



Gordon East Public School

Built on the land of the Guringai people

Safe, respectful learners

Term 2 – Issue 6

30 April 2021

School Newsletter

Diary Dates

- **Monday 3 May**
 - Mother's Day Stall
- **Tuesday 4 May**
 - Zone Cross Country (St Ives Showground)
- **Friday 7 May**
 - Mother's Day Breakfast (7.30am – 9.30am)
 - PSSA Begins (Netball at Canoon Rd, Soccer TBA)
- **Tuesday 11 – Friday 21 May**
 - NAPLAN – Year 3 & 5
 1. Writing
 2. Reading
 3. Numeracy
- **Friday 21 May**
 - Stage 2 Junior MasterChef Competition

Save the Date:

Thursday 10 June Athletics Carnival
at Bannockburn Oval

From the Principal – Mrs Ruth White

Dear Families,

Welcome back to term 2. It has been lovely to see everyone return after having a restful break. We have had a busy start to the term and are looking forward to the many events and excursions being organised for the upcoming weeks.

School Plan

Our school plan is finished and published! You are able to view our new school plan on the school's website under about us/school planning and reporting/strategic improvement plan. The plan includes three strategic directions:

1. Student growth and attainment
2. Quality Teaching, Quality Learning
3. Community Connections and Wellbeing

More information on our school plan can be found in a new section of our newsletter focused. Each fortnight, we will provide further information, resources or updates on initiatives or activities connected to our school improvement plan. This new initiative is introduced in response to feedback received in our focus groups conducted in term 1. Parents requested for bite sized updates on what we are doing. We hope that find this section informative.

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.

Annual report

Our Annual Report has also been completed and been published on the school website. It can be found by following the same links at the school improvement plan.

Lunches

Unfortunately, each day we often have several children coming to the office with no lunch. This is often due to range of reasons. To assist with this, starting next week we will introduce a slip system. Children will be assisted to check in their bags and with their sibling as well as the canteen. They will bring the slip to the office where they will get the choice between a pre-made vegemite roll or plain roll. Children will then take the slip home to let you know. Parents will no longer be contacted to bring in a lunch unless they are on our students with allergies list.

Mother's Day

We are very excited to have our annual Mother Day stall on Monday and Breakfast on Friday next week. Thank you to the P&C events team for all of their hard work in getting both of these community events up and running. The Mother's Day breakfast is an outside event enabling us to have more families attend. Please remember to keep a safe distance between each other and avoid congregating in large groups. Please spread yourselves around throughout the top playground (silver seats, basketball courts, covered walkways etc.) and enjoy the morning.

Assembly item attendance

This term we are looking forward to having our students performing across the school with the return of assembly items. Congratulations to the Senior Band who entertained us at this week's assembly! Our hall is a very small space and to meet COVID space requirements we need to limit numbers. Only parents whose children are performing, not hosting are invited. Additionally, parents of children who are receiving medals or Aussie of the month will also be invited.

Ruth White

Principal



Office News

Today Statement of Accounts for all families for Term 2 have been issued by email. These charges cover the cost of Incursions, Excursions, the Sports program and the Specialist Program.

Payment is required by end of week 7 (Friday 4 June). *Due to COVID regulations, the office is not able to accept cash payments. Payment can be made by credit card or through the online portal or on the school website using the “Make A Payment” tab.*

Please contact the office should you require your unique family link for accessing the payment portal.



Come along and learn more about Gordon East Public School with a guided tour with our school principal Mrs Ruth White.

School Tours

9:30am on Mondays: 24th May, 7th June, 19th July 9th August, 6th September, 18th October, 8th November

Please contact the office to book in your tour.

 Gordon East Public School Rosedale Road, Gordon, NSW 2072 | 9498 2011 | gordoneast-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Music News

Good news!!! As of last week, it was announced that all of the Arts Unit concerts have been given the green light to go ahead! The Senior and Intermediate Choirs will both be involved in these concerts later on in the year and will be held at the Sydney Town Hall and Homebush Sports Arena. Additionally, the Schools Spectacular at Qudos Bank Arena will be another choral opportunity for some of our Senior students to participate in should we be successful at auditions.

