

Built on the land of the Guringai people

Principal's Report—Jennifer Simmonds

School Vision

Gordon East Public School: - a welcoming and collaborative school community that supports high quality learning. Quality teachers inspire students to be creative and critical thinkers enabling them to become active and informed global citizens.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This is our last newsletter for 2017. What an outstanding year we have had at Gordon East Public School. Our students have had many opportunities to shine; not only academically but also in sport and creative arts.

Thank you to our students for always striving for personal excellence. 2017 signals the end of our current 3 year school plan and strategic directives. We have focused on student learning, leadership and collaborative partnerships. Our teachers have implemented learning intentions, peer feedback, explicit quality criteria and strategies for differentiation. Our students are developing an understanding of the 'learning pit' and working through the steps to ensure learning is successful—acknowledging that learning at times can be hard–but persistence and resilience is worthwhile and rewarding.

Our positive proactive inclusive wellbeing program underpins the culture of risk taking in all aspects of learning respectful relationships and supporting all students.

I would like to acknowledge and say thank you to our wonderful classroom teachers for their collaborative approach to supporting each other and our students. This care and support shines through everyday of the week. Thank you to our Assistant Principals Mrs White, Mrs Lorge, Ms Sander and Mr Fowler for their support throughout 2017 organising and co-ordinating the many events across our school and supporting teachers and students. Thank you to the P&C for the great support with learning, environs and generally helping to make Gordon East such a great place to come to work each day.

Staff Changes

As with every year we have a couple of staff changes. Farewell Miss Clay! Miss Clay is taking up a permanent position at Bourke Street Public School in Surry Hills. Miss Clay - You have had an amazing impact on our creative arts program and in particular with our choirs and recorder group. We wish you every success at your new school and hope that you will take fond memories of GEPS with you Mrs Forrest has accepted a position at Wakehurst Public School for 2018. Thank you Mrs Forrest for your contribution to Gordon East's Kindergarten students over the past 2 years. The first year at school is such an important one and you have given our students a great start to school. We wish you the very best for 2018.





Mrs Grimshaw has accepted a position at Normanhurst West Public School for Term 1, 2018 as Assistant Principal. We wish Mrs Grimshaw the very best as she moves to her new school.

I am currently convening a merit selection panel for 2 classroom teacher positions. So we will start 2018 with a couple of new staff members.

Presentation Night

Thank you to everyone who attended our Presentation Evening last Wednesday. Congratulations to the students in band, strings, recorder and choirs for your outstanding performances and to all students for working hard all year.

Principal's Report—Jennifer Simmonds continued

Year 6 Farewell

The hall was glowing in colourful neon. Thank you to our Year 5 students for hosting and our Year 5 Families for organising the evening. As always it was a very special evening. For more photos of the Year 6 Farewell, please see page 9 of the newsletter.







Kiss and Drop Zone

Hopefully during January Ku-ring-gai Council will be widening the footpath and putting in easy access stairs on Rosedale Road. This work may extend in to Week 1 or Week 2 of Term 1. This will make access to the school easier and safer for our students. Thank you Keith Griffiths, GEPS P&C and Ku-ring-gai Council for supporting this safety initiative.

All teachers return to Gordon East Public School on Monday 29 January. Students return for Years 1-6 on Tuesday 30 January. We will hold the students in their 2017 classes for Tuesday 30, Wednesday 31st and Thursday 1 February whilst our new kindergarten classes complete the Best Start assessment. All students will roll into their 2018 classes on Friday 2 February. These first 3 days will enable me to check we have everyone in classes.

Thank you for another very successful year at Gordon East Public School. On behalf of our teaching and administration I would like to wish you a very relaxing Christmas and a fun filled summer holiday. Jennifer Simmonds Principal

Library News

Borrowing has ceased for this year, and all Library books are now due for return. Thank you to all those who have returned their books so far. If you find any Library books over the holidays please bring them back next year. Happy reading!

