

KC Class Newsletter

Term 1, Week 4, 2018 (20/2/18)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Gordon East!



Welcome to Gordon East Public School – a welcoming and collaborative school community that supports student success. Quality teachers inspire students to be creative and critical thinkers enabling them to become active and informed global citizens. The Kindergarten teachers for this year are Mr Luke Fowler, Ms Lauren Sheehan and Miss Jennifer Cheung. We are very excited to be working together to plan engaging learning programs and educational experiences for this year.

News from the Teacher's Desk



My name is Jennifer Cheung and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the students in KC and supporting their transition into Kindergarten. It will be a busy year and I will provide your child with a high quality educational experience, where they feel free to positively express themselves, build resilience and have opportunities to explore curriculum content in a meaningful way. I know that with your support and cooperation we will have an immensely productive and rewarding time together. All students will be encouraged to develop a 'GROWTH Mindset', take educational risks and have fun while learning. The development of appropriate social skills is crucial to your child's success at school and beyond. Together we will assist them to develop skills in communication, collaboration and critical thinking. At *Gordon East PS, we are Safe, Respectful, Learners.*

Teacher- Parent Communication

I am available to meet with you most days of the week. Should you wish to discuss your child's progress we will need to schedule an appropriate meeting time. Emails can often be the most effective way to communicate during the busy week. I ask that all emails remain respectful, child specific and positive. I will endeavour to answer all emails with an appropriate response in a timely manner.



Kitchen Garden Program- 'Get Kids Cooking'



This Term, KC will have the opportunity to cook using our Kitchen Kart. This program assists students to develop positive eating habits, following a recipe and focuses on developing literacy and numeracy skills in a

hands-on way. *Cook in A Box* has been designed especially for Primary School teachers, taking away the obstacles to run a hands on, fun and educational cooking class at school. Our cooking classes will occur later in the term. If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know.

Dates for the Diary

Important dates for Term 1

Week/ Date	Event
Wk 1- 29 th January	Staff Development Day
Wk 1- 30 th Jan- 1 st Feb	BEST START Interviews
Wk 2- 5 th February	RAW ART
Wk 2- 5 th February	Drama begins
Wk 3- 16 th February	Pink Stumps Day- gold coin donation
Wk 4- 20 th February	Scripture Starts
Wk 4- 24 th February	P and C Welcome Event- Under the Sea
Wk 5- 26 th February	Early Stage One/ Stage One Meet the Teacher Night starting at 6pm
Wk 5- 2 nd March	Term 1 Invoice payments due
Wk 6- 7 th March	Oz Opera- <i>The Magic Flute</i>
Wk 7- 16 th March	Early Stage One- Wildlife Incursion
Wk 8- 19 th and 20 th March	World of Maths- Travelling roadshow
Wk 9- 21 st March	Harmony Day
Wk 9- 29 th March	Easter Hat Parade- begins 9:30am
Wk 11- 13 th April	Last Day of Term-13 th April

Classroom Requirements



In the Kindergarten Transition packs you received a list of classroom requirements. These requirements are now due to be at school. Thank you if you have already done this. I ask that all student belongings be clearly **labelled with their first and last name.**

The list of requirements are;

- Name tag on school bag
- Separate crunch 'n' sip and lunch box container
- Jumper
- Library bag
- Hat
- Drink bottle
- Paint smock/ shirt
- Crayons/ oil pastels

The following information is provided for your benefit; however, if your child is experiencing any difficulties or should you have any queries, please let me know immediately.

Literacy



Each morning, students have been exploring aspects of reading and writing in literacy groups. During these groups, I focus on building students' capacity to predict what happens in a text, work with words within a text and respond to different text types. Students will also learn to work with others, strengthen their fine motor skills and learn to think critically and creatively. Activities and instruction are designed to support and enrich individual learning needs. Parents are welcome to volunteer during literacy groups from Term 2. You are required to have completed the **Parent volunteer workshop** and **hold a valid Working with Children Check** prior to assisting in the classroom. More information about this will be available later in Term 1.