Senior, Intermediate and Junior Choirs will also be performing throughout the entire year at various school events and assemblies. *It is still possible to join and there is no audition process to join to the choir.*

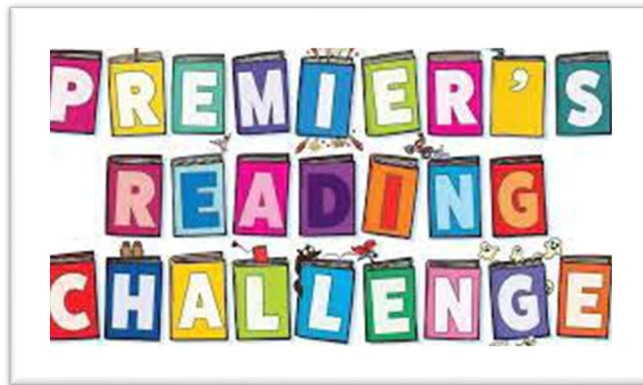
Please note the following weekly rehearsal times in the Music room:

Senior Choir	Thursdays	8.30am - 9.00am	Year 5 & 6
Intermediate Choir	Fridays	1.05pm - 1.30pm	Year 3 & 4
Junior Choir	Wednesdays	1.05pm - 1.30pm	Year 1 & 2



Ms Vallentine
Music Teacher

Library News



Library News Term 2 Week 2

So far this year, 58 Gordon East Students have completed the PRC.

Congratulations to our latest finishers:

Kindergarten: Milla C, Isabel H, Edward K

Year 1: Tommy F, Magnus H, Taraneh K, Isaac M, Nicholas P, Pippa R, Stella Y

Year 2: Joshua H, Caleb K, Benjamin M

Year 3: Ana Luiza E, Lena F, Tian N, Matilda P, Madeline V

Year 4: Clare H, Scarlett M, Ray W, Nethiya W, Clayton W, Joe Y

Year 5: Alexander R, Chloe V, Annabel W,

Year 6: Lily H, Harrison S

To record books on the PRC website, students need to log in with their school username and password. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the PRC.

PRC books read to KL and KR during Library lessons:

Flame stands waiting by Corinne Fenton

PRC books read to 1C, 1M, 2A and 2M during Library lessons:

Penguin book: Birds in suits by Mark Norman

It's always a great time to read!

Bronwen Campbell,

Teacher Librarian

Aussie Of The Month

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations Aussie of the Month
April 2021

Maya S

Maya is a friendly, diligent and motivated student who brings a positive attitude to school. She always upholds the values of Gordon East Public School by being a safe, respectful learner. Maya loves assisting teachers and other students when the opportunity arises.

Maya consistently produces work to a high standard and relishes a challenge. She makes valuable contributions during class discussions.

Maya is a kind and thoughtful friend, demonstrating inclusivity and empathy towards her peers.

Congratulations Maya! You are a deserving recipient of the Aussie of the Month Award.

Proudly sponsored by

Craig Marshall
Office: 9061 3175
Gordon

MARSHALL.
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YABL.

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations Aussie of the Month
April 2021

Abigail B

Abigail consistently demonstrates a positive and helpful attitude in all areas of her school life. She is well-mannered, considerate and polite. She constantly seeks to improve her understanding, and looks for opportunities to assist both her teacher and her peers. Abigail always strives to produce quality work, and seeks to complete work to the best of her ability.

Abigail contributes positively to her classroom environment and consistently communicates politely and considerately. She exhibits fairness and honesty in her leadership and in her actions on the sporting field. Abigail upholds the values of Gordon East Public School by always being a safe, respectful learner. She is a pleasure to teach and a very worthy recipient of The Aussie of the Month Award.

