



Gordon East Public School

Built on the land of the Guringai people

Safe, respectful learners

Term 2 – Issue 6

May 6 2022

School Newsletter

Diary Dates

- **Monday 9 May**
 - Student Leadership Camp
- **Tuesday 10 May**
 - NAPLAN Writing Test Yrs 3 & 5
 - Student Leadership Camp
- **Wednesday 11 May**
 - NAPLAN Reading Yrs 3 & 5
- **Thursday 12 May**
 - NAPLAN Language Conventions Yrs 3 & 5
 - Parent Volunteer Workshop: Session 3 (K-2)
- **Friday 13 May**
 - NAPLAN Catch Up
 - PSSA (Netball @ Canoon Rd, Soccer @ NTRA)
- **Monday 16 May**
 - NAPLAN Numeracy Yrs 3 & 5
- **Wednesday 18 May**
 - Camp – Parent Meeting – 5-6pm
- **Thursday 19 May**
 - NAPLAN Catch Up
- **Friday 20 May**
 - PSSA (Netball @ Canoon Rd, Soccer @ NTRA)

From the Principal – Mrs. Ruth White

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 2! What a lovely start to term it's been with all the sunny weather. We managed to slip Cross Country in between rain, have been planning for stage 3 camp and today we are celebrating being able to play the first game of PSSA for the year.

Thank you to Sally and her Events Team for organizing our annual Mother's Day Breakfast and stall. I do hope all our mothers, grandmothers, aunts and special friends in our community enjoy a lovely Mother's Day on Sunday.



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.

COVID-19 Guidelines for Term 2

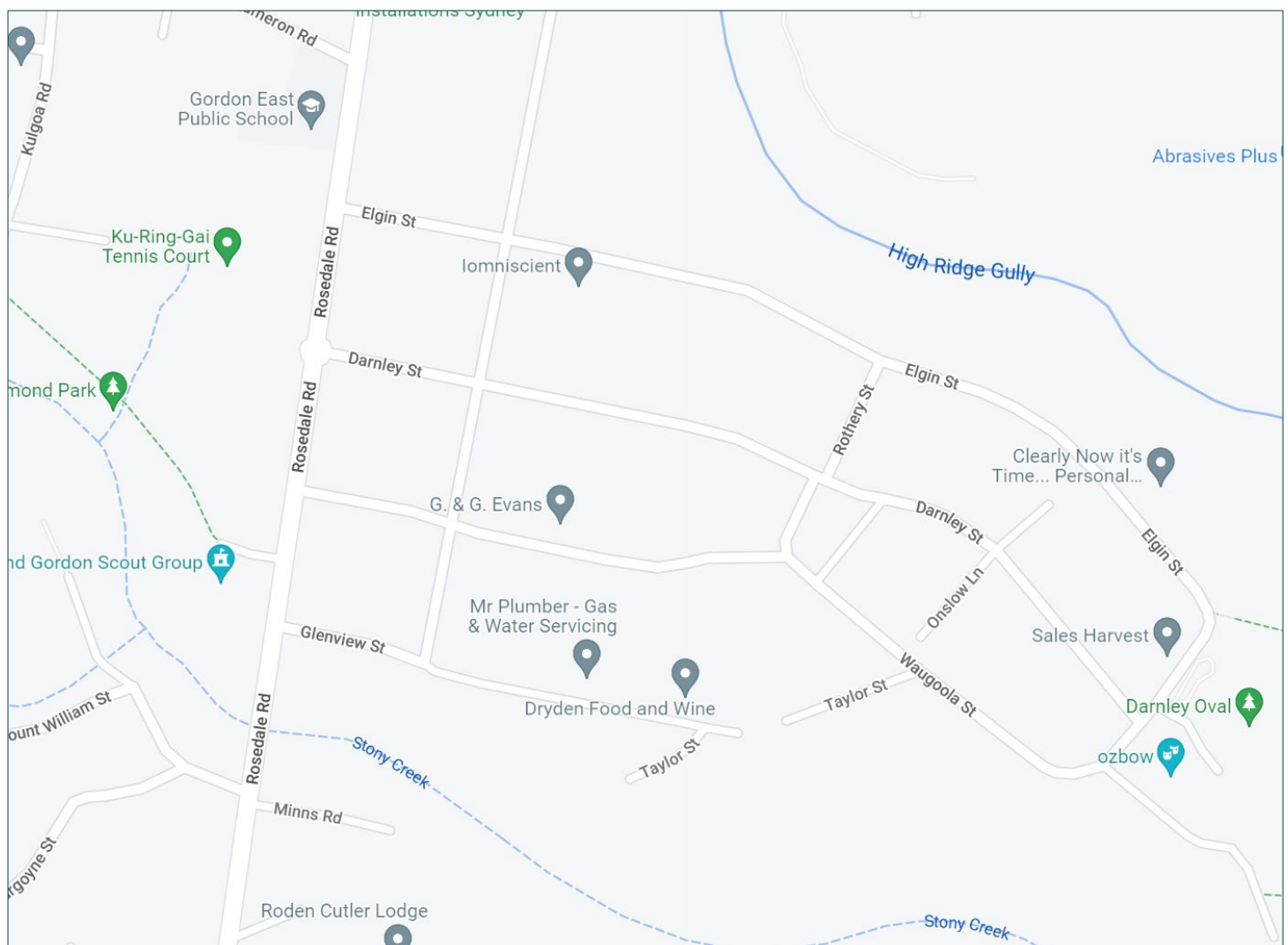
You will have noticed with last week's communication the changes to close contact guidelines as we returned to school. We are still waiting for our delivery of additional RAT tests and will send this home via school bags once they arrive. During the last week of term, we did do a school bag drop of a box of 5 into school bags. We hope this was helpful.