Bronwen Campbell, Teacher Librarian

	Presentation Night 2017 Class Awards - Medallions			
Student	Class/Year	Inscription		
Jacob Ma	KF 2017	Academic Achievement		
Aleisha Lieu	KF 2017	Academic Achievement		
Lara Deck	KF 2017	Application		
Christian Elliott	KF 2017	Citizenship		
Nalini Ganguli	KD 2017	Academic Achievement		
Max Stone	KD 2017	Academic Achievement		
Harrison Holmes	KD 2017	Application		
Harry Cree	KD 2017	Citizenship		
Annabel Wood	1C 2017	Academic Achievement		
Eli Knowles	1C 2017	Academic Achievement		
Marianne Smith	1C 2017	Application		
Ethan Williams	1C 2017	Citizenship		
Ronan Jaffrey	1R 2017	Academic Achievement		
Marisa Lim	1R 2017	Academic Achievement		
Edie Griffiths	1R 2017	Application		
William Rudd	1R 2017	Citizenship		
Thomas Royds	2/1SC 2017	Academic Achievement		
James Allinson	2/1SC 2017	Academic Achievement		
Lily Horne	2/1SC 2017	Application		
Mila Vandeleur	2/1SC 2017	Citizenship		
Leon Lan	2CT 2017	Academic Achievement		
Haewon Jang	2CT 2017	Academic Achievement		
Edward Benbow	2CT 2017	Application in all KLA's		
Olivia Mathews	2CT 2017	Citizenship		
Luke Descoeudres	3/2J 2017	Academic Achievement		
Leona Asahina	3/2J 2017	Academic Achievement		
Katia Seeto	3/2J 2017	Application		
Max Dennett	3/2J 2017	Citizenship		
Abigail Percy	4/3A 2017	Academic Achievement		
Caitlin Tan	4/3A 2017	Academic Achievement		
Saskia Pullar	4/3A 2017	Application		
Angus Fraser	4/3A 2017	Citizenship		
Lucinda Minotto	4/3L 2017	Academic Achievement		
Amelia Read	4/3L 2017	Academic Achievement		
Georgia Rudd	4/3L 2017	Application		
Nina Giro	4/3L 2017	Citizenship		
Nina Drury	5/4S 2017	Achievement in English		
Charlotte Wykes	5/4S 2017	Achievement in Maths		
Lara Valmadre	5/4S 2017	Academic Achievement		
Martin Cohen	5/4S 2017	Citizenship		
Claudia Runge	6/5H 2017	Academic Achievement		
Jasmine Seeto	6/5H 2017	Academic Achievement		
Claire Oslington	6/5H 2017	Application		
Grace Mercieca	6/5H 2017	Citizenship		
Meaghan Docherty	6/5N 2017	Academic Achievement		
Liliah Matthews	6/5N 2017	Academic Achievement		
Risa Suvanpong	6/5N 2017	Application		
Jason Clifford	6/5N 2017	Citizenship		
	1			

Presentation Night 2017 Class Awards continued				
Student Class/Year Inscription				
Evan Lew	6/5W 2017	Academic Achievement		
William Shaw	6/5W 2017	Academic Achievement		
Jeslyn Tan	6/5W 2017	Application		
Lily Royds	6/5W 2017	Citizenship		
	Presentation Night 2017 Special Awards—Medallions			
Student	Class/Year	Inscription		
Abigail Byrne	K-2 2017	Library Award		
Genevieve Austin	3-6 2017	Library Award		
Darcy Robertson	Robotics 2-6 2017	Robotics		
Daroy Robortoon				
Aayu Chapke	K-2 2017	EAL		
Kevin Moon	3-6 2017	EAL		
Lydia Robertson	Music K-2 2017	Music		
	Presentation N	light – Individual Trophies 2017		
Student	Year	Inscription		
Cameron Thompson	2017	Junior Boy Swimming Champion 2017		
Lara Valmadre	2017	Junior Girl Swimming Champion 2017		
Dominyk Fraser	2017	11yrs Boy Swimming Champion 2017		
Harriet McLean	2017	11yrs Girl Swimming Champion 2017		
Jason Clifford	2017	Senior Boy Swimming Champion 2017		
Annalisa Mendham	2017	Senior Girl Swimming Champion 2017		
Max Dennett	2017	Junior Boy Track Champion 2017		
Andrew Brown	2017	Junior Boy Field Champion 2017		
Millie Robertson	2017	Junior Girl Athletics Champion 2017		
Lachlan Watts	2017	11 yrs Boy Athletics Champion 2017		
Phoebe Riley	2017	11 yrs Girl Athletics Champion 2017		
Oliver Pozzecco	2017	Senior Boy Athletics Champion 2017		
Claudia Runge	2017	Senior Girl Athletics Champion 2017		
Cameron Watts	2017	Premier Sporting Challenge GEPS 2017		
	Perpetu	al Trophies and Shields		
Student	Class	Inscription		
Phoebe Riley	2017	Overall Sport Champion		
Jeslyn Tan	2017	Service to Music at GEPS 2017		
Teisha Jang	2017	Best All Rounder		
Matilda Neame	2017	Dux		
Anna Pozzecco	2017	Young Communicator (K-2) 2017		
Charlotte Wykes	2017	Young Communicator (3-6) 2017		
Jocelyn Chenu	2017	Community Award		

