



Gordon East Public School

Built on the land of the Guringai people

Safe, respectful learners

Term 4 – Issue 19
4 December 2020

School Newsletter

Upcoming Events

- **Friday 11 December**
 - 9.15am Stage 3 beach excursion
 - K-4 Picnic day
 - Student reports going home
- **Monday 14 December**
 - 6pm Year 6 Farewell
- **Tuesday 15 December**
 - Presentation Day
- **Wednesday 16 December**
 - **Last Day for students**

Students **return to school term 1**
Friday 29th January 2021

From the Principal – Mrs Ruth White

Dear Families,

Here we are almost at the end of Term 4, with a busy final two weeks ahead. Next week we look forward to our end of year Picnic Lunch (years K – 4) & Beach Day (years 5 & 6). In the final week of term, we have our Year 6 farewell as well as our K-6 Presentation Day. Invitations to our Presentation Day were emailed out to invited families today.

Kindergarten Orientation

Last week we held our last Kindergarten Orientation session. It was a delight meeting all our new families and welcoming siblings to the first year of schooling. We look forward to seeing all our new students begin in 2021.

School Planning

We are finalising our planning and organisation for 2021. **Leaving GEPS?** If you are planning on leaving Gordon East PS at the end of 2020 from Kindergarten to Year 5 please let the office know in writing by completing the form included in the newsletter ASAP. This information helps with class organization and planning for 2021.

COVID-19 symptoms can include:



If your child is sick, keep them at home and get them tested for COVID-19.



School Vision

Gordon East Public School is 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.

School Procedures

Since our last P&C meeting, we have continued our commitment to work collaboratively together in writing and reviewing School procedures. Today the following procedures were uploaded for you to view:

Communicating and Approaching the School

Class Formation

2021 Class requests for special circumstances

Just a reminder to ensure that should you have any special requests for 2021 classes, please make sure that you submit them via this link <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdzXB2j0-pb03drDDo0VYuy1cKfOuE0K4J72g-3OBYbWBEcnA/viewform> no later than Wednesday 9th December 3:00pm. Any requests, submitted after the cutoff date & time, may not be considered. Our staff have an excellent knowledge of our students and put an enormous amount of time and effort in forming classes to meet the needs of all students. All our classes are mixed ability and cater for the wide range of needs among our students.

If you feel that you have extenuating circumstances that require a parent request, please put your request in writing by using the online survey form Please submit a separate request for each child if necessary.

Please note:

- Requests for specific teachers or friendship groups will not be considered.
- Requests for special consideration should focus on the learning needs of the student.,
- There is no guarantee that the school will be able to accommodate requests.

Parents are asked to submit requests for consideration each year they feel the request applies.

2021 Start to the school year

The beginning of the 2021 school year will be a little different to previous years. Our staff will be at school for two school development days (Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 January) and our students in years 1-6 will return to school on Friday 29 January.

Ruth White

Principal

Library News

Borrowing has ceased for this year, and all Library books are now due for return. Thank you to all who have returned their books so far.

Overdue email reminders will go out next week. Please have a really good search (under the bed...on brother or sister's bookshelf...under the seat in the car...behind the sofa...in the toy cupboard...) and send the books back to school as soon as possible.

As the notes say, if you are unable to return any of the books, please reply to the email, explaining why the books can't be returned.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about missing or overdue books.

Bronwen Campbell

Teacher Librarian

Event

K-4 Picnic Day!

Who K-4 students

What Lunch on the Hill with ice blocks
(ice blocks provided by school)

When Friday 11 December 2020 (Week 9)

Bring Your own special picnic lunch (no sharing)

Wear Mufti with a touch of Christmas OR dress up as your favourite superhero (or a mixture of both!)
Clothes must be sun safe and appropriate for school activities. Students must wear closed shoes.



Aussie of the Month**AUSSIE OF THE MONTH**

Congratulations Aussie of the Month

Madison C

Madison is a polite and responsible student who readily assists in and out of the classroom.

She is well-mannered and respectful when interacting with both teachers and her peers.

Madison shows care, patience and concern for the feelings and needs of her classmates. She displays good citizenship by always being willing to assist others. Madison uses her instinct to deal with any situation in a positive way.

Madison upholds the values of Gordon East Public School by always being a safe, respectful learner.

She is a delight to teach, a role model to her peers and a very worthy recipient of the Aussie of the Month Award.

Congratulations Madison!**November 2020***Proudly sponsored by*

Craig Marshall
Office: 9061 3175
Gordon

**AUSSIE OF THE MONTH**

Congratulations Aussie of the Month

Ethan W

Ethan is a kind, caring student who has overcome challenges. He puts in 100 % effort in everything he does. Ethan is respectful and courteous to others.