We do need parents to be vigilant in informing us both:

- If they are absent due to being a close contact and staying home
- A child is close contact but will be attending school. Parents are to RAT test each morning for 7 days should this be the case.

Road Safety

This week, I have been extremely concerned about our student's safety following a call from a distressed neighbour. Unfortunately, a parent entered their driveway pushing a rubbish aside with their car in order to do a U-Turn. This is both extremely dangerous putting student safety at risk as well as invading a resident's property and security. I remind families that completing a U-Turn in school zones is prohibited. I implore all families to drive safely when dropping off and collecting children. It is better to add 5 minutes to a journey by driving around a block safely than injuring someone due to completing a quick prohibited U-Turn.



Easter Hat Parade

On the last day of Term 1, we held our Annual Easter Hat Parade. It was wonderful to be able to invite our Kindergarten and Year 6 parents in as an audience. Lots of fun was had with buddies making Easter Hats together. Thank you also to the Band Committee for providing afternoon tea with a Donut fundraiser.



Student Reports

This term is school report term. I would like to thank families for their feedback via the short survey sent out last term. This, along with staff feedback has been used to structure a revised student report. The new report will include outcome descriptors and clearly stated learning goals for each Key Learning Area along with one detailed General Comment. Included in your child’s report envelope will be a guide to understanding grades allocated and a learning overview for the Semester. More information on parent feedback on school reports has been included further in the newsletter. In the upcoming weeks we will provide further information on student reporting.

NAPLAN

Next Week the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is being held for Years 3 and 5. NAPLAN is conducted over two weeks. We do ask that families avoid collecting children early for appointments during testing periods. If your child is sitting NAPLAN, we do ask that you contact the office to ensure that you are not disrupting the test to collect your child.

Take care

Ruth White

Principal



**ANZAC Service
2022**

News from the Office

A few reminders for the start of Term 2:

- Annual fees and the Term 1 Statement of Accounts were sent home to all families' last term. Payment can be made via the 'Parent online portal' or via the school website <https://gordoneast-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/payment.html#/student-details>. Please contact the office for any further information or assistance. Should you be experiencing financial difficulty and require assistance, please contact Mrs Ruth White for a confidential conversation in how we can provide support.
- A reminder also to ensure that you have lodged your Working with Children Check (WWCC) Declaration Form (Old Appendix 5) at the office, in person with photo identification. This is valid for the time you have a child at the school and allows you to volunteer for reading groups, canteen and other school or P&C activities and events.
- Finally, a reminder to ensure that you have notified the school of any changes to your contact details including email, phone number or residential address.




