned by Friday 13th June, 2014. Orders will be available for pick up on Tuesday 24th June from 8.30am to 9.30am in the hall.

Little Cake Day - This term's Little Cake Day will be held on Friday 20th June, 2014. Years 2 and 4 are asked to donate biscuits, cakes or toffees towards our stall. They will be sold at recess for 20c or 50c. Any donations can be left at the canteen on the morning of the stall.

Have you got a child starting Gorokan School next year?
We have Transition to school playgroup starting next term in the school as community centre.
Time: 9:00 - 11:00am
Starting: Tuesday 22nd July
Come along meet other families starting school, become familiar with the school and its staff, and assist your child learn valuable school readiness skills. Please bring a healthy morning tea. It's free and Parents / Carers must stay with their child; younger siblings are welcome.

Are you a Grandparent caring for a young child 0-5 years?
We have an opportunity to support a grandparents supported play group, but we would like to see if there is interest in the community for this group.
This playgroup would enable grandparents to get together, meet and talk to other families who are experiencing the joys of the challenges of caring for grandchildren on a full time or part time basis. The children get to play, paint, sing a song or two and then read a story. The group would be free and would run during school term.
If you would be interested in coming to this group could you please contact Lynda on 0467 760 712 or email Lynda.wooden@det.nsw.edu.au

Lakes Artfest 2014 - The next Art workshop will be held on Wednesday 11th June - 4.30pm to 6.30pm at Lakes Anglican Church, 274 Wallarah Road, Kanwal Phone 43931333 (9am to 3pm). The Art Workshops are held to promote and display the artistic talent of our younger members in our local community. The workshops are led by experienced art teachers and artists. Places are limited so please ring to book.
Helping kids who struggle at school

The way we praise our children, even from a very early age, can have a lasting impact. When done effectively, it can really promote resilience. When we praise intelligence – “You are so smart”, “Aren’t you clever!” – we are using language that suggests that these are the traits that we value the most, and that make our children different from others. In contrast, when we praise effort – “I can see you tried hard with that”, “Well done for doing all that work” – we are rewarding progress and intrinsic motivation. That promotes a ‘growth’ or ‘possibility’ mindset.

Tips for encouraging a growth mindset:

1. Look at learning as a way to stretch and grow the brain. Learning new things is great exercise for seeing new possibilities or ways of doing things. It encourages imagination and creative thinking.

2. When congratulating your child, use words that praise the outcome that has resulted from their putting in the work and effort.

3. When things go wrong, ask, “What could you do differently next time to get a better result?” Failure and making mistakes is normal. Learning to deal with them effectively helps build resilience.

4. Use the power of “Yet”. If your child tells you, “I’m no good at...” or “I can’t do that”, your response could be, “You’re just not there ... yet”. This implies that it is work in progress and success may come through perseverance. It’s not about false hope, but encouragement.

Other research is now uncovering additional benefits from adopting a growth mindset. It can:

- diminish bullying or aggressive behaviour
- develop resilience in the face of adversity
- help see challenge as opportunity
- develop tenacity in persevering to overcome obstacles
- help see effort as the route to mastery
- build the ability to use criticism as something to learn from
- promote inspiration and new learning from sharing in the success of others.

We all want our children to do well and one of the best ways we can help is to promote a growth mindset so they become more positive in their outlook as to their own capabilities, broaden their perspective of the world and elevate their resourcefulness.

Dr. Jenny Brockis is a brain health specialist. Her focus is on promoting optimal health and function for all brains. She is also an author and speaker, and mum to two young adults. [www.drjennybrockis.com](http://www.drjennybrockis.com)

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Kindergarten Enrolments 2015 – Return slip for office staff

Child’s Name (in full): __________________________________________ Date of Birth: _____________________

Male   Female (please circle)

Names of Siblings at school (if applicable):________________________

Address:  _________________________________________________________________________________

Home Telephone Number: _____________________ Mobile Number: _____________________

Email:_____________________________________________________________________________________

I would like any correspondence addressed to:

Miss / Ms / Mrs / Mr / Mr & Mrs (please circle) ____________________________________________