Dear Parents and Carers,

**NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) Results** - NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. NAPLAN is a skills test assessing accumulated literacy and numeracy skills from when students start school in Kindergarten. All Year 3 and 5 parents and carers should have received their child/ren's results recently and I will present a summary of the school's overall performance at the next P&C meeting. I would like to extend an invitation to all interested parents and carers to attend. Further information on NAPLAN can be obtained from the school or from the NAPLAN website – [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au) I commend the students on their individual effort and achievements.

**Bilby Bash** – Congratulations to our Aboriginal students who performed at today's Bilby Bash at Budgewoi Public School. All performances went well and the students celebrated their cultural identity with enthusiasm and pride. Congratulations to all involved.

**School Improvement Projects Update** – The removal of dangerous trees from the school grounds is well underway with most identified trees being already removed.

The final stages of the exterior beautification has resumed this week and will involve the painting of beams and handrails, the replacement of weathered fascia boards and high pressure cleaning of all exterior walls.

Due to be installed also this week is the new LED school sign to replace the current sign. Many thanks to the NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grant sourced by the school P&C. This new facility will allow for multiple messages to be communicated with ease and clarity. A new welcome sign will also be installed inside the school gate at the main entrance of the school.

It is hoped that these improvements will enhance the school grounds and lead to the students, staff and school community having a greater sense of pride in our school. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the school P&C and staff whose efforts have resulted in these significant school improvements.

**Kindergarten Orientation** – A warm welcome is extended to our new families who are participating in the Kindergarten orientation program. Participation over the last few weeks has been great and our aim to transition the children to school smoothly is being achieved. Today's program included a presentation by Myree Kent our Instructional Leader, on the Best Start Kindergarten assessment program and process. Next week the parent talk will be on language development.

**Sports Update** - Best of luck to our senior boys who will compete in the Touch Football Gala Day on Friday at Doyalson.

Have you been to look at our class gardens lately?

Together we can make a difference.

Jesmond Zammit
Principal

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### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 8, 9, 10</td>
<td>Gorokan’s Got Talent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 19.9.14</td>
<td>Mufti Day Gold coin donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 19.9.14</td>
<td>Last Day Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 19.9.14</td>
<td>Mufti Day Gold coin donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 7.10.14</td>
<td>First day Term 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 8.10.14</td>
<td>4th Kinder Orientation 9.30 – 11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 15.10.14</td>
<td>5th Kinder Orientation 9.30 – 11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.10.14 – 31.10.14</td>
<td>School Swimming Scheme Yr 2 - 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 27th Oct.</td>
<td>Year 6 Surf Awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 28th Oct.</td>
<td>Year 5 C.A.R.E.S. Program</td>
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Kindergarten News – Kim Lansdowne

Public Speaking - Thank you to the families that have assisted their child in preparing speeches for the Public Speaking competition this week.

Attendance - If your child is absent from school please send a note to your child's teacher on their return if you have not already contacted the school.

Notes - Many notes have been sent home recently in relation to many events happening at school. Check your child's bag daily so that notes are not overlooked.

Class Awards
KE/T - Shae, Nathan  KH - Lily-Rose
KL - Maya, Gabriella  KS - Tyrone, Rachael

Stage 1 News – Cathie Behringer

Rewards Day - Stage 1 will be this Friday. We are having a mini athletics fun day. There will be egg and spoon races, sack races and many novelty events. The students who have a level 3 or below on their behaviour card will be staying with Mrs Behringer.

Absences - Please don't forget to send a note in with your child explaining why they have been away. All absences are documented and have to be entered onto our school system.

Gorokan's Got Talent - is on at lunchtime this week in the hall. Thank you to all students who are participating. The finals are on Friday of week 10.

Spelling Bee - two students from each class will be chosen for the finals, which will be on Wednesday afternoon of Week 10 for Stage 1.

Class Awards
1C - Lakyla and Hayden  1H - Kianah
1SA - Ty, Reygahn

Stage 2 News – Supervisor – Belynda Gruden

Rewards Day - Next Thursday we will be having term 3 Rewards Day. We will be taking the students who have been on a level 4, 5 or 6 to the lake near Toukley Bridge. There is no cost to attend this rewards afternoon. All students attending must have a signed permission note. Notes have been sent home.

Gorokan's Got Talent - Well done to all the students who have performed in Gorokan's Got Talent. Heats will continue this week.

Naplan - All NAPLAN results have been sent home to Year 3 students. If you are concerned please make a time to meet with your child’s teacher.

Child Protection - lessons are continuing in all stage 2 classes.

Class Awards -
3G - Brooke, Rebecca  3M - Sarah, Jaxen
3/4B - William  4H - Mia, Nathan

Stage 3 News – Supervisor – Charlie Corlett

Rewards Day - Our Stage 3 rewards day will take place on Friday 19th September at Peace Park Gorokan. A separate letter will accompany the newsletter with further details and a permission slip to sign that will allow your child to walk to the park. A sausage sizzle lunch and drink will also be made available.

Great Aussie Bush Camp - If your child is going to the Stage 3 camp please remember to make regular payments. Final payment is to be paid by Wednesday 5th November.

Home Reading - is an important part of any child's upbringing. Please encourage your child to read daily, or you could read to them, or audio books can be downloaded to listen to that will help nurture a long lasting love of books for life.