Speaking and Listening

This year in news Kindergarten will be following the 'Talking to Learn' program. Each student will present a short talk on their allocated news day. All students are encouraged to follow the topic talk list for this term. The topic talk list can be found in your child's home reading folder and attached to this newsletter. Please refer to the weekly news roster to ensure your child is ready to present their news.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Evan	Catherine	Kate	Jonathan	Andrew
Mia	Tian	Claire	Xavi	Isabelle
Chloe	Madeleine	Ana Luiza	Piper	Karissa
William	Tarun	Maahir	Janice	Bridget

Numeracy

In Early Stage One (Kindergarten) students learn to work and engage in hands-on daily activities that develop their awareness of working with number. In Kindergarten, students develop their understanding in number recognition, representation and oral counting sequences to 30. This term KS will be focusing on;

Number and Algebra

- Creating repeating patterns
- Number work
- Creating number patterns
- Simple addition and subtraction

Measurement and Geometry

- Area, volume and capacity and positional language
- Duration of time
- 2D space and shapes

Statistics and Probability

- Picture graphs

Science and Technology

In **Science**, Kindergarten will be participating in the unit **Staying Alive!** Students will have the chance to explore and investigate the school environment. This is an exciting unit where students explore what helps keep people and animals alive. We are having an incursion in week 7 to support the students learning in science. Our incursion will involve a **hands-on** experience with some Australian Native animals.

In **Technology**, KC will be looking at the parts of a computer, learning how to log-in using the Department of Education network and basic keyboarding and mouse skills. Student will interact with publishing software and the Interactive Whiteboard. Technology will be integrated into literacy and numeracy programs throughout the term. For your child to have an enjoyable experience using school technology, they are encouraged to learn to type their **first** and **last** names.

Human Society and Its Environment



Students will participate in an integrated geography and history unit of work, called 'School Days'. This unit look at students developing independence when interacting within the school environment. This unit focuses on classroom routines and responsibilities and provides some opportunities to find out about other schools in other places and times.

Home Learning Activities

Reading

Home reading will commence in Week 5 and **students** will have the **responsibility** to change their own readers, on their news day. Home reading operates on a weekly rotation, where students select four books each week. As your child reads their chosen books, please record it in their home reading log. I will check their reading logs regularly.

Magic Words

The Magic Words Program will commence in Week 5. The Magic Word program is implemented at Gordon East Public School to help students learn sight words. It is extremely important that your child develops their sight vocabulary using the program as these words make up 2/3 of all reading. Typically, sight words cannot be 'sounded out'. The words are set out in a very large font on coloured paper and can be easily cut out to make flashcards if you wish. Please indicate that your child is ready to be tested on these words using the 'word wizard' slips attached to their list. Once they know the words issued I will move them onto the next level. This gives students the opportunity to learn at their own pace.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

This key learning area provides opportunities for students to form positive attitudes about themselves and others, to communicate effectively, to work cooperatively and to develop and maintain positive relationships. When students understand and value others, they work more cooperatively in teams and enjoy more stable and satisfying interpersonal relationships.



They are also more tolerant and caring members of the community who value difference and respond to others as individuals. This term KC will be learning these skills, listening, waiting turns, following directions, sharing, saying thank you and asking for help. Your assistance in asking your child about how to use these interaction skills would be greatly appreciated.

Sport



Early Stage One (Kindergarten) students participate in regular physical activity, practising body movement and control. Sport lessons will be on **Friday**- please ensure your child is dressed in their **sports uniform**. Students show awareness and consideration of others during play. They practise fundamental movement skills; balance, sprint run, vertical jump and catch.

Bounce Back- Social Skills and Resilience Program

Teachers at Gordon East Public School have recently participated in a professional learning workshop about building social skills and resilience in children. Bounce Back is a resilience and wellbeing program that will be taught weekly. I will be implementing the resilience program this term.

Creative and Practical Arts



In Creative Arts students will make pictures and other artworks using the different media and materials. Students will explore both real and imagined situations and begin to appreciate and describe artworks of others. Students will sing, play and move to a range of music, engage in role play through imaginative play and dramatization. Students will perform dances and show some control over body movement and expression.

Easter Hat Parade



The Easter Hat Parade is a fun-filled event that occurs annually. The students design and create an Easter themed hat at school. We create this hat with the assistance of our buddy class- 4/3L. Our buddies will assist with cutting and pasting. In order to complete our Easter hats, I require all children to bring to school a small zip-lock bag filled with all things Easter. These things may include, small chickens, cardboard Easter eggs,

stickers and ribbons. I ask that no hats are provided- all students are given cardboard to complete this task. Parents and family are invited to attend our annual Easter Hat Parade. Keep an eye on the school newsletter for your formal invitation and date confirmation.

Oz Opera



This term, all student K-6 will participate in an incursion called **Oz-Opera**. Oz-Opera will perform The Magic Flute. The Magic Flute tells the story of Tamino, a prince who must undergo a series of tests, accompanied by his goofy sidekick Papageno, in order to marry the princess Pamina. Pamina, alongside the priest Sarastro, Tamino, Papageno and Pamina, battle Pamina's mother, the evil queen of night.

RAW ART



Owls- The RAW Art program has a range of age-appropriate, fun, educational, hands-on art activities, which run within a 90-minute timeframe. Students will learn an art process or technique, while working at completing an art work, and perhaps also discover an Artist or Art movement. This workshop occurred in Week 2.

