Dear Parents and Carers,

**Fancy Hat Parade** – Don’t miss our Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 2nd April starting at 12pm on the school basketball court (weather permitting). Please refer to the stage leaders’ reports in this newsletter to confirm requirements and parade details for each grade. I look forward to seeing you there enjoying the children’s creative efforts and witnessing their confidence in parading their fancy hats.

**Emergency Safety Drill** – Last week the mandatory safety drill was rehearsed to ensure the safety of all who are on the school premises in the unlikely event of a school emergency. The lock down emergency drill was carried out smoothly, familiarising all with this important procedure.

**OOSHC Update** – The selection panel consisting of Andrew Warnest DEC, Gail Farrell P&C, and myself, met on Monday to peruse the tender applications that were submitted for the Gorokan Public School OOSHC. The successful tenderer has been selected and will be confirmed by the Department as soon as possible. We have worked hard to resolve this matter with the greatest of urgency in order to assist our families requiring the service. Please check our Facebook page during the holidays for further updates as to when the OOSHC will begin.

**Stage 2 and 3 Showcase** – The students in Stage 2 and 3 had the opportunity to showcase their talents last week before an audience of parents, carers and friends. This opportunity allowed the students to present /perform what they have been learning about in their classrooms. I was fortunate to be able to attend the Stage 2 Showcase and was very impressed with the quality and diversity of learning presented on the day. It was also very pleasing to see the students presenting their items with confidence and pride. Well done to all involved.

**Kindergarten Performance** - It was great to watch our Kindergarten students performing their favourite songs and rhymes on Monday afternoon. They were clever, confident performers. Thank you to those who attended.

**Stage Planning Days** – The teachers have been involved in a series of Stage Planning Days to engage each school team in professional learning and collaborative educational planning for the upcoming term and beyond. Topics covered on these days included collaborative programming, consistent teacher judgement in monitoring student achievement, assessment, reporting and curriculum differentiation. These are incredibly valuable days and I thank all involved.

**Rewards Day** – As part of the school’s positive student wellbeing program, the children who have maintained a behaviour rating of 4 or above have been invited to attend their stage Rewards Day activity. Congratulations to all the students who will be involved and a word of encouragement to those who will be striving to participate in next term’s Rewards Day. Please check the stage leaders’ reports in this newsletter to confirm details for each grade.

**Great Garage Sale** – Thank you to the P&C and staff who volunteered their time last Saturday to assist at the Gorokan PS Great Garage Sale. The event raised $1700.00 which will go towards air-conditioning classrooms.

**School Cross Country Carnival** – The annual School Cross Country Carnival will be held on Friday, 24th April (weather permitting) at school. Students in Years 3 – 6 (plus Yr 2 students who turn eight this year) can participate. Students are encouraged to practice over the holidays in preparation for this event.

**School Holidays and Term 2 Return** – Thank you to the students, staff and great Gorokan Public School community for the great start that we have had to the 2015 school year. The last day of term 1 will be Thursday 2nd April. **Students return to school on Tuesday 21st April**. Staff will be involved in training and planning on Monday 20th April at an off-site location. The office will be manned to take enquiries.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

Together we can make a difference.

Jesmond Zammit
Principal
**Fancy Hat Parade** - Just a reminder that the fancy hat parade is on this Thursday. Students are to make their hats at home and bring them in on the day. There is a 'recycled' theme this year.

**Stage 2 Rewards Day** - Thank you very much to everyone who has donated items for our Stage 2 rewards day. It is much appreciated by both the staff and the students.

**School Supplies** - A reminder that all children need to have the necessary supplies of lead pencils, a ruler, an eraser, a pencil sharpener, coloured pencils, textas and an art smock. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Art** - If anyone has any old CD's or wool at home that they no longer need, Mrs Everson would love it for some art projects that she has planned. Thank you.

**Year 3 & 4 Lunchtime tennis** - Term 2 lunchtime tennis will start on the first day back next term. The cost is $30 for 10 lessons (1 lesson each week) or $60 for 20 lessons (2 lessons each week). The 20 lesson deal also includes a free tennis racquet for every student who signs up for the 20 lessons. Please return permission notes and your $30 or $60 before Tuesday 21st April, 2015.