Canteen News

Canteen roster 2014 - Week 8 Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Canteen Roster</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 11th September</td>
<td>Sue King, Paul Tydeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12th September</td>
<td>Belinda Bermingham, Susan Cheney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15th September</td>
<td>Belinda Bermingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16th September</td>
<td>Janine Vine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17th September</td>
<td>Vicki Smith, Shayne Dodds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th September</td>
<td>Vicki Smith, Paul Tydeman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th September</td>
<td>Shayne Dodds, Tina Jones</td>
</tr>
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Week 1 Term 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Canteen Roster</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7th October</td>
<td>Janine Vine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th October</td>
<td>Vicki Smith, Collette Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 9th October</td>
<td>Sue King, Paul Tydeman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10th October</td>
<td>Belinda Bermingham, Susan Cheney</td>
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Footy Meal Deal Day - The canteen will be holding a meal deal on the last day of term (Friday 19th September, 2014). The cost of the meal will be $5.00. An order form has been sent home outlining the meals available and should be returned by Tuesday 16th September.

Running Down Stock - As the end of term is next week we will only have limited menu items available. Please make sure your child has a second choice when ordering their lunch. Pies, sausage rolls and sandwiches will always be available.

P & C News

P&C Meeting - Next term’s P&C meeting will be held on Monday 27th October, 2014 at 3.10pm in the SAC Centre. All Welcome.

Last Day Term 3 - On the last day of term 3 the P&C will have showbags ($7.00), lucky dips ($1.00 and $2.00) and novelties (from 50c) available at lunch time.
School Swimming and Water Safety Program
Parents are reminded that final payment for your child’s swimming scheme is to be paid by Monday 15th September. We still have 20 spaces available for the scheme if your child is interested. The cost is $43.00. For more information contact the office.

From the Library - The term is coming to an end already. You may have noticed that students have been coming home with white slips indicating overdue library books. I appreciate that sometimes the system does not work as it should and some books have indeed been returned. Please take the slips as a notice to have a search around for any books at home with a Gorokan Public School barcode on the front cover. If you cannot find the book or believe you have returned it, please just write a note on the white slip and put it in the returns box. There will be no borrowing for the rest of the term in order to gather our resources.

MUFTI DAY Last day of Term 3 will be mufti day. Children are asked to wear their favourite sporting team colours. Gold coin donations will go to fundraising for Year 6 Farewell.

2014 Kindergarten Transition - We would love you to attend our 2014 Kindergarten transition program. Our aim is to allow your child to experience “big school” in an informal, supportive and caring environment. You and your child are invited to attend on the following dates:

Transition 4 - Wednesday 8/10/14 (9.30 – 11.00am) - Orientation for parents will be in the hall. Children will participate in classroom activities.

Transition 5 - Wednesday 15/10/14 (9.30 – 11.00am) - Orientation for parents will be in the hall. Children will participate in classroom activities.

Transition 6 - Wednesday 22/10/14 (9.30 – 11.00am) - Orientation for parents will be in the hall. Children will participate in classroom activities.

RSVP by phoning the school on 43924200 by 22.8.14. Please note that when enrolling your child you need to bring their birth certificate, proof of address and immunisation details.

ARE YOU MOVING? If you know you will be moving over the up-coming school holidays and your child/ren will not be returning to our school after the break please advise the ladies in the office before the end of term.

Rego Day - Soldiers Beach Nippers
Sunday 14th September 10am – 2pm at Soldiers Beach Surf Club

Central Coast Lapidary Club Inc
You are invited to the Lapidary Club’s Gem Show to be held at the Mingara Recreation Club, Tumbi Umbi on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th October. Entry is free – Collect some free samples

Toukley District Athletics Registrations are OPEN! Come join us for season 2015.

Competition nights are Friday, held at Warnervale Athletic Field, Corner of Warnervale Rd and Virginia Rd, Warnervale, 5:30pm - 8:00pm.
Ages: Tots (U5) and above.
Registrations are online through https://memberdesq.imgstg.com/index.cfm?fuse.action=main&OrgID=914
First meet Friday 26 September 2014, come along to meet everyone.
Competition begins on the 10 October 2014.
For more information please contact Toukleydistrictathletics1@live.com.au or http://www.toukleydistrictathletics.org.au

Schools Community Forum - Central Coast P & C members and school community members from across the Central Coast are invited to attend a Forum to be held at Wadalba Community School on Thursday 11th September.

Time: 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start – 9.20pm finish

Structure of Workshop - Participants have the opportunity to select two workshops from a choice of three sessions – Workshop Topics are Work Health and Safety, Vocational Education or Curriculum update.

7.30 – 7.40pm Welcome and introductions
7.40 – 8.20pm Session One
8.25 – 9.05pm Session Two
9.10 – 9.20pm Closing remarks
Refreshments will be provided.
Let’s talk about literacy

The importance of reading to young children – on a daily basis, from birth and beyond – has never been more imperative, writes Karen Fontaine.

_The underlying message could not be clearer: make reading to kids a habit as non-negotiable as the ritual of brushing teeth._

“The fire of literacy is created by the emotional sparks between a child, a book, and the person reading. It isn’t achieved by the book alone, nor by the child alone, nor by the adult who’s reading aloud – it’s the relationship winding between all three, bringing them together in easy harmony.” Mem Fox, author of *Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever*.

Fox, a literacy consultant and the bestselling author of such classic children’s books as Possum Magic and *Time For Bed*, has spent much of the past 20 years urging parents to read aloud to their children – particularly in their first few years of life.

Her book for adults, *Reading Magic*, espouses the many benefits of doing so – such as developing children’s ability to concentrate at length, to solve problems logically, and to express themselves more easily and clearly.

_These are Mem Fox’s 10 ‘Read Aloud Commandments’ for parents and caregivers:_

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud.

2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read.

3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don’t be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.

4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.

5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again, and always read in the same ‘tune’ for each book: i.e. with the same intonations on each page, each time.

6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing any old song that you can remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.

7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.

8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child’s name and yours, remembering that it’s never work, it’s always a fabulous game.

9. Never ever teach reading, or get tense around books.

10. Please read aloud every day, mums and dads, because you just love being with your child, not because it’s the right thing to do.

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