News from the Killara Schools Partnership



KILLARA ACADEMY STEM EXPO TUESDAY 24 MAY

KSP students are invited to attend a STEM Expo.

This hands-on experience with a range of surgeons from The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons is part of the Killara Academy program.

Tuesday 24 May
 6.30pm – 8.30pm
 Killara High School Hall
 For more information contact Ann Dixon: ann.dixon@det.nsw.edu.au



What's Been Happening At GEPS

Cross Country

We all enjoyed a very wet and muddy Cross-Country carnival. It was good to see the smiles on the children's faces. Kookaburra and Echidna came joint second with 258 points with Platypus gaining 272 points for the win. Congratulations Platypus.

Our ribbon winners were:

Juniors		Seniors		11 Years	
Scarlett M	John S	Ollie C	Jaden S	Sophia B	Max S
Ava C	Jasper A	Sarah L	Callum S	Clare H	Finley H
Madeline V	Ben W	Sophie H	Nico S	Michelle C	Parker M



Congratulations!

Library News



So far this year, 59 Gordon East Students have completed the PRC.

Congratulations to our latest finishers:

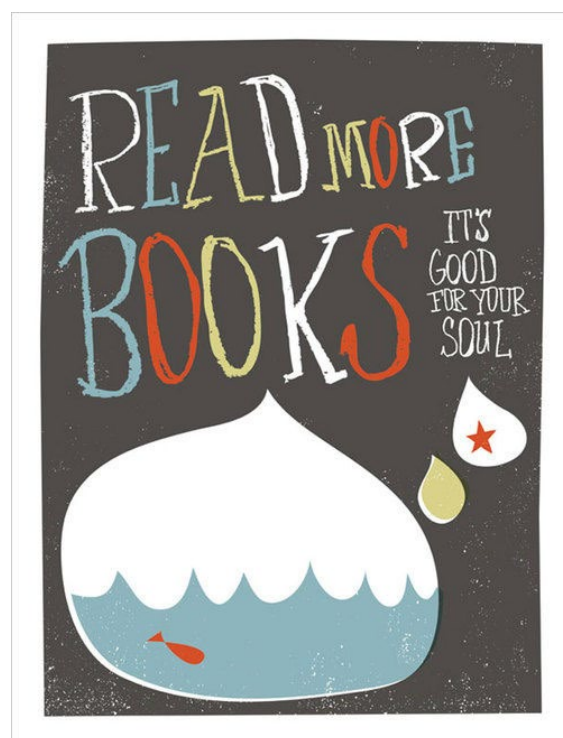
Kindergarten: Oliver C, Eleanor J, Marcus L, Jemima P,
Year 1: Isabel H, Edward K, Max P, Anna V, Malachi W
Year 2: Keira B, Tommy F, Abigail J, Pippa R, Ava V
Year 3: Emily A, Xavier C, Joshua H, Daniel S,
Year 4: Madeline B, Edward C, Isla H, Tarun J, Jessie K, Scarlett P,
 Evan S, John S, Elizabeth T
Year 5: Aarin C, Nethya W,
Year 6: Iris L, Aiden M, Dilan W, Isabella Y

To record books on the PRC website, students need to log in with the username and password they use to access computers at school. Your child's class teacher can provide you with their username and password.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the PRC.

It's always a great time to read!

