Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week of great teaching and inspired learning was had at Gorokan Public School this week.

Education Week – Open Day was held yesterday and I would like to thank the wonderful Gorokan Public School community for supporting the students in celebrating this important annual school event. The performances were fantastic, providing students with the opportunity to build their confidence and were enjoyed by all who looked on. The book parade was a huge success as the students participated with enthusiasm and pride. The open classrooms were a hive of activity and it was wonderful to see so many parents and carers showing a keen interest.

Dance 2B Fit – This term the school will be providing the students with an energetic, innovative and fun way to get fit through the Dance 2B Fit program. Professional dance instructors will visit our school on Tuesday and Wednesday each week to teach the students fun, funky dance moves that will improve coordination and create opportunities for students to gain self-esteem and confidence. Dance 2B Fit has been developed specifically for NSW Primary Schools under the PDHPE syllabus where students have fun learning a new dance at each lesson they attend. This is a great program to improve the fitness levels of students while they are having a great time.

iTeacher Parent Talk – Please come along to the iTeacher parent talk and find out what the excitement is all about. The talk will be held next Thursday 6th August in the library straight after school.

Debating Success – Congratulations to Millie C, Macy B, Tiffany D and Dekoda N for the confidence, organisation and skill they displayed in the fourth round of the Premier’s Debating Challenge that was held at Kanwal Public School last week. Our debating team convincingly argued that fast food restaurants should not be banned, winning convincingly against their opposing team. Well done to all involved.

Kindergarten 2016 – Enrolments are currently being taken for Kindergarten 2016 and the Kindergarten transition program is outlined on page 3 of this newsletter. Please contact the school office for further information.

P&C – A further reminder is extended to all parents and carers that the next meeting will be held next Monday 3rd August at 3:15pm in the technology lab. All welcome.

National Tree Day – This annual event is a fabulous opportunity to get kids into nature and instil a love for the great outdoors, as well as teaching them the importance of environmental awareness. Last Friday, the children enjoyed planting a number of trees and shrubs around the school grounds. Thank you to Brian Hilton Toyota and Bunnings Lake Haven for providing the students with plants and gardening tools to support this worthwhile initiative.

Celebrate Canteen Week - Celebrate Canteen Week is all about saying thank you to the canteen manager and volunteers. Our school canteen is excellent in its provision of great service and a healthy menu for the staff and students. All efforts are very much acknowledged and gratefully appreciated.

Halekalani Bowling Club – Special thanks are extended to the Halekalani Bowling Club for their generous donation of Kangaroo meat that the children enjoyed during the recent NAIDOC Week celebrations. Gorokan Public School greatly appreciates your ongoing support and generosity.

Sanitation Upgrade – The school is currently in the process of organising soap dispensers and automatic hand dryers for all toilets within the school to ensure the students have access to adequate hygiene when using the toilets.

Together we do make a difference.

Jesmond Zammit

Principal
### Dates to Remember

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 31st July</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd August</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 3.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th August</td>
<td>Parent information session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12th August</td>
<td>Final payment Zoo excursion</td>
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<td>Friday 14th August</td>
<td>Taronga Zoo Year 3</td>
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<td>Friday 28th August</td>
<td>Final payment Canberra</td>
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<td>14th – 16th September</td>
<td>Canberra Excursion</td>
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### Kindergarten Supervisor – Mrs K Lansdowne

**Attendance** - If your child is late to school could you please accompany them to the school office to collect a late note. Also if your child is absent from school it is important that a note be sent in on their return or you use the school app.

**Notes** - We ask that you do not put notes or money in your child’s monitoring cards or reading folders.

**Interviews** - We encourage all parents and caregivers to make a time to speak to your child’s teacher. Please return notes as soon as possible so we can arrange a convenient time.

**Home Readers** - Home readers should be returned every Friday as there is a parent helper that is able to exchange them on that day. Regular reading assists confidence, fluency and vocabulary.

**Spelling Bee** - The spelling bee words were sent home last week. We would ask that you spend time playing some fun games to assist your child to learn these words.

**Chickens** - How exciting for the children last Wednesday morning when they saw a yellow chick hatch. That brings our total to five.

### Stage 1 Supervisor – Mrs C Behringer

**Parent Teacher Interviews** - Interviews started this week. Please see your child’s teacher if you haven’t booked in as yet, as all teachers still have available times.