History Workshop

On Wednesday 29 November, Year 3 students took part in a History workshop at Killara High School. This was a fun experience that encouraged younger students to think outside the box and consider many options and perspectives on a range of key issues. The students began with brainstorming ideas about what the discipline of history is and they had discussions on abstract concepts such as how is a historian like a detective and how history is like a puzzle. The students also learned about historical mysteries before undertaking their own. The students broke up in to 2 groups and solved a breakout box about a history mystery. This required them to effectively work as a team and find clues all around the classroom to unlock 6 different locks. A a concluding activity they discussed the idea of ownership and if anyone really 'owns' history.









Uniform Shop arrangements for 2018

The Uniform shop will re-open on Thursday 25 January 2018 for any last minute Uniform requirements before Term 1 starts. It will be open between 9 & 10am only so please get here early!

The Uniform Shop will re-open again on Thursday 1 February from 8:30am and each week thereafter as per 2017 arrangements.

Any Flexi-Schools uniform orders placed online will be available for collection from the front office on Monday 29 January 2018.

NSW Education Term Dates—2018

Term 1

Tuesday 30/1/18 - Friday 13/4/18

Term 2

Monday 30/4/18 - Friday 6/7/18

Term 3

Tuesday 24/7/18 - Friday 28/9/18

Term 4

Monday 15/10/18 - Wednesday 19/12/18

Enrolling now for Kindergarten 2018

If you have Kindy aged children who turn 5 before 31 July 2018, pick up a school enrolment form from the school office. We are taking Kindergarten enrolments now.

Ethics News

Could you be an Ethics teacher for Gordon East?

Some of our current ethics teachers are moving on and we are seeking volunteers so that classes can continue in 2018.

Ethics teachers receive full training by Primary Ethics, the not-for-profit organisation approved to design curriculum and training for the ethics program. Training consists of a two day workshop and short online modules. Lesson materials are provided. Suitable volunteers have an interest in children's education and development of critical thinking skills and must be available from 9-9.45am each Tuesday during term.

In ethics classes, children learn how to think logically, disagree respectfully and support their arguments with evidence, rather than act according to blind habit or peer pressure.

Children discuss topic such as:

- -imagining how others feel
- -how do we treat living things?
- -what is laziness?
- -how do we disagree in a respectful way?
- -fairness

If you are looking for an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our school, please visit <u>www.primaryethics.com.au</u> or contact Sarah Hart at ethicsgordoneast@gmail.com.

Scripture



Message to the parents of children in Catholic scripture

As you may be aware, we have a shortage of volunteers instructing children in Catholic Special Religious Education (SRE). At the moment, for 2018, we do not have SRE teachers for Kindergarten or Years 1 & 2 (a combined class) at GEPS due to lack of volunteers.

You can help! If you are willing to volunteer your time once a week for about 30 minutes to facilitate a class, that would be great! SRE is on Tuesdays at 9.10am (right after the bell) to 9.45am. No previous experience necessary!

Training is provided on-line, as well as all of the class materials and on-going support. A "Working With Children Check" for volunteers is also required (free of charge).

