Dear Parents and Carers,

Principals’ Literacy and Numeracy Training - The Department of Education and Communities held an information session for school Principals in our library yesterday. The aim of the training was to prepare schools in planning for the 2015 school year and beyond with a specific focus on improving teaching practice and student outcomes in relation to literacy and numeracy.

Gorokan’s Got Talent - This year’s Gorokan’s Got Talent contest has seen some amazing acts performed. Thanks to all the students who have participated and to Miss Gruden and the staff who have been involved. The final will be held on the last day of term. Good luck to all contestants!

Kindergarten Orientation - This valuable transition to school program continues. The next transition date is Wednesday 15th October and I would extend a warm invitation to all 2015 Kindergarten parents to attend.

Mobile Phones Reminder - I would like to remind all students that as per the Gorokan Mobile Phone Policy, mobile phones must be handed in at the office before school, with a note explaining the reason for the phone to be brought to school from a parent or caregiver. A copy of the policy is available from the office if required.

Watch This Space - The new LED sign has been installed and should be up and running next term.


I would like to congratulate the students and staff for what has been three wonderful terms of learning and activities at Gorokan Public School so far this year. With a staff that go far beyond what is expected of them and families and community members who readily volunteer their services, it makes for a great school!

I wish all families a very happy and most importantly a safe holiday. School resumes on Tuesday 7th October for all students.

Together we can make a difference.

Jesmond Zammit
Principal
Kindergarten News – Kim Lansdowne

Public Speaking - The Kindergarten Public Speaking finals have been postponed due to Mrs Flanagan being ill. The finals will be early in Term 4 so that KS have time to choose two students.

Spelling Bee - The Kindergarten Spelling Bee will be this Thursday.

Library Books - Please return all library books as soon as possible as Mrs Carty would like to get them organised ready for next term.

Home Reading - All books should be returned on Friday. This will enable books to be exchanged ready for the commencement next term.

Reading - It is important that your child continue to develop their reading skills. We would ask that they read in the holidays. Lake Haven has many wonderful books and it is free to become a member.

 Helpers - Thank you to the parents who donated their time to assist at school this term. It is very much appreciated by the Kindergarten Team. We hope to see you again next term.

Class Awards
KE/T - Riley, Emily  KH - Cody
KL - Mitchell, Cody

Stage 1 News – Cathie Behringer

Rewards Day - for Stage 1 was a great success. We had a mini Olympics and although it was wet weather we managed to fit in some egg and spoon races, quoits, parachute games and many other fun activities.

Gorokan’s Got Talent - Finals will be on Friday at 9.15. Congratulations to all students who got into the Finals.

Spelling Bee - Two students from each class have been chosen for the finals which was held today.

Wishing everyone a safe, happy and peaceful holiday. Students return on Tuesday the 7th October due to the long weekend.

Stage 2 News – Supervisor – Belynda Gruden

Rewards Day - All students who have maintained a rating of 4, 5 or 6 are invited to a reward picnic afternoon at the lake tomorrow – Thursday 18th September. Please ensure your child has returned their signed permission note to their class teacher. Students are required to carry their lunch and drink in a plastic bag. Please pack disposable items. Congratulations to all the students who will be attending rewards day, it will be a great afternoon.

Swimming Scheme - Please ensure you have paid any monies owing for swimming scheme by Friday. There are still spots available if you would like your child to attend.

Home Reading - It would be greatly appreciated if any home readers and library books could be returned by Friday.

Holidays - We hope you all have a safe and happy holiday. Thank you for your continued support this term and we look forward to another busy term ahead.

Class Awards -
3G - Dean S, Fallon L  3M - Eliza L, Tyson T
3/4B - Keden M, Lillie N, Dekoda N  4C - Dylan B, Ebbony N  4H - Mia O, Delta M

Stage 3 News – Supervisor – Charlie Corlett

Rewards Day - Our Stage 3 rewards day will take place this Friday at Peace Park Gorokan. A letter has been sent home 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 for $3.50.

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.

We hope you all have a great holiday.