He has a great sense of humour and has earned the respect of his peers and the adults with whom he works with. Ethan considers the feelings of others and does his best to include all students in whatever he is doing.

Ethan has shown resilience on many occasions. He upholds the values of Gordon East Public School by always being a safe, respectful learner.

Ethan is a worthy recipient of being the Aussie of the month.



Congratulations Ethan!**November 2020***Proudly sponsored by*

Craig Marshall
Office: 9061 3175
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Merit Awards

17 November 4/3M Sarah L & Scarlett M

Tuesday 24 November 2020		Tuesday 1 December 2020	
KC	Bella A	KC	Thomas S
KR	Chloe M	KR	Meredith H
K/1L	Emily A, Flore Z	K/1L	Emi K, Ava C
1C	Kishan P, Ryan H	1C	Jyun-yen H, Gary Y
2A	Edward C, Hayley B	2A	Madeline V, Shiv M
2M	Neil B, Karissa Y	2M	Jonathan B, Ana Luzia E
4/3A	Aayu C, Molly C	4/3A	Oliver P, Sophie H
4/3F	Isabella Y, Sophie H	4/3F	Clayton W, Naomi G
4/3M	Ray W, Irene M	4/3M	Remi U, James A, Nathan S
4/3W	Michelle C, Harry C	4/3W	Zoe L, Archie M
6/5P	Harrison S, Annika N, Will T	6/5P	Mila V, Leely C, Abigail R
6/5S	Angus F, Elke C, Sahana J	6/5S	Thomas R, Abigail B, Anna P
6/5W	Dylan A, Amy A, Jian Y	6/5W	Amelia, R, Sierra L, Mary L
Mini Merits	Eli M, Ava V, Mitchell N, Daphane F	Mini Merits	Ruby L, Alyssa R
Banners	Bradley L, Ollie H, Brandon M	Banners	Xavi S, Ollie C, Amelie L, Meghan B
Medals	Brandon M, Ines G	Book Vouchers	Brandon M
			



GORDON EAST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Rosedale Road, Gordon, NSW 2072

GEPS Leavers

As we begin our plans for 2021 it is important that we have a clear idea of the number of students anticipated in each year group.

If you are expecting that your son or daughter will not be returning to Gordon East next year it would be greatly appreciated if you would indicate this as soon as possible.

This information will be held in confidence by the Principal and Enrolments officer.

NAME: _____

CLASS: _____ **YEAR:** _____

INTENDED SCHOOL: _____

COMMENTS:

☎ 02 9498 2011
✉ gordoneast-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
🌐 <https://gordoneast-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

Live Life Well



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

... to pack a Christmas lunch box.

This bright and colourful Christmas themed lunch box is delicious and ticks off all 5 food groups. It includes:



- [Chicken and couscous salad](#)
- A yoghurt tub
- Diced watermelon
- Cucumber and cherry tomatoes
- [No bake cookies](#)
- Water

For more recipes, ideas and lunch box inspiration visit healthylunchbox.com.au

healthylunchbox.com.au



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

... to make healthy party food.

Celebration season is upon us – but party food doesn't have to be unhealthy. Fruit and veg are bright and colourful and make the perfect ingredient for special party foods. Try these fun ideas:

- Watermelon fruit salad bowl
- Pita bread Christmas trees
- Frozen yoghurt pops
- Watermelon cookie cutter shapes
- Banana and strawberry candy cane



healthylunchbox.com.au

GORDON EAST

KINDERGARTEN 2021

TAKING ENROLLMENTS NOW
CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

From the P&C

Annual General Meeting

Last night we held the Annual General Meeting of the Gordon East Public School.

AGM Update - P&C Committee 2021

Thanks to all who attended the AGM this week. The new P&C office bearers are:

Role	Name
President	Kiah Wolton-Phillips
Treasurer	Greg Long
Secretary	Zoe Falster
Vice President 1 (Community)	Nils Bown
Vice President 2 (Events)	Sally Pearman
Events sub-committee	Lucy Long, Danielle Stone, Lisa McGregor, Sarah Holmes, Amanda Watts, Cat Spencer
Executive Member	Jane Heap (assistant Treasurer) Kathy Zvirblis (communications)
Canteen Committee	Alex Terry
Book Club	Shari Allinson
Environs Committee	Alison Wykes
Music Committee	Band Coordinator – Melinda Duker Music Treasurer – TBD Strings Coordinator – Michelle Howland
Working With Children Check Officers	Nils Bown Kiah Wolton-Phillips

Please consider how you can help us moving into 2021: **Don't wait for us to tap you on the shoulder – help us help the school community and get involved!**

P&C Meetings

Meeting Dates for 2021 (7:30pm in school library):

Term 1	Tuesday 9 th February
	Tuesday 17 th March (wish list voting)
Term 2	Tuesday 12 th May
Term 3	Tuesday 4 th August
Term 4	Tuesday 27 th October
	Tuesday 7 th December (2021 AGM)



Incoming President Report

I am humbled by the confirmation of my nomination to serve as the P&C President for 2021 at the Annual General Meeting on the 1st December. For those of you whom may not have seen me around school, I have two children at Gordon East, Ethan who is heading into year 6 and Ava, who will be in year 2 next year.