Bronwen Campbell, Teacher Librarian



Merits

	Week 1 Tuesday 26 April 2022		Week 2 Tuesday 3 May 2022
KC		KC	Sebastian J, Sally S
KR		KR	Esha S, Mia S
1L		1L	Scarlett L, Joshua C
1W		1W	Isabel H, Daniel O
2A		2A	Ava P, Diaco M
2P		2P	Orson F, Howard D
4/3C		4/3C	Elsa T, Philippa W, William E
4/3M	NO ASSEMBLY HELD THIS WEEK	4/3M	Chloe L, Jasper A, Kyrylo P
4/3R		4/3R	Madeline V, Mitchell N
6/5M		6/5M	Sviatoslav V, Anastasiia P, Elyse K
6/5P		6/5P	
6/5S		6/5S	Oliver G, Sarah L, Casey X
Mini Merits		Mini Merits	Russell G, Sam B, Kristina F, Madeline V, Marissa L
Banners		Banners	Marissa L, Tristan Y



Aussie of The Month

AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations Aussie of the Month
April 2022

Benjamin L

Ben is a responsible student who is an excellent role model to his peers. He displays a broad general knowledge and contributes thoughtful ideas to discussions. Ben shows enthusiasm towards learning tasks and produces work of a high quality.

Ben can be relied upon to carry out tasks as he displays common sense and sound judgement. He embodies the values of Gordon East Public School by being a safe, respectful learner.

Congratulations, Ben Long! You are a deserving recipient of the Aussie of the Month Award.



AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations Aussie of the Month
April 2022

Kate L

Kate is a kind and compassionate friend who goes out of her way to help and care for others. She is a great example of someone who always speaks politely to both teachers and her peers. Kate is extremely responsible, reliable and regularly extends offers of help.

Kate is a responsible student who always follows the school and classroom rules. She listens attentively and makes sure she is in the right place at the right time. Kate makes thoughtful choices in her learning and always strives to do her best. She embodies the values of Gordon East Public School by being a safe, respectful learner.

Kate is a delightful member of 4/3M and a deserving recipient of the Aussie of the Month Award. Congratulations!



MARSHALL.
CHAN.
YAHL.

Proudly sponsored by: Craig Marshall @ Gordon Office, Phone: 9061 3175

2021-2024 School Improvement Plan

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

Strategic Direction 3 – Community Connections and Wellbeing

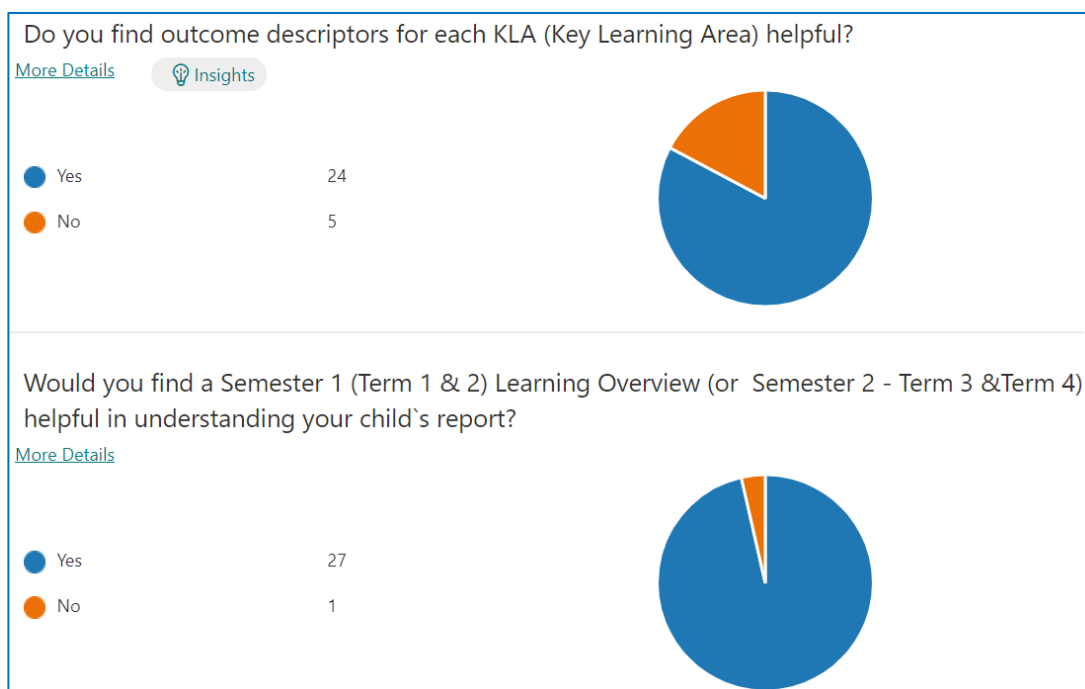
Student Reports

Thank you for your feedback via our School Newsletter parent survey.

