Dear Parents and Carers,

At Gorokan Public School we believe that teachers who love teaching, teach children to love learning.

Remembrance Day Assembly – A special whole school assembly was held today in the school hall to remember soldiers, service men and women who died or were wounded in the line of duty. Originally declared a special day in 1919 by King George V to remember the soldiers killed in the First World War, now we remember soldiers from all wars who have given their lives. As the First World War was formally declared over at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, we traditionally hold two minutes of silence throughout the Commonwealth on 11th November every year. The school leaders did a great job running this assembly and each student received a special Remembrance Day medal. Thank you to the Returned and Services League of Australia, Pelican Flat Sub-Branch for providing our students this very special souvenir.

Dayne Hudson Visit – Our students were captivated by visiting guest speaker Dayne Hudson last Friday. Dayne is an Australian actor, filmmaker and television host. He spoke to the children about his successes in life and how they linked to the school’s five You Can Do It keys. He encouraged the students to strive for their personal best. We thank Dayne for providing the students with this great experience.

Visitors to the School – All parents and carers are reminded that the office is the first point of call when visiting the school during school hours. Teacher appointments should be organised through the office. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Family Holidays and Travel - Families are encouraged to travel or holiday during school holidays. If this is not possible, an Application for Extended Leave, or eligibility to enrol in Distance Education is required. Where the principal considers that the travel is appropriate a Certificate of Extended Leave will be issued. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

The Application for Extended Leave can be downloaded from the following link:
- Application for Extended Leave

Crazy Hair Day – Thank you for the effort and creativity that went into Friday’s Crazy Hair Day. Approximately $250 was raised in gold coin donations to help find a cure for Cystic Fibrosis. Thanks for supporting this great cause.

School Maintenance – On Friday I met with the team from the Department to finalise the internal painting project that will be completed in the Christmas holidays to avoid disruption to learning. The work will include the removal of ovens and cooktops from the corridors, renewal of bench tops and extensive painting – enhancing the students’ quality learning environment.

International Teacher Exchange Program – This program offers NSW public school teachers the opportunity to enhance their teaching career in an exciting and adventurous way, and expand their professional skills in a new environment. Through the Department’s International Teacher Exchange Program, teachers can swap teaching positions with an overseas teacher for one year. We’ve received confirmation from the Canadian exchange co-ordinator that the exchange proposal between Charlie Corlett and Deb Forrest has been accepted and approved in Ontario, Canada. This exchange will commence in January 2016. We wish Mr Corlett a safe and successful exchange and welcome Mrs Deb Forrest to Gorokan Public School for the 2016 school year.

2016 Classes – A further reminder is extended to parents and carers that we are currently planning our classes for 2016. I invite parents to write to me if they feel there are social needs that need to be considered when placing students in classes for 2016. Whilst we will consider requests, the task of forming classes is complex and all requests may not be able to be met. All requests must be received by Friday 20th November.

Together we can make a difference.

Jesmond Zammit

Principal
Weather – The weather is very changeable at the moment. Please make sure your child always brings a hat, drink bottle with water and their jumper to school every day. It is always a good idea to have a spare set of clothes packed in their school bag also. If your child has a raincoat it is a good idea to keep this packed in their bag. Please make sure that all of your child’s items are clearly labelled.

Award Winners
K1H - Noah S
KS - Daniel P & Indiana M,
KL - Harmony W & Riley C,
KET - Nykiah J & Tyler B

National Recycling Week - We will be discussing with all students K-6 about the importance of recycling this week.

The weather has been very wet and as a result the students need to be out in the sunshine breathing in the fresh air. We are ensuring that each day this week if possible, all students will be involved in fitness activities and outside team games.

Lunches - Please ensure that your child has a healthy lunch each day, a piece of fruit and a bottle of water. Recess and lunch must be packed each day. It is the single most important thing that will help learning and attitude. Health, nutrition and regular exercise.

Website of the week - If you are interested in Cyber Safety and keeping your children safe on the internet, please have a look at the website https://esafety.gov.au/

This website has some excellent parent resources that provide information on what to do if your child experiences cyber bullying. There are also videos covering basic online concepts.

Year 5 School Leadership - Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the School Leadership process. They showed a lot of confidence and courage to demonstrate to their peers why they believe they would be an ideal candidate for being a school leader next year. Further speeches will take place within the next few weeks for our final ten students who have made it this far to determine who our School Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects are. The positions will be unveiled on Presentation Day on Tuesday 8th December.

Year 5 Selective High Schools Test information - If you wish for your child to gain placement into a Selective High School class you must apply online: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement. The application website closes on Monday 16th November 2015. Late applications will not be accepted. The test itself is on Thursday 10 March 2016.