Congratulations Abigail!

Proudly sponsored by

Craig Marshall
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Merit Awards

	Tuesday 20 April 2021		Tuesday 27 April 2021
KL KR 1C 1M 2M 3/2A 4/3C 4/3F 4/3W 6/5P 6/5S 6/5WS	No Assembly ANZAC Day Ceremony	KL KR 1C 1M 2M 3/2A 4/3C 4/3F 4/3W 6/5P 6/5S 6/5WS	Charlie H, Matilda T Francesca J, Grace L Magnus H, Abigail J Jun L, Chloe M Eli M, Nina W Mitchell N, Rebecca S William C, Aiden S Marco D, James A Clare H, Finley H Eli K, Isabel B, Isabella Y Sophie H, Toby W, Hazel C Connor W, Angus W, Asha P
		Mini Merits	Abigail J, Alexander V, John S, Rebecca S, Mark S
		Banners	Katia S, Alexander V, Haewon J, Evan S, Sunita P, Ana E, Madison C

WELL
done
you
Did
It!

2021-2024 School Improvement Plan

Striving for excellence in a respectful, inclusive environment with high expectations.

Our three strategic Direction are:

1. **Student growth and attainment:** To improve student achievement, growth and performance in literacy and numeracy through establishing a culture of high expectations and quality teaching practice; building strong foundations for academic success across all Key Learning Areas.
2. **Quality Teaching, Quality learning:** To develop and sustain whole school quality teaching and learning practices that ensure the implementation of appropriate curriculum provision for every student is underpinned by evidence-informed strategies and embedded evaluative practice.
3. **Community Connections and Wellbeing:** To develop strong partnerships in learning and strengthened community connectedness through whole school planned approaches to wellbeing, engagement and communication.

Parent input

In term 1, we held our first round of parent focus groups. This was invaluable and we gratefully received a range of feedback – both congratulatory and food for thought. Some of the responses are summarised below. We are now analysing this feedback and look forward to working with the community on our school improvement journey.



- Well-rounded education with a positive culture
- Have our eye on the big picture: fostering independent, global citizens
- Fun ways of learning
- Range of modes, spaces and experiences
- Transition programs for Kindergarten and year 6 to 7
- Different year groups playing together with older kids caring for the younger
- Teachers did an amazing job working through COVID
- Good progression of learning as children move through the school

- Clarifying communication processes to keep partnering with parents.
- Clarity around what volunteering looks like and means
- More direction about what is expected of an 'sound child to assist parents in understanding how their child is going.
- Streamlining and consistency of communication
- More help for parents in supporting students at home socially, emotionally and academically
- Too many places to find information – please condense it
- More information on what is learnt at school, happening at school and ways to find further information or support.
- School's communication strategy



How can I help my child at home socially and emotionally?

Conversations with our Tweens Learning boundaries and developing Safe Relationships

Presented by Dr Justin Coulson



Did you know?

When we proactively build safe, secure connections with our Tweens, their relationships are stronger and more resilient.

Join this parenting seminar to:

- Pick up practical tips to develop self awareness and trust in your tweens
- Hear what promotes safe connections in pre-teen years
- Learn skills to assist your children to navigate peer relationships and boundaries



Presenter: [Dr Justin Coulson](#)

Psychologist, writer and speaker about parenting & family- because nothing matters more.

Justin has written 6 books, is an occasional columnist for the New York Times and appears regularly in all of Australia's major news outlets for television, radio, and print. Justin lives with his wife and six daughters in Brisbane, Queensland.