- 83% find outcome descriptors for each KLA helpful
- 96% felt that receiving a Semester Learning Overview would be helpful in understanding their child's report.
- Common themes from feedback provided in comments included
 - Making clear what the areas for development or improvement are
 - Information on attitudes to learning in the classroom
 - Time frames in issuing reports – allowing more time for parents to contact the school should they have any concerns after receiving reports
 - Knowing more effort and social & emotional skills shown

We have used this feedback in conjunction with staff feedback to adjust our report. The adjusted style will include:

- Information separated into two different pamphlets – one providing detail on how to interpret grades allocated and a semester learning overview; and the second the student report which will include:
 - Outcome descriptors for each KLA
 - Clearly stated learning goals in separate boxes will replace separate KLA comments.
- The general comment will be longer comprising of information on: areas of strength, general progress, English and Math Achievement, as well as details on attitudes to learning.



Parent Tips, Tricks and Support Tools

What is Reading Fluency?

Fluency can be described as the ability to read with speed, accuracy and appropriate expression. Children who are developing their skills in fluency can sound choppy (a bit like a robot voice) or awkward.



Reading fluency is important for comprehension. In order to understand what they read, children need to be able to read fluently whether they be reading aloud or silently. Fluent reading is smooth and has expression.

Top tips for developing reading fluency at home...

- Read aloud to your child to provide an example of how fluent reading sounds.
- Give your child books with predictable vocabulary and clear rhythmic patterns so the child can "hear" the sound of fluent reading as he or she reads the book aloud.
- Use books on tapes; have your child follow along in the print copy.
- Read aloud and have your child match his voice to yours.
- Practise reading the same list of words, phrase, or short passages several times – but not too many as we don't want to make reading arduous. We want to be fun!
- Reminding your child to pause between sentences and phrases.



P & C Report

President's Report

Welcome back to Term 2. As many of you know, each year, the P&C requests to all families of GEPS for donations to enable the P&C to continue its support of the school needs.

The P&C has a year on year spending programme which means that the parents of children currently enrolled at the school benefit directly and immediately from the funds that our P&C raises. This means that our P&C chooses not to hold large financial reserves. Last year, a lot of work was done to conduct financial health checks so as to assess viability of all P&C operations, to ensure that almost all of the funds we receive from the donations would go straight to funding the needs of the school, staff and children.

This year, the requested annual contribution amount will remain what it has been for the past number of years. The optional environs donation amount has been reduced to \$50 from \$75 and add a \$50 optional levy for technology has been added to the list to help fund the electronic devices and resources that we know are needed by the school and the teaching staff.

We will be sending out donation request letter home shortly. Please keep a look out for them in your child's school bag and I thank everyone's support in advance.

Sarah Kim GEPS P&C President

Uniform shop

The uniform shop continues to be open each Tuesday morning by appointment from 8.30am to 9.45am. Appointments can be booked online at <https://www.picktime.com/GEPSUniformShop>. New uniforms can be ordered through Flexischools and will be distributed to your child's classroom on a Tuesday morning (no need to pick up from the uniform shop).

The uniform shop is again gratefully accepting donations of good quality second-hand uniforms that families may no longer need, and these can be dropped off at the uniform shop on a Tuesday morning. As our participation in the sponsored uniform recycling program has now ended, it is unfortunately no longer possible to accept uniform items that are torn, heavily marked or in an unsaleable condition.

As a reminder, I still have a few clearance rain jackets (Sizes 10-14) and old-style boys long-sleeved shirts (Size 14) available that are being sold at a reduced price of \$15 and \$16, respectively. These are available for purchase directly from the uniform shop on a Tuesday morning until sold out.