I have volunteered for the P&C for the past few years, starting with volunteering at events and in the canteen, before stepping into the role of Secretary and then Vice-President. I look forward to continuing to support the great work the P&C undertakes in 2021 and continuing to serve our wonderful community.

I am grateful to Nils Bown for all of his support over the past few years and for all of his achievements as our President. I am looking forward to continuing our work as a team, ensuring that the P&C is safely guided over the coming year. I am especially grateful to have the opportunity to work with Nils over the transition period, providing essential continuity to the running of the P&C.

I am also excited to work with our fantastic Executive team and all of our Officers, employees and volunteers. We really are very fortunate to have such a great group of people on board, making things happen.

Over the coming year, I will be building on the strong collaborative relationship that the P&C already enjoys with our school, and supporting the school wherever possible to ensure that all of our children reach their potential and enjoy their own personal success at Gordon East.

I would like to thank you for entrusting me with this important role and I look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

Kiah Wolton-Phillips

geps@gordoneastpandc.org.au.

Outgoing President Report

Dear Families,

As I step down after three years as president, I would like thank all who support the P&C and the school. I've had a wonderful time as President of the GEPS P&C – we have made some fantastic progress and have hopefully left a lasting legacy to support the children educated here at the school.

It has been wonderful to work with Ruth - we continue to have very close collaboration with her across all areas. I'd like to thank her for her stewardship and leadership. We greatly appreciate what she is doing to make our great school even better.

I think we are all so fortunate to have our kids at GEPS. It is a great school, with wonderful teachers & support staff, collaborative leadership and a P&C that is well integrated and maintains a close relationship with the school and its staff. We continue to have a supportive and engaged parent body. Thank you especially to the P&C executive, but to all the families who volunteer and support the school – it benefits all our children.

I'm not going anywhere! I will remain on the P&C executive as Vice President to continue to support the P&C and hand over many of my existing responsibilities.

Thank you!

Nils Bown

geps@gordoneastpandc.org.au.

Year 6 Farewell

Thanks to the small group of parents who have taken an active role supporting the Year 6 farewell. Our year 5 families organise this farewell and this year is particularly challenging to organise! If you are in year 5 and can also spare a moment to help with this, please contact me and I'll put you in touch with the organiser.

A small group met this week to work together on the decorations – a very productive and fun evening by all accounts!



Wishlist update

Thank you to all the families who continue to kindly donate to the P&C Wishlist.

It's not too late to donate – head to Flexischools, make a direct deposit or return the form to the school office. ***The community thanks your generosity.***

Contact Details

I've recently updated some email addresses that had not made it onto our email list, and have had to remove some due to the addresses no longer being valid. If you are not getting emails from the P&C or recently changed your email address, please let me know and we will update our records.

If you are departing from the school and would like to be removed from the database, please let me know. I will start removing families who are leaving from the list in late December.

Nils Bown

Outgoing GEPS P&C President

geps@gordoneastpandc.org.au.

Uniform Shop

For the foreseeable future, we will require people to buy new uniforms online via Flexischools and second-hand uniforms at the shop by appointment only. At this stage we will only use Tuesday morning for these appointments, subject to demand. Note the cut-off for Flexischools is 4.30pm Monday afternoon.

To buy second hand uniform:

Book a time slot (<https://www.picktime.com/GEPSUniformShop>) [Tuesdays].

1. Come at your allocated time slot only – you will not be permitted to enter the school grounds if you don't have a booking.
2. Pre-fill out an order form with your name and payment details (attached) and bring with you.
3. Once at the shop, we will ask you to sanitise your hands and put on a pair of gloves prior to looking through the uniforms.
4. Payment will be via credit card only.

New uniform sales will be given to the office to pass to your child's class.

Any issues with your orders, please contact Katie on uniformshop@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Canteen

We are nearly at the end of the year and what a year it's been. I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has helped the canteen to keep running in whatever way you've contributed, whether it be coming in for a shift or supporting the canteen by buying lunches. I would particularly like to thank Jennifer Lu who volunteers every Monday, Tuesday & Friday morning. What a star!

Astrid, Grace & Lia all do a wonderful job of supervising the canteen on Monday & Friday & we wouldn't have the canteen without them, so a big thank you goes out to them too.

We all look forward to next year and more fun times in the canteen.

Alex, Astrid, Grace & Lia.