**Stage 3 Supervisor – Mr C Corlett**

**C.A.R.E.S.** - Unfortunately the CARES excursion for Y5 was a wash out and will be rescheduled for the middle to the end of next term depending on availability.

Please encourage your child to utilise Mathletics and Reading Eggs over the holidays as constant practice will be greatly beneficial to the retention of their learning.

All Stage 3 teachers wish you a very pleasant Easter holiday and look forward to seeing all students after the holidays.

**Year 5 & 6 Lunchtime tennis** - Term 2 lunchtime tennis will start on the first day back next term. The cost is $30 for 10 lessons (1 lesson each week) or $60 for 20 lessons (2 lessons each week). The 20 lesson deal also includes a free tennis racquet for every student who signs up for the 20 lessons. Please return permission notes and your money before Tuesday 21st April, 2015.

We only have a limited number of spaces so please be quick. Spare permission notes are in the front office foyer.

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**Kindergarten Supervisor – Mrs K Lansdowne**

**Performance** - Thank you to the families that attended our performance on Monday. The photos you received were free, however if you would like extra copies there will be a cost of $2.00.

**Reading** - We would encourage you to continue to read with your child throughout the holidays and discuss the book with them. Lake Haven library is free to join and you your support in Term 1. We would like to wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday.

**Homework** - Homework is due on Thursday this week. A new homework schedule will begin in term 2 and home readers will be sent home instead of the read to books. The children have been developing strategies in guided reading to assist them in becoming confident independent readers.

**Headlice** - Unfortunately we have had several cases of headlice recently. Please check your child’s hair daily and treat immediately if you find the presence of lice or their eggs. We all need to work together to keep these little pests away.

**Thank You** - The Kindergarten team would like to thank you for your cooperation.

**Year 1 & 2 Tennis** - Our students have enjoyed their tennis coaching this term during stage sport. Term 2 Tennis will start on the first Thursday back next term. The cost is $30 for 10 lessons. Please return permission notes and your $30 before Wednesday 22nd April, 2015. We only have a limited number of spaces so please be quick.

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**Stage 1 Supervisor - Mrs C Behringer**

**Fancy Hat Parade** will be held on Thursday the last day of school for Term 1. Students are looking forward to showing off their hats to all the parents and friends in our community. Please come and enjoy your child’s last day for term 1 with us.

Thank you to all the parents of Stage 1 students for your help and support in Term 1. We would like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday and a lovely Easter.

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**Canteen News**

**Canteen Roster 2015 - Week 1 Term 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21st April</td>
<td>Deborah Bryce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd April</td>
<td>Vicki Smith, Collette Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd April</td>
<td>Paul Tydeman, Janette Vran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24th April</td>
<td>Susan Cheney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27th April</td>
<td>Belinda Berringham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 28th April</td>
<td>Maria Poulos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 29th April</td>
<td>Lisa Cook, Deborah Bryce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**COLOURING COMPETITION WINNERS**
Kindy 1st Bonnie H KS  Year 1 1st Rachel M 1T
Year 2 1st Chloe C 2F  Year 3 1st Keleesha H3G
Year 3 2nd Scarlett G 3G
Year 4 1st Shaylah R 4B
Year 4 2nd Hannah X 4B Year 5 1st Elise M 5F
Year 6 1st Kirsty W 6T

**GOROKAN’S ELECTION DAY GARAGE SALE**
Thank you to all those who came along to our garage sale on Saturday. It was a great day. We raised $1700 to go towards our air conditioners.

**EASTER GUESSING COMPETITION WINNERS**
1st David Tydeman  2nd K. Waygood
3rd Jade  4th Paul Tydeman
5th Alison Urch  6th Xavier Greentree
7th Carol Howard  8th M. Hennessy
9th C. Stewart  10th Bec Nichols
11th Caylee Handel  12th K. Waygood
13th Cameron Naish 6B 14th Reece Stephenson 6B
15th Don Zonneveld

**SELLER’S PRIZES**
Kindy Noah St K/1H  Year 1 Francis O 1T
Year 2 Hannah B 2V  Year 3 Shannon Emblem 3C
Year 4 Sherree K 4B  Year 5 Braiden Cox 5/6C
Year 6 Anezka V 6T