WHEN: Wednesday 12th May

TIME: 7-8 PM

WHERE: Online- Zoom

COST: FREE

REGISTER:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BQWGH>

RSVP:

Tuesday 11th May 3 PM

CONTACT:

Maria Comino
mariac@ransw.org.au

FOR: Parents & caregivers of tweens (8-13 years old)

This project has been assisted By Mosman Council's Community Grants Program

Mosman COUNCIL

CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

NSW School-Link
Health and Education Working Together

NSW GOVERNMENT | Health
Northern Sydney Local Health District



**LOWER NORTH SHORE
CHILD & FAMILY
INTERAGENCY**



Relationships Australia
NEW SOUTH WALES

NSW GOVERNMENT | Communities & Justice

Photo Gallery



2020 Gordon East PS ANZAC Day Service



LEST WE
FORGET

From the P&C

President's Report

A warm welcome back to Term 2 at Gordon East and welcome to the families who have joined us at the beginning of this term. Our Events Team are busy with preparations for the Mother's Day stall on the 3rd May 2021, and the Mother's Day breakfast on the 7th May 2021. I look forward to seeing you there.

Uniform Shop

Our children are now wearing their winter uniforms and, despite the delay of our uniform order from one of our suppliers, so far everyone appears to have managed and I would like to thank the community for their patience and understanding. If any of our families are finding that this situation is causing them particular difficulties, please get in touch with me or with our uniform shop manager, Shari Allinson and we shall try our best to assist you.

It is possible that we will be making some changes moving forward to ensure a greater degree of order reliability, and we shall keep the community updated with any changes. I would like to acknowledge Shari's hard work and commitment to working through the issues that have arisen.

You may have seen that our Worn-Up recycling bin for school uniforms has now arrived, and I am pleased that we are able to benefit from the scheme run by Ku-ring-gai Council. Our first collection is in June, so please do make good use of our recycling pod before then. I had a quick peek on Tuesday, and it is already about two thirds full – which is great.

Wishlist Meeting

The P&C Wishlist meeting took place on the 30th March 2021, and saw us all staying very late into the evening. The minutes from that meeting are now available and have been circulated. I would like to thank everyone who attended the meeting for their time, patience and efforts whilst we worked through some difficult decisions around prioritisation of the Wishlist items. Through the concerted efforts of the attendees, we managed to develop a workable plan to enable us to deliver as much of the Wishlist as possible over the coming year. However, this plan will require the support of our community through your financial donations.

Under the Wishlist, the P&C plan to support our school and your children by providing, amongst other things:

- Literacy and numeracy funds to support classroom teaching across all grades;
- Student laptops (to be purchased in two stages);
- Make Do Invent stem kits for robotics
- Guided readers;
- Mac-Lit readers;
- Readers for older children – Moon Dog books and decodable chapter books;
- Replacement of mouldy sports equipment
- We Do 2.0 – class sets for robotics
- Replacement of two classroom whiteboards (under our contingency fund)
- Items for the school grounds and environs day in September
- Shade for the uniform shop

There are a number of other items on the Wishlist that were given a lower priority rating than the above items. This is not to say that they are not needed however, and the P&C remains committed to providing the school with as many items as we possibly can, including those that were designated a lower priority rating.

Donation Requests 2021

Each year, the P&C issues a donation request to all families in our school. Community donations enable the P&C to continue its operations. Letters together with a request for donation will be sent out in the next couple of weeks. Please look out for your letter in your child's bag and please support the P&C in continuing its work. Last year was a difficult year for many families and financial support for the P&C reflected this. If the P&C is to continue to offer the services to the community it currently does, we will need more community support, both in terms of financial donations and volunteers.

Amongst other things, the P&C operates the canteen, the uniform shop, the band, the book club and runs events throughout the year aimed at both fundraising and community cohesion. The P&C now has 4 employees and several contractors, in addition to the volunteers who freely offer their time and skill despite carrying many other responsibilities. The P&C also have a number of administrative and support functions, such as administering our Working With Children Check Register, sitting on various school panels as community representatives and working collaboratively with our school on a number of issues, which improves the experience for all of our children.

Without the financial support of our community, and people who are prepared to volunteer, none of this would be possible.