Year 6 Mini Fete - Thank you to our parents and carers for showing your support by donating items for our Year 6 mini fete. Details were sent home separately last week about our fete.

Gorokan’s Got Talent - Last week 70 students showcased their talent in Gorokan’s Got Talent. The audience enjoyed many singers, dancers and some stand-up comic acts. It was very hard for our judges, however, they were able to narrow the field to 8 amazing acts that will dazzle the whole school in the final. Thank you for your support in this fundraising effort. All money raised will be channelled back into the creative art programs in our school in order to further enable our fantastic students in this key learning area.
Mariners Active Schools Program - 
Thankyou to the Mariners for attending our school this week and encouraging our primary students to participate in the Active Schools Program. We were lucky to have great weather so the children were able to enjoy their half hour sessions with the players.

School Reports - 
Semester Two school reports will be going home on Friday 11th December. If you are a parent of a child that does not reside with the student please complete the form below and return to the ladies in the office.

School Banking - 
Please be aware that you must complete the details of your deposit on both the deposit slip and the stub in your deposit book, this must also include your account number.

Gorokan’s Garage Sale/Market Day - 
To be held on Saturday 21st November, 2015 from 8am to 1pm. If you would like to have a stall or can help out on the day please contact Julie in the canteen. Attractions will be farm animals from 10.30am to 12.00pm, jeep rides, jumping castle and face painting.

Canteen Roster 2015 - Week 6 Term 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12/11</td>
<td>Paul Tydeman, Laura Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13/11</td>
<td>Susan Cheney, Shayne Dodds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16/11</td>
<td>Belinda Bermingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17/11</td>
<td>Deb Bryce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18/11</td>
<td>Collette Edwards, Kimberley Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19/11</td>
<td>Paul Tydeman, Sue King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20/11</td>
<td>Tina Jones, Shayne Dodds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pizza Meal Deal Day - 
Will be held on Friday 4th December, 2015. The meal will consist of Eagle Boys Pizza/Minion drink or large water/surprise at a cost of $6.00. Order forms have been sent home and should be returned by Monday 30th November.

Canteen News

P & C Meeting - 
The next P&C meeting will be held on 23rd November, 2015 at 3.15pm in the library. All welcome.

Little Cake Day - 
This term’s little cake day will be held on Friday 13th November, 2015. Kindergarten and Year 3 are asked to make a donation towards this stall. Any donations can be left at the canteen in morning of little cake day.

Graduation Bear - 
The P&C have a graduation bear available for $16.00 and these can be purchased from the canteen.

Request for School report for parent/carer not residing with student

Please forward a school report for my child/children:
....................................................................................Class......
....................................................................................Class......
....................................................................................Class......

Parent/Carer Name: ..................................................
Postal Address: ......................................................

Crazy Hair Day
Raising Mighty Boys

By Michael Grose

Raising and educating boys is a hot topic in Australia and other parts of the world. From my experience those adults who do best teaching and raising boys have a significant understanding of what makes boys tick.

Here are 5 key understandings that will help you regardless of your gender or family situation raise well-adjusted boys:

# 1: You must like them

Approval is at the heart of raising boys. Most will walk over hot coals for you if they know you like them. In a sense, this need for approval holds many boys back in school, as they can shut for a teacher who doesn’t like them. If you can feel comfortable with their boisterousness, live with their lack of organisational skills, and not be confronted by their in-your-face ways then the chances are that they’ll respond to you.

# 2: They are hierarchical by nature

Boys need limits and boundaries as they make them feel safe and secure. They like to know someone is going to enforce those rules, so don’t be afraid to take the lead with them.

# 3: Boys are just as sensitive as girls

Despite the fact that research shows that boys are more easily stressed and more fragile than girls parents will ask daughters how they feel more often than they ask sons. Also when daughters get hurt, parents tend to comfort them more than they comfort sons. Boys are sensitive you just need to use different language to get them to open up than you do with girls. For instance, a boy will more than likely tell you how he feels if you ask him how he thinks about something. Also, he generally needs more time to process his feelings so bedrooms can become their caves that they’ll retreat to when they need the space to work out what’s going in their hearts.

# 4: Loyalty is a high-driver

Understand that a boy’s loyalty to his friends and family is a key driver and you’ll unlock the key to the male psyche. They are incredibly influenced by their peers, which can hold them back, stopping many from getting too far ahead of the pack. Loyalty also gets many boys into strife with authority. Call a boy’s sister or friend an insulting name and you’re asking for trouble!

# 5: Boys need a purpose to learn

If you want to motivate a boy to learn then you need to offer him tangible, short-term goals. He’ll learn to play a musical instrument if he wants to be in a band; but get him to practise a musical instrument without a purpose and you’ll probably be locked in a continuous struggle.

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