Alex canteen@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Gordon East P&C Canteen

Ukulele Club

The Club has finished up for the year, so please return all music folders and bags to the school. Mrs Wagner is hopeful that we can resume in the new year with less restrictions. Thank you for your patience during this difficult year.

Strings

Sadly, strings did not return for 2020 but things are looking up for 2021!

We have had lots of students interested in starting next year, so please let us know if you would like to join them! For further information please contact Strings Director, Lynley Wagner at Lynley@wagnermusic.com.au or our Strings coordinator, Lauren Ainscough at laurenainscough9@gmail.com

Have a fabulous Christmas break and looking forward to hearing lots of music again in 2021!!!

Lauren & Michelle

Book Club

Issue 8 orders have been received and processed and will be coming home with students today. All orders labelled as 'gifts' will be held at the school office for collection.

Issue 8 marks the end of Book Club for 2020. Many thanks to all families that have ordered through the Scholastics Book Club this year. It has been an extremely successful year with well over \$2500 in rewards dollars earned for the school library that Mrs Campbell has been able to spend on additional books/resources and I look forward to continuing with Book Club next year.

Any questions or issues, please contact me at bookclub@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Regards

Shari Allinson

Band

Training Band 2021: We have had a wonderful response to recruitment for training band 2021. We still have some spaces left, particularly on trombone, euphonium and Tuba. These instruments also have the added bonus of free instrument hire for the year. If your child is interested, please email gepsband@gmail.com

As this year comes to a close, we have a conductor and also some committee members who are sadly leaving GEPS: Corrina Clark has been conducting our JCB for the past 4 years and has brought so much enthusiasm and professionalism to all she has done. She has made the big move to the Southern Highlands and the commute has just become a bit too much! The children have all learnt so much from her and we will miss her immensely. Naomi Lewandoski will be joining GEPS next year and conducting JCB. She brings with her lots of experience and great energy and will be a great addition to our team.

Anita McLean has been the President of the Band Committee for the past 5 years. She has been instrumental in the introduction of band camp as well as worked extremely hard to ensure the band program is always running smoothly. We are so appreciative of all Anita has done for our program and she will be sorely missed. Mel Duker is stepping up to the plate as our new President after being the treasurer for the past year. The program remains in good hands! Khrista Nanayakkara has been part of the band committee for several years now, most recently taking the role of instrument hire co-ordinator. Khrista is always putting her hand up to assist in whichever area is needed and we have really appreciated all her work over the years.

Well done to all our year 6 children for leading the band this year and for all their years of service and commitment. We wish you all the best as you move on to high school.

Kellye Bettman
gepsband@gmail.com
GEPS Band Director

WWCC

We would like to thank our community for their continued support of and compliance with our Working With Children Check policy and procedures.

This year has been quiet in terms of volunteer registrations due to restrictions imposed by the pandemic, however, we have had two new paid employees who have required registration.


In 2020, we have continued to enjoy a close and collaborative working relationship with our school to ensure that both the WWCC requirements of the school and those of the P&C are adhered to.

We are grateful to Mrs White, School Principal, for enabling that successful working relationship and for allowing us to have input into the school's current Working With Children Check policy, which is now available on the school's website.

In terms of housekeeping, both Nils and I will return as WWCC officers and hope that we can count on your support in that regard.

Thank you all again, for another happy and safe year at GEPS and our very best wishes for 2021.

Kiah Wolton-Phillips & Nils Bown
Working With Children Check officers
wwcc@grdonestpandc.org.au




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*Abbotsleigh - Brigidine College - Barker - Knox
 Loreto Normanhurst - NBCS - Pymble Ladies College
 Ravenswood - Roseville College - Saint Leos
 St Pius X College - The Kings School - soon to be added
 Mercy College - Mount St Benedicts College*



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

This summer, your kids can fire up their imaginations and keep their hands and minds busy at our popular school holiday programs.

Holiday gymnastics and swimming programs

Kids can bounce, balance and tumble around the gymnastics hall, or jump in the pool with our swimming classes which range from learn-to-swim to more advanced levels (4 to 15 years of age). Individual and group lessons/clinics are available.

Vacation care

Our vacation care program has something for everyone: indoor and outdoor activities and excursions, arts and crafts, drama, cooking and games. It's hands off devices and hands-on fun.

Junior Science Academy

Switch on their curiosity at our Junior Science Academy with fun, hands-on experiments in classes for students from kindergarten to Year 6.

RoboCamps

Build robots and learn to drive them with the Thunder Down Under robotics team. Fun, educational and professionally run, these classes are ideal for children in Years 1-7. **Creative Kids vouchers** (value is \$100) can be claimed for any robotics or coding class. Apply through ServiceNSW for your child's voucher).

Want more information?

Visit our website: mq.edu.au/about/holidays