Canteen News

Canteen roster 2014 - Week 8 Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<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>
</tbody>
</table>

Week 1 Term 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7th October</td>
<td>Janine Vine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th October</td>
<td>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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOTY MEAL DEAL DAY - To be held on Friday 19th September, 2014. Orders have now closed for this meal deal. The only other menu items available on this day are pies and sausage rolls.
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. Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 can pre-order their showbags and they will be delivered to their classroom before home time.

HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY. SEE YOU NEXT TERM.

School News

MUFTI DAY - This Friday the students may wear mufti. 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.

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.

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.

Would you like to host an overseas student? Experience another culture, make new friends and improve your language studies at home.
Hosting – An Experience for Life
Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home www.studentexchange.org.au 1300 135 331 (cost of local call)

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?fuseaction=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

Community News

Students enjoying our Drumming Program
**MAKING FRIENDS**

Most research into children’s friendships shows that those children who are able to form friendships when they start school are happier at school and also learn better.

More significantly, a positive beginning to friendships has long-term implications for social and indirectly academic success.

Developing and maintaining friendships is a dynamic process. Most children experience some type of rejection from their peers throughout childhood. One study found that even popular children were rejected about one quarter of the time when they approached children in school.

Most children experience social rejection and recover. They move on and form constructive, worthwhile relationships but some children need help.

The results of a number of studies indicate that children can be taught friendships skills. The strategies are simple and revolve around teaching children a range of friendly behaviours such as: talking with others while playing, showing an interest in others, smiling, offering help and encouragement when needed, a willingness to share and learning how to enter a game or social situation. It is also useful to teach some children alternatives to fighting and arguing when there is disagreement and conflict within groups.

It is healthy for children to form friendships inside and outside of school and their regular day settings. It has been noted by some researchers that children who appear to have no friends at school frequently have networks of friends outside of school.

It seems that having friends outside school can be quite an insulating factor to teasing and bullying that can occur within the school gate.

Parents often become quite concerned about an apparent lack of friends that a child has compared to a sibling or a friend. One research project indicated that children on average have only two significant friendships at any one time. Anecdotal evidence suggests that second born children frequently have more friends than first borns and only children prefer one-on-one friendships to group relationships.

Generally parents need to do little more than provide social situations for children to build and maintain friendships. Involvement in some activities (but not so many that a child’s life is full), opportunities for visits to friend’s homes and to have friends visit your home and some help making sense of the less satisfactory social situations a child may encounter are the main fare for parents in this area.

However some coaching on how to make and keep friends may be desirable when children really do have difficulty making and keeping friends.

**Helping children learn the art of making friends**

Here are eight ideas that maybe useful to help coach your child in the art of making friends:

- If possible, establish a dialogue with your child about friendships so that you offer support when there are difficulties and provide some ideas when needed.
- Identify and discuss any behaviour such as teasing, bullying or self-centredness that may prevent your child from making friends. Sometimes a child’s remarks can irritate others to the extent that he or she is ostracised.
- Teach some social skills such as how to start up a conversation and how to hold the interest of others during a conversation.
- Provide opportunities for your child to have friends at your place after school or on weekends so that friendships can develop. An invitation to bring a friend along to family outings and holidays can provide opportunities to strengthen friendships.
- Encourage your child to participate in out-of-school activities or groups that may provide opportunities to meet new people away from the peer groups at school. Friendships formed through shared interests are often very strong.
- Encourage your child to take up a challenging or interesting activity so that he or she becomes a more interesting person for others to be around.
- Limit the time spent in solitary activities if your child appears to have few friends. Be humane and kind but don’t be afraid to insist children mix with others of their own age.
- Technology offers children opportunities to make and maintain friendships that were not available to past generations. This can be a positive thing however, if all your children’s friends are cyber friends then it maybe time to put some parental limits on the technology to encourage them to have personal contact with others.

Published by Michael Grose Presentations. All rights reserved.
For more ideas, support and advice for all you’re parenting challenges visit: www.parentingideas.com.au