You do not need a PhD in theology AND you do not need to be a member of the parish. All you need is a "can-do" attitude and enthusiasm.

Please contact Melanie Benbow, CCD Coordinator at Pymble Catholic Parish at 9144-2702 or at <u>melanie@pymblecatholicparish.org.au</u> for a commitment free chat.



ASSEMBLY AWARDS

1 December 2017 (Last Assembly)

KD KF 1C 2/1SC 2CT 3/2J 4/3A 4/3L 5/4S 6/5H 6/5W 6/5N

Mini Merits: Thea K, Lachlan W, Charlie H, Alexandra M, Annalisa M, Grace P, Archie H, Samuel D, Risa S, Ella B, Claire O, Marisa L, Nikka S, Grace M Banner: Meaghan D, Chloe V, Millie R, Ella B, RIsa S, Claire O, Annalisa M Medal: Brayden L Book Voucher (4 x banners): Helena C, Claire O











PSSA News 2018

Students in Years 3-6 are invited to try out for the 2018 PSSA Cricket and Modball teams. The teams will compete in Term 1 and Term 4. Students will travel by bus to nearby grounds and compete against local schools. The first round of the season will be on Friday 9 February.

The Try outs for the 2018 teams are as follows:

Week 1	Wednesday 31 January	8am
Week 1	Friday 2 February	9:10am—11:10am

Teams:

Junior Cricket	Years 3 & 4
Junior Modball	Years 3 & 4
Senior Cricket	Years 5 & 6
Senior Modball	Years 5 & 6

Diary Dates

		-
Friday 15 December		Last day of Term 4 for students
Thursday 25 January 2018	9am	Uniform Shop open
Monday 29 January 2018		Staff Development Day
Tuesday 30 January 2018		Students return for Term 1, 2018. Years 1-6 Kindergarten 2018 Best Start testing Canteen closed
Wednesday 31 January 2018	8am	PSSA try outs Kindergarten 2018 Best Start testing
Thursday 1 February 2018	8:30am	Uniform Shop open Kindergarten 2018 Best Start testing Canteen closed
Friday 2 February 2018	9:10—11:10am	Kindergarten commences PSSA Cricket & Modball try outs
Monday 5 February		Raw Art
Tuesday 6 February 2018		Raw Art Canteen re-opens. Limited lunch options
Wednesday 7 February		Raw Art
Thursday 8 February		Raw Art
Friday 9 February	9am 2pm	PSSA commences, Round 1 Assembly Raw Art













































Surf Educate











Parents and Citizens-Presidents Report

Dear Parents,

Fan in Hall!

For those that missed it – here is a photo of the *Big Ass Fan*, finally installed in the hall; just in time for summer! It was certainly needed this week. This was funded though the P&C.

Farewell, Thank you and Safe Holidays

For those families departing GEPS at the end of 2017 – I wish you the very best with your next schooling journey. For those returning in 2018, I'm looking forward to an exciting year.

Thank you to all the people who have volunteered in 2017 - your help is so greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all the staff and support staff of GEPS – you do a wonderful job of supporting our children's learning journey. Finally I wish you all a safe and happy holiday break.

P&C Executive 2018

I'm very pleased to announce the P&C Executive for 2018, which consists of:

Role	Member
President	Nils Bown
Vice President	Keith Griffiths
Vice President—Events	Lori Abbott
Treasurer	Elissa Laurie
Secretary	Kiah Wolton-Phillips
Executive Member (Assistant Treasurer)	Jane Heap
Executive Member (Community)	Bing Lau
Executive Member (Class Parents)	Kathy Zvirblis

In addition we have the parents on the P&C sub-committees:

Sub Committees	Member
Band Director	Kellye Bettman
Band Coordinator	Anita McLean
Training Band Coordinator	Georgina Robertson / Vacant
Concert Band Coordinator	Irene Lee
Music / Library Coordinator	Nooshin Valmadre / Chloe Edwards
Instrument Hire Coordinator	Jessica Hope
Music Treasurer	Jodie & Brian Minotto
Strings Director	Lynley Wagner
Strings Coordinators	Michelle Howland, Lauren Ainscough, Maree Page
Environs	Alison Wykes
Canteen Manager	Mel Benbow
Canteen Committee	Sally Ng Scott, Alex Terry, Robyn Martin, Maree Page
Book Club Coordinator	Stephanie Saill
Grants & Corporate Liason	Vacant
Uniform Shop Manager	Katie McAvoy



Parents and Citizens-Presidents Report continued

Thank you to everyone who has offered to help!