Succession Planning

I am mindful that a number of people who work or volunteer for the P&C have children who are graduating out of our school at the end of this year. If you are planning to stand down from your role due to this (or for other reasons) at the end of this year, please let me know now, as the P&C will need to plan effectively to avoid difficulties next year. If you are a parent with a child or children in one of the earlier years at our school, please consider now whether you might be in a position to step into a P&C role. The earlier we plan for next year the better and the easier any transitions will be for any new officers.

Volunteers

I would like to thank the volunteers who consistently support the functions of our P&C including those whom regularly answer the call-out from our canteen. I would also like to thank the volunteers who are largely behind the scenes, offering many hours of their time each week and who are essential to our continuing operation.

The uniform shop has been very busy and our events team is springing into action with their events for this year, so there are lots of opportunities to join in if you would like to get involved.

It has been lovely to see the class parents being able to begin organising class play dates or social events for parents. I am grateful to you all for helping to bring our community back together after the restrictions we all faced over the past year. The class parent role is perhaps more important than ever in the context of bringing us back together, so thank you.

The School Plan and P&C Vision

The school plan that Mrs White has referred to is now available on the school website. It is my intention to devise a Mission Statement for our P&C this year, which will be aligned with the school plan. If anyone would like to work with me on that, please get in touch.

Kiah Wolton-Phillips
P&C President

Book Club Report

Issue 3 of the Scholastics Book Club was distributed to students on Friday 23Apr21. All orders are to be placed via the online LOOP portal <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx> by Thursday 6May21 (end of day).

If you have any problems or questions, please contact me at bookclub@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Shari Allinson

Uniform Shop Report

With the changeover to winter uniforms, it has been a busy start to the term with lots of orders being placed through Flexischools and in person purchases of new and second-hand uniforms. Thanks to those families that have passed on old school uniforms for re-sale at the uniform shop - if anyone has any further items that they no longer need and would like to donate, they can drop them off on a Tuesday morning or leave them at the front office at other times. The Worn-Up pod is also now available for any old school uniforms that are beyond further wear and ready for recycling. The pod can be found near the school canteen, next to the community toilet. Please remember that no hats, shoes, bags or non-uniform clothing/items can be recycled via the pod. The first (and free!) collection will take place before the end of term so please continue to bring in any suitable items for recycling.

As communicated previously, unfortunately there has been a delay in the receipt of our 2021 winter shirt order from our supplier so we are in low/out of stock of a few of our boys' and girls' sizes. The latest update is that our order should be ready and with us by mid May. All shirts that have been ordered through Flexischools, that are currently out of stock, will be sent to the student's classroom for collection as soon as the shirts arrive. My apologies for any inconvenience that this temporary delay has caused.

Due to the relaxing of some COVID restrictions last term, appointments will no longer be required to visit the uniform shop. Sign in requirements have also changed as follows:

Prior to 9.10am - no sign in necessary

After 9.10am - sign in required at the school office before visiting the uniform shop (and sign out when finished)

Your assistance in following the sign in requirements and ensuring social distancing guidelines are adhered to when purchasing uniforms from the uniform shop are much appreciated.

Finally, I am hoping to find a few volunteers that I can call on for help during the busier weeks so if you are able to assist for approximately 1 hour on a Tuesday morning, please get in touch at uniformshop@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Shari Allinson

Band Report

Firstly, congratulations to our Senior Concert Band who performed on Tuesday at assembly. It is incredibly exciting to have our bands performing again after a long 12 months hiatus. We look forward to having the Junior Concert Band make their first ever public performance in Week 5 and Training Band following in Term 3. Kellye and the Band Committee are looking at other opportunities for the bands to perform and look forward to these performances.

The Band Committee is also working towards our GEPS Band Workshop. All band families have been asked to save the date of **Saturday 8th Aug** afternoon / evening. Kellye and the Band Events Sub-Committee are planning a fantastic array of activities. We are also planning some fundraising activities to help with the cost of the workshop and excited by the excitement this creates in the band community. Watch this space for an upcoming Sausage Sizzle!