**Education week** - We had a wonderful day on Tuesday with our Education Week assembly, open classrooms and book parade.

**You Can Do It** - Our ‘You can do it’ value for the next 5 weeks is PERSISTENCE. We will be discussing the importance of this value with the students, please feel free to do the same at home.

**Reading** - Please ensure that your child gets the best head start in his or her schooling life by reading to them each night and listening to them read to you. This is the most important aspect of their homework each night.

**Dance 2 Be Fit** - Each Tuesday we have a special dance program that all students attend and participate in. This time will be added to your child’s Premier’s Sporting Challenge card.

### Stage 2 Supervisor - Mrs R Ranse

**School Clothing** - Last week we had an astronomical amount of school clothing (some of it brand new) left both in and outside of our classrooms. We have done our best to return each piece to its owner but we are asking parents to please make sure that all clothing is clearly labelled with your child’s name and class. If it is not labelled with a name, it will unfortunately end up in lost property.

**Taronga Zoo Excursion** - We will be taking a very small number of parents with us to Taronga Zoo on August 14th. If you are interested and have not returned your note indicating your interest, please return it this week. Also, the final date for any outstanding payment is Wednesday August 12th. If you are unsure how much is still owing, please contact the school office.

**Year 3 & 4 Tennis** - Starts this Friday 31st July. Cost is $20 for 10 lessons (30 min each). Please return permission note and money as soon as possible.

### Stage 3 Supervisor – Mr C Corlett

**Canberra Excursion** - Please note that the date for final payment of Canberra excursion is Friday 28th August.

**Athletics Carnival** - This has been rescheduled for Friday 31st August. An information note was sent home on Monday with all of the details. We are looking forward to a great day!

**University of Newcastle** - Thank you to all of our parents and carers who attended the excursion to The University of Newcastle, Central Coast Campus at Ourimbah. I have heard very positive feedback from students and parents alike about the day. I would like to extend my gratitude to parents who were able to provide transport on the day for other students.

**Year 6 Selective High School Test Placement** - A big congratulations to our students who were successful in gaining selective High School placements for Year 7.

**The Reading through Careers Program** - offered by Newcastle University will continue next week. We have taken a break this week to allow for our Education Week activities to take place.

**Year 5 & 6 Tennis** - Started today Wednesday 29th July (week 3). Cost is $20 for 10 lessons (30 min each). Please return permission note and money as soon as possible.

**Nutrition** - Could you please check that your child has lunch every day? There are a number of students coming to school each day without any lunch. A sandwich and a piece of fruit or a yoghurt is a substantial and nutritious lunch. They will also require a bottle of water each day.

**Year 1 & 2 Tennis** - Starts this Thursday 30th July (week 3). Cost is $30 for 10 lessons. (40 min each). Please return permission note and money as soon as possible.
School News

Premiers Reading Challenge - The 2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) finishes this term. All students in years 3-6 that are completing the challenge should be logging their books online at the PRC site at https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html. Students need to have finished reading their books and have them all entered online by Friday 14th August 2015 so that entries can be validated and awarded certificates for their reading. Happy Reading!

School Beanies - The uniform shop and the canteen will be selling winter beanies for $10.00.

2015 Kindergarten Transition Program

Our aim is to allow your child to experience “big school” in an informal, supportive, caring environment. You and your child are invited to attend on the following dates:-

Transition # 1 - Wednesday 26/8/15 Term 3 - Week 7 (9.30-10.30am) Children and parents to visit the school at 9.30am, enjoying morning tea under the COLA (children to bring a drink and morning tea in a lunch box.) Locating and using “big school toilets” and use play equipment. Parents to attend technology talk with Mr Gibbs.

Transition # 2 - Wednesday 2/9/15 Term 3 - Week 8 (9.30-10.30am) Children will visit a Kindergarten classroom and participate in activities. Parents to attend Best Start Assessment talk with Mrs Myree Kent.

Transition # 3 - Wednesday 9/9/15 Term 3 - Week 9 (9.30-10.30am) Children will visit a Kindergarten classroom and participate in activities. Parents to attend a talk about speech and language with Mrs Everson.

Transition # 4 - Wednesday 7/10/15 Term 4 - Week 1 (9.30-11.00am) Orientation for parents will be in the hall. Children will participate in classroom activities.