Thank you also to those who have offered to assist as a class parent in 2018. An information session will be held in early 2018.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Nils Bown

GEPS P&C President

geps.p.c@gmail.com

Current Kindy parents:

I am sure you remember dropping off your little ones on their first day of school, and then enjoying the annual Cheers and Tears event across the road afterwards. The new Year 1 Parents are responsible for providing the eats and the helping hands to make the much-loved and valuable event run smoothly as well as making the first day of school memorable for the new Kindy parents.

Please can you sign up for helping out on <u>www.volunteersignup.org/P7PPC</u> as soon as possible.

Band

Well done to the Senior Concert Band for a wonderful performance at Presentation Night. The band has had a ugely successful year and I look forward to their further progress in 2018!

Special thanks must go to the Band Committee led so ably by Anita McLean. Jodie, Brian, Irene, Alison, Donna, Jocelyn and Jenny- thank you for all your invaluable help in 2017.

I wish you all a fantastic holiday and look forward to Band once again in 2018!

Stringscoop

The Strings Ensembles have had a fantastic year. Mozart have developed into a group of wonderful players. And Vivaldi did us proud playing so beautifully at Presentation night!

We would like to thank Mrs Lynley Wagner, our Director and Conductor of both ensembles, for her expertise and guidance through out the year.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday break!

Anyone interested in joining our Strings program in 2018 please contact our Strings Director , Mrs Lynley Wagner, or our Strings coordinators, Michelle or Lauren.

Welcome Event

Please save the date for our 2018 Welcome Event - 24 February 2018 at 4:30pm. The Theme is "Under The Sea"! Bookings are already open so you can login to Trybooking today and buy your tickets - <u>https://</u> www.trybooking.com/ SOCX Our Volunteer Sign up sheet is also ready and waiting for eager helpers on the day- go to www.volunteersignup.org/ 8Q8LW

School Records Update

To ensure efficient communication and correspondence with all Families, please ensure your personal records are up to date with the front office. Please advise us of any changes in email addresses, telephone numbers, addresses and emergency contacts. Please email the school @ gordoneast-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au with your changes.

Thank you for your cooperation



VACATION CARE PROGRAM

GORDON EAST OSHC CENTRE

From 18-December-2017 to 22-December-2017

e: geoshc@primarvoshcare.com.au ph: 0430 366 917

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below our Vacation Care Program for the upcoming school holiday period. The Centre will be open from 7:30am until 6:00pm each day and all meals will be provided as during term time. Children need not be students of Gordon East Public School to attend. However, a \$20 annual registration fee applies to all families using the service for the first time.

Please note the daily \$55 charge and excursion charges are eligible to be deductible by Childcare Benefit.

An early bird discount of \$5 applies to bookings and payments made before the closure date of Wednesday December 06 2017

Please complete and sign the attached Booking Form indicating your requirements for Vacation Care.

WEEK 1				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
18-Dec-17	19-Dec-17	20-Dec-17	21-Dec-17	22-Dec-17
In Centre	Incursion	in Centre	Exunion	in Centre
Christmas Extravaganzal	Petting Zoo	Summer Carnival	Pionio at Darnely Oval	PJ & Movie Day
4				
Santa Claus is coming to Town! We will be making our own Santa hats and other Christmas crafts, doing the Jingle bell rock, playing reindeer games and more! Let's get ready for a crazy Kris Kringle Christmas season! Additional Cost \$0.00	hold a chicken and chase a piglet! You will meet and talk to all of the different farm animals that will be	carnival where the	down to Darnely Oval to have a picnic lunch. We will also be playing a variety of cooperative and competitive games. Please don't forget to	pyjamas or favourite onesie, as we enjoy a day of fun and laughter. We
		WEEK 2	traves, transit	
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Additional Cost \$0.00	Additional Cost \$0.00	Additional Cost \$0.00	Additionel Cost \$0.00	Additional Cost \$0.00