A reminder that band invoices are now overdue. Could we please ask for prompt payment and if there are any issues please contact our Band Treasurer (gepsband.treasurer@gmail.com) and we can find a solution.

A thank-you to all our GEPS Band Committee. It is fabulous to have so many families involved and we are now working through a number of projects that support the GEPS Bands such as organising the music library and supporting the office with coordinating the on-site tutors. There are always opportunities to help out so if you would like to be involved please contact me on gepsbandcommittee@gmail.com

Melinda Duker

Events Report

Mother's Day Breakfast

The Events team are very excited to invite our school community to our Mother's Day Breakfast, being held at school on Friday 7th May, 2021. Order your breakfast and raffle tickets now! <https://www.trybooking.com/BQFSX>.

Mother's Day Stall

This year we are also delighted to be running a Mother's Day stall, so the children can go shopping for a special gift for their Mum/Grandmother/special person!

The stall will be held at school on Monday, 3rd May 2021. Due to COVID restrictions, the stall will be cashless.

We encourage parents to buy 1 or more \$5 coupons via the Trybooking link attached, for their child to redeem at the stall. \$5 and \$10 gifts will be available for the children to purchase. As an example, if you purchase 2 x \$5 coupons, your child can purchase either 2 x \$5 gifts or 1 x \$10 gift.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BQSWU>

All profits made from the stall will be put towards items on the P and C Wishlist.

Mother's Day Breakfast Volunteers

With the Mother's Day breakfast fast approaching on Friday, 7th May 2021 - we are now on the call out for some wonderful volunteers to help the breakfast run smoothly.

Any help would be most appreciated - however to allow all our amazing mums to celebrate Mother's Day, we would be very grateful for any Dads/Granddads that can offer their time to help out. Various jobs and timeslots are available - please sign up using the Volunteer Signup link - <https://volunteersignup.org/KTQWE>

Mother's Day Raffle

Order your raffle tickets here (and they will also be available to purchase on the day with eftpos) to be in the chance to win these beautiful Lester Brand 18ct yellow gold pearl earrings valued at \$750, and many more wonderful prizes! If you have anything you would like to donate to the raffle, please get in touch with the events team on geps@gordoneastpandc.org.au



Mother's Day Stall

The Gordon East Public School Mother's Day stall will be held at school on Monday, 3rd May 2021.

A selection of beautiful \$5 and \$10 presents will be available for your child to choose from at the stall.

Students will need to pre - purchase their \$5 coupons to spend at the store via the Trybooking link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BQSWU>

Tickets close Monday 3rd May at 9am.