Transition # 5 - Wednesday 14/10/15 Term 4 - Week 2 (9.30-11.00am) Orientation for parents will be in the hall. Children will participate in classroom activities.

Transition # 6 - Wednesday 21/10/15 Term 4 - Week 3 (9.30-11.00am) Orientation for parents will be in the hall. Children will participate in classroom activities.

RSVP the school by 24.8.15 by phoning the school to inform us that you and your child will be attending.

School Phone Number- 43924200

Please note when enrolling your child you need to bring their birth certificate, proof of address (rate notice or electricity bill) and immunisation details.

P & C Meeting - This term’s first P&C meeting will be on Monday 3rd August, 2015 at 3.15pm in the technology room. All welcome.

Father’s Day Stall - The father’s day stall will be held on Friday 4th September, 2015. Your child must have Gorokan dollars if they wish to purchase a gift from the stall. The price of gifts will range from $1.00 to $8.00. You can make arrangements for your child to receive Gorokan dollars by sending money in an envelope marked father’s day stall, amount enclosed, child’s name and class. Last day to make arrangements will be Tuesday 1st September.
Canteen Roster 2015 - Week 3 Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Canteen Roster</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 30th July</td>
<td>Paul Tydeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 31st July</td>
<td>Susan Cheney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd August</td>
<td>Belinda Bermingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4th August</td>
<td>Marie Poulos</td>
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<td>Wednesday 5th August</td>
<td>Deb Bryce, Lisa Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th August</td>
<td>Vicki Smith, Paul Tydeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7th August</td>
<td>Tina Jones, Shayne Dodds</td>
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Athletics Carnival Canteen
The canteen at the athletics carnival will have the following items for sale:
- Large pie $2.50
- Water $1.50
- Sausage roll $2.00
- Juice $1.50
- Sauce $0.30
- Tea/coffee $1.50
- Hot dog $2.40
- Fruit salad tub $1.00
- Sultanas $0.50
- Jumpys $1.00
- JJs $1.00
- Red Rock Honey $1.10

Meal Deals - Our meal deal arranged for Friday 31st July will be carried over to Friday 7th August if the athletics carnival does not go ahead this Friday.

Fruit & Veggie Friday - This term's fruit and veggie day will be held on Friday 7th August, 2015. Menu for this day will be advertised outside the canteen. Lunch orders will be as normal.

Juice - The supplier of our juice is no longer supplying 200ml pop top juice. It is being replaced by Harvey Fresh 250ml juice (not a pop top), which will cost $1.80. We can supply a 200ml Just Juice popper for $1.50.

Parenting Tips

Teach your kids about time and place

By Michael Grose

My mum used to tell me, “There’s a time and place for everything Michael, and this is not the time and place to behave like that!”

Time and place is a brilliant socialisation lesson for children of any age or era to absorb.

It’s a parent’s job to socialise your kids. That is, it’s your job to develop a sense of OTHER so that they become aware of how their behaviour impacts on others. You do this by:

1. Giving your kids social scripts
   There are times when kids don’t know what to say or how to act in different social situations.

   “Here’s what you can say when you meet Mrs Smith…” is the type of pre-emptive social scripting that benefits most boys, kids on the autism spectrum as well as kids who need extra help to get on with others.

2. Regular behaviour rehearsal
   Practise appropriate social behaviours at home so kids know how to behave around others. For example, you can role-play a restaurant situation by serving your kids’ meals at the dinner table and expecting them to use their manners.

3. Just-in-time prompts
   It helps to remind in positive terms how kids should speak and act around others before entering a social situation or a special place such as a church, airport or restaurant. “In church most people...”

4. Teaching good manners
   Manners are social guidelines that teach kids how to behave around others. While some conventions change over time, basic good manners such as saying ‘please’ and ‘thank you’ never change. They are the basis of a civil society. Kids are never too young to start learning manners.

5. Respectful use of consequences
   While the best discipline happens before an event (through behaviour rehearsal, prompts and teaching manners) there are times when the only way to get a message across about time and place is to DO something if the kids’ behaviour thoughtlessly or deliberately impinges on the rights of others. And the best action may be WITHDRAWAL from the place or activity that they are doing. That may mean that the kids (and you) miss out on an activity or being in a special place but such lessons are rarely forgotten and reinforce your important messages.

Time and place is a great parenting message for kids to learn. It’s about consideration for others; it’s about self-control and above all else, it’s about fitting into different social situations.

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