*The P &C and canteen would like to thank you all for your help during this term and wish you a Happy Easter! Hope to see you all back next term.*

**School News**

**LUNCHTIME TENNIS** - Our Yr 3-6 students have enjoyed their lunchtime tennis coaching this term. Term 2 Lunchtime Tennis will start on the first Tuesday back next term. The cost is $30 for 10 lessons (1 lesson each week) or $60 for 20 lessons (2 lessons each week) which also includes a free tennis racquet for every student who signs up for the 20 lessons. Please return permission notes and your $30 or $60 before Tuesday 21st April, 2015.

**Fancy Hat Parade** - We would like to invite you to our Fancy Hat Parade at the end of this term. The children will be encouraged to design and create their own hats using a variety of materials both new and recycled materials. We hope that you can come along and enjoy the end of a very busy and rewarding term 1.

- **When** - Thursday 2nd April
- **Time** - 12.00

**Students K-2** will make hats at school. We ask that you send a small donation of craft items such as cardboard, glitter, crepe paper, stickers etc. that they would like to use and share with their classmates to create their hats.

**Students in Years 3-6** should make their hats at home. Children are to wear school uniform on the day.

**School Photos** - Students were given envelopes for their school photos this week. Photos will be taken on 6th May. Please ensure that you carefully read the instructions on the envelope regarding methods of payment. **Payment is to be made to the photographer on the actual day.**

Envelopes for family photos are available from the office.

Please make sure that your child is in school uniform on photo day – Wednesday 6th May, 2015.

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**Wyong Shire Council Libraries**

**Animals of the Rock Pool**

At this FREE event, children will learn about rock pool creatures, do some hands on sorting of shells and play a game of rock pool bingo.

**Wednesday 8 April, 10:30am-11:30am**
**Tuggerah Library – 4350 1560**

**Tuesday 14 April, 10:30am-11:30am**
**Bateau Bay Library – 4350 1580**

**Bookings are essential.**

Children under 12 years must have a parent/carer attend to provide assistance. Children 12 years and over must have a parent/carer remain on library premises during the event.
Raising sensitive kids
Michael Grose

Do you have a sensitive child?

You know, a child who takes everything you or others say to heart; a child who has a thin skin and worries too much, particularly about things out of their control.

Sensitive kids worry about what others think of them. They often sense danger well before others and they see the consequences of behaviours well before their peers.

Sensitive kids are like mood detectives with their antennae up trying to detect subtle changes in the moods of those around them. In some ways this is healthy as emotionally intelligent people are tuned into the behaviours and feelings of others. Sensitive kids generally have high emotional intelligence quotients.

If you have a sensitive child you need to see and appreciate both their sides. The side we most often see is the shy, inhibited, fearful worrier. The flipside is that sensitive kids generally have kind hearts; are empathetic, intuitive and usually possess a creative streak. These are wonderful attributes to have.

Recent research into the area of children's sensitivity revealed that around 40% of sensitive kids experience some form of real anxiety.

The secret to the 60% of kids who DON'T experience anxiety are certain 'protective' factors. The top of this list is parenting style. Sensitive kids benefit from having an optimistic, resilient parent who supports them but doesn't allow them to take themselves too seriously. It also helps if parents can encourage their child to take risks socially and applaud their social successes, no matter how minor. Parents need to show their child how to recognise their own emotional state and in doing so better manage their emotions so they can live happy, more productive lives.

The double whammy for kids of sensitivity and negative or pessimistic parents is not ideal. Kids need a parent who gets across the message that there are some unpleasant events but they can cope with them. Parents need to recognise their own emotions and response in order to help their child recognise and regulate their emotional state.

It is good if parents are supportive; even better if a parent is resilient so that the sensitive child sees how to cope with some of life's hurts, rejections and disappointments. In fact, sensitive kids are less likely to develop anxiety if at least one parent is of the 'thick-skinned', positive, even jovial type. This reinforces that the world really is a great place and not full of uncertainty and danger.

When sensitive kids are raised in a balanced way with proper understanding and encouragement, they are well-placed to grow up to be happy, healthy, unusually well-adjusted and creative adults.