SAFETY AROUND



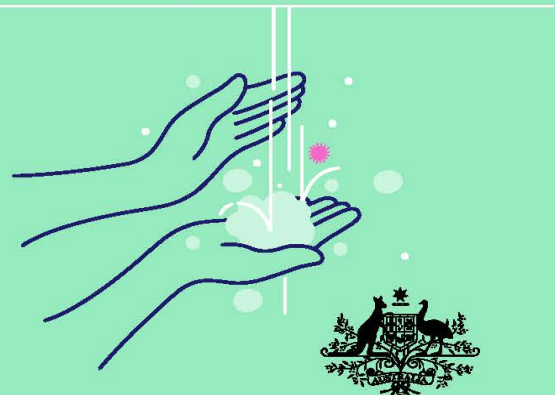
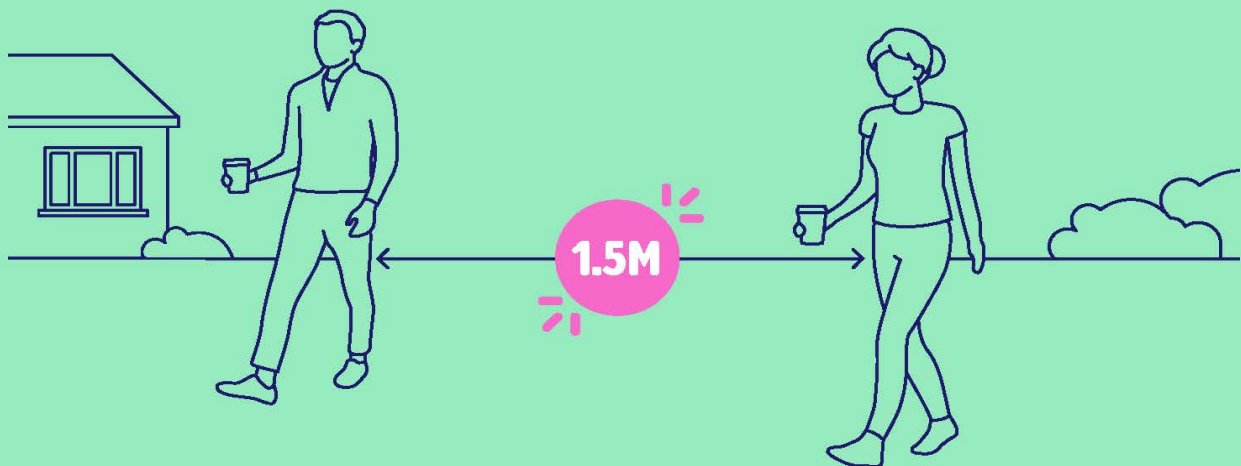
Term 2 2021

Keep physical distancing and **BE COVIDSAFE**



Physical distancing is working to help keep us all COVIDSafe. Remember, whenever you go out, stay 1.5 metres apart and avoid physical greetings. Follow guidelines in shops and businesses and always practise good hygiene. This will help stop the spread of coronavirus.

Together, let's **BE COVIDSAFE**.
Visit health.gov.au for more information.



Australian Government

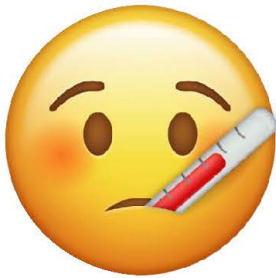
COVID SAFETY AT GEPS

Sick or unwell?



Parents, visitors, staff and students must not come to school or a community event if they are unwell. Even with very mild symptoms.

COVID testing



Need to get a COVID test? The nearest testing clinics to Gordon East PS include

- **Killara Histopath Pathology Drive-through Clinic** 28 Stanhope Road, Dalcross Private Hospital Killara, 2071, Killara, NSW , AU
- **Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital** Burdett Street, Building 93, 2077, Hornsby, NSW, AU
- **Ryde Respiratory Clinic** 11 Khartoum Road, 2113, Macquarie Park, NSW, AU

Please go to https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others/clinics/list?pcode=&suburb=undefined&type=all&request_id=0.2038061901922883#dcs-search-result for further information on COVID testing clinics.

Students and staff with flu-like symptoms will need to be tested and provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom-free before being permitted to return to school.

Let's stop the spread



Get the COVIDSafe app. More information can be found at https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app?gclid=EAlaIqobChMIs-uewLzH7gIVgQVYCh2QCQiQEAAAYASAAEgI1VPD_BwE.

Advertising



Ryde Water Polo Club Junior Development Term 2 2021 Program






Develop new skills

First session is free

Ryde Water Polo Junior Development program is a fun introduction for girls and boys to the sport of water polo. The sessions will teach you necessary skills and rules in an enjoyable and engaging atmosphere.

Choose from the following two sessions during Term 2:

Thursday evening	Sunday morning
Time: 6.30pm - 7.45pm	Time: 10.45am - 12.00pm
Age: 8 to 11 year olds	Age: 8 to 14 year olds
Venue: Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre 504 Victoria Rd, Ryde	Venue: Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre 504 Victoria Rd, Ryde
Cost: \$180	Cost: \$180

Inquiry: Narelle Fleeton, Juniors Coordinator fleetongroup1@gmail.com