Library

All Kindergarten students participate in weekly library lessons. Part of participating in library involves developing appreciation for quality literature and multimedia texts. Kindergarten will have the opportunity to borrow books from the library each week. *Students will need to bring their **library bag** each **Tuesday** in preparation for them to browse and borrow. We will borrow library books each **Wednesday**.* Please ensure your child's name is clearly labelled on the front of this bag.



Dropping Off and Picking Up



It is essential that all students are at school on time. If you are running late, please ensure your child has collected a late slip from the office prior to coming to class. A valid reason must be given when filing out these forms. At home time, the walkways get very congested as students leave their classrooms. To help minimise the risk of injury, please wait for your child on the silver seats- not in the walkways. At the end of the school day (3:15pm) we ask that you *promptly exit the school grounds*. This is to ensure that the school grounds can be secured before the teachers leave each day. If your child attends OOSCH or after school activities you will need to enter and exit the school grounds via the Rosedale Rd entrance; this is our designated safe passage way as these areas of the school are lit with security lights. Thank you for your support in keeping our school safe.

Assembly

Whole School Assemblies are held each Friday at 2:00pm. This will be the same time every term. Parents are invited to attend assemblies and special events. Each week a different class or student group will host the assembly. Throughout the year each class will also present a class item or play. You will be notified when KF are hosting and presenting an item. Your assistance in learning the line to a song, script or helping to make props may be required. All visitors are asked to turn-off or switch their phones to silent while the students are hosting the assembly. Your assistance in respecting this very important job is greatly appreciated. Please refer to the school website for further information. Kindergarten will begin attending weekly assemblies in Week 3- Friday 16th February.



I encourage you to regularly check the school website for updates and relevant information. At Gordon East Public School we are always striving to ensure that we maintain consistency when communicating. Some of the ways you can locate, find, search and keep up to date with current events are by using the School Website, School Stream App (Available on the iTunes and Google Play stores), P&C Facebook Page and reading the fortnightly newsletter. Our school website address is <http://www.gordoneast-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/> On our website you will find regular updates regarding K-6 notes, the P&C, newsletters, calendar dates and other relevant information. **You can also use the mobile friendly version for iPhone, Android and Samsung devices.**

Canteen Day and ordering Lunch

Our school has an amazing canteen that is run by parent volunteers. If you have some free time and would like to volunteer please contact the canteen committee. Our canteen has gone paperless for ordering school lunches. To order your child lunch, you will need to create an account and log-in to FlexiSchools-
<https://www.flexischools.com.au/>

If you are sending your child to school with money to purchase food for morning tea or an icy treat at lunch please ensure they keep it in a very safe place e.g. zipped pocket or wallet. Lost coins are very hard to find and replace.

Weekly Routine

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Drama	Scripture /Non-Scripture / Ethics Library Kinder Singing Library Music Canteen Day	Library Music	Canteen Day	Kinder Sport- <i>sports uniform required</i> Assembly @ 2pm

Term Invoices

Term invoices are due Week 5, Friday 2 March 2018. Please contact Jennifer Simmonds via the front office if you have any concerns regarding your term invoice.

Crunch & Sip



Please remember our daily Crunch & Sip is for fresh fruit or vegetable snacks. This is a short break (10 minutes) so thank you to those parents who already take the time to **cut or prepare** their child's fruit so that it is easy for them to manage within this time.

Positive Behaviour Engaging Learners (PBEL)

At Gordon East Public School we are Safe, Respectful, Learners. The following information is provided for your knowledge about whole school expectations:

Week	Uniform Focus	Behaviour Focus
1, 6, 11	Be seen in green- our school colours are green and white. No other colours please.	Saying please and thank you. Communicating with courtesy links to being respectful.
2 & 7	You rock with the proper socks. Socks are to be green with the formal school uniform and white with the sports uniform.	Movement around the school such as walking to assembly. Students should walk in one line. This links to being safe.
3 & 8	Do the right thing and tuck your shirts in and bling is not in! Boys, the formal white school shirt needs to be tucked in. Jewellery is for out of school wear – leave it for home where it's safe and fun to wear.	Being prepared each day with the correct equipment. This links to being a learner.
4 & 9	Slap on the hat! Our green school hat is part of our uniform. Beanies and other head wear are out of school wearing.	Listening and communicating positively and with courtesy. This links to being respectful.
5 & 10	Wear your uniform with pride and you'll have luck on your side. Wear your correct school uniform with pride and respect.	Caring for personal belongings, such as hats and lunchboxes. This links to being respectful.

Miss Jennifer Cheung

KC Class Teacher

Email: jennifer.cheung2@det.nsw.edu.au