Please note that the program is subject to change dependent upon enrolment numbers Please ensure children bring a hat and shoes suitable for walking each day. Children will be supervised by staff in Centre at a minimum ratio of 1 to 15 and 1 to 10 on excursions. The anticipated number of children attending each day is approximately 0 to 25 For more accurate anticipated numbers of children, please see the daily excursion summary displayed. Completed Risk Assessments relevant to all activities are displayed for your information You are invited to Gordon East Public School's 2018 Welcome Event

Theme dress up encouraged Venue: GEPS Hall Date: Saturday 24 February 2018 Time: 4:30pm to 7:30pm Featuring Music by DJ Dads A lot Tickets \$35 Per Family, Includes Sausage Sizzle, Drink and a Treat Please confirm attendance by Booking at www.trybooking.com/socx BYO Extra Drinks and Nibbles Please No Alabool All Welcome, No Drop Offs



SCHOOL HOLIDAY ROAD SAFETY REMINDER FOR FAMILIES

With the school holidays approaching, daily routines will soon change. Different play locations and holiday destinations means different traffic environments.

So to help keep our children safe, families are reminded about these key road safety points:

Stop, look, listen, think every time you cross the road.

If your child is aged 8 years or younger hold their hand when walking near or across roads. If your child is 9-10 years old always actively supervise them.

It's the law that everyone wears a helmet when riding a bike in a public place. It makes sense to wear a helmet when riding scooters and skateboards too!

Click clack front 'n back every person for every trip.

Everyone in the car must be securely buckled up in the right seatbelt or child restraint.

Talk to your child about being a safe road user.

Reinforce safe road behaviours by being a good role model! Children learn safe road behaviours from the adults who care for them. Talk about what you are doing to be safe when near roads, in the car and when riding.

Point out road safety differences and dangers in new environments.

This is especially important when on holidays in different surroundings. Roads, footpaths, parks,

carparks, bike tracks and bike lanes may look different in holiday areas.

The best way to keep your child safe is to actively supervise them.

Talk and teach your child about road safety every time you are out an about.

Remind other adults who care for your children to do this too.

You can find out more at:

Safety Town

Department of Education

Transport for NSW



Gordon East Public School, Rosedale Rd, Gordon, NSW 2072		
Phone:	9498 2011	
Fax:	9498 4173	
Email:	gordoneast-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au	
Website:	www.gordoneast-p.schools.nsw.edu.au	
Principal:	Jennifer Simmonds Jennifer.Simmonds@det.nsw.edu.au	
P&C President:	Nils Bown geps.p.c@gmail.com	
Uniform Shop:	Katie McAvoy gepsuniform@gmail.com 0451 281 978	
School Canteen :	Melanie Benbow gepscanteen@gmail.com	
Scholastic Bookclub:	Stephanie Saill gepsbookclub@gmail.com	
OSHC:	0430 366 917 geoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au	
School Security:	1300 880 021 Gordon Police: 9418 5399	
Bushfire Safety:	www.dec.nsw.gov.au/bushfire-safety	



Drama Classes 2018



Classes at St Ives North Public School

We all want our kids to be confident.

You'll love your child's growth in confidence, creativity and communication skills through our self-development drama program.

Enrolments Now Open www.helenogrady.com.au | ph: 0438 788 080



for the lifetime game

inspire

Venue: Killara Lawn Tennis Club



Junior & Adult Programs

Based on school calendar!

- ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Coaching (4-13yrs)
- High Performance & Competition (9-18yrs)
- Ladies & Adult Clinics (Beginnner & Intermediate)
- Private Lessons and more...
- FREE after School Bus Pick Up Service

Holiday Programs

Seven weeks camps during December and January!

- Camps held rain, hail or shine during all school holiday periods
- Casual bookings and excursions available!
- FREE Before Care & Racquet Hire

P: 9498 1902 www.inspiretennis.com.au Register Online Today!