If you have any uniform shop related queries, please get in touch at uniformshop@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Kind Regards,

Shari Allinson
Uniform Shop Manager

Events Report

Mothers' Day Events

Thank you to everyone who attended our beautiful Mothers' Day Breakfast this morning. It was so wonderful to celebrate all our GEPS mums and watch the junior concert band give their first ever performance! Thanks to all the mum and dad volunteers who helped.

The kids had a fun time selecting their special mothers' day gifts at the Mother's Day Stall yesterday. We hope all our GEPS mums get spoilt on Mother's Day this Sunday.

Mother Day Breakfast 2022



Federal Election

With the Federal Election coming up on Sat 21st May, we will be holding our usual BBQ and cake stall, and this year we will also hold a raffle, and a 2nd handbook stall. We will be seeking your support with buying or baking some cakes for our stall in the coming weeks. We would also love your 2nd handbook donations please. Any kind of books in good condition will be accepted, and you can donate them to a tub on the front veranda. For the Election Day to run smoothly, we need plenty of volunteers. Please sign up here:

<https://volunteersignup.org/E7WQM>

Thank you!

Book Club Report:

Issue 3 of the Scholastics Book Club is now available, and all orders are due in by end of day Sunday 15 May. Orders can be placed online at <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>.

After having the privilege of looking after Book Club for a couple of years now, I am looking to see if there is another parent out there that would like to take over from me. No specific skills are required, and the process is very straight forward and easy to manage. Therefore if you have a couple of hours free twice a term to sort/distribute book orders (can either be done during or outside of schools hours) and have interest in this role or any further questions, please get in touch at bookclub@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Kind Regards

Shari Allinson
Uniform Shop Manager

Canteen

Welcome to term 2 and I hope everyone had a great school holiday! I am happy to see the children go back to school again.

Besides, I am pleased to see the canteen volunteers back again this term and on behalf of the Canteen Committee I'd like to thank everyone who has signed up for the Canteen Volunteer list for this term. At this stage, we are still needing volunteers to help fill some of our **Tuesday shifts**. Shifts are from 9am - 11am or 11am - 1pm. There are only a few spots left, so be quick so you don't miss out!

If you are not familiar with Volunteer Signup, please click on the link below (or copy it into your web browser) to go to the signup sheet. Follow the instructions on the page, it only takes a few seconds to do!

volunteersignup.org/RAT88

Many thanks again for any time you can spare. We anticipate that by having volunteers back in the canteen we will be able to return to a more varied menu and re-introduce many of the old favourites. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to reach out to me and/or the Canteen Committee.

Keep an eye on the menu on Flexischool and/or messages as more options will be added to the menu if we are able to!

For the new GEPS parents, the canteen order can be placed in advance through <https://www.flexischools.com.au>

The cut off for placing the canteen order is at 8am.

If you have any questions about the canteen, please feel free to contact me: canteen@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,
Lia ter Horst
GEPS Canteen Manager

**WANTED:
YOUR 2ND
HAND BOOKS!**

PLEASE BRING IN YOUR UNWANTED BOOKS TO FIND
THEM A NEW HOME AT THE ELECTION DAY
2ND HAND BOOK SALE.
DROP OFF TUB LOCATED LOCATED AT FRONT OFFICE
--- ALL GOOD QUALITY BOOKS WELCOME ---



COME ON DOWN
TO VOTE AT...

Gordon East Public School Election Day

SATURDAY MAY 21ST
8AM - 3PM

RAFFLE

2ND HAND
BOOK SALE

CAKE STALL

BBQ DELIGHTS



Advertising

KICKS AND BRICKS
Martial Arts and LEGO®
STEAM After School Program

FREE TRIAL
Wednesday 11th and 18th May
3.10pm to 4.45pm

- Taekwondo Master
- Expert LEGO® builder
- 25 Years teaching kids
- Creative and Active Kids vouchers accepted

Martial Arts

- Confidence
- Discipline
- Fitness and coordination
- Teamwork

LEGO® Workshop

- STEAM skills
- Problem solving
- Lowering anxiety and stress
- Social skills

Contact Master Mike at
kicksandbricks.info@gmail.com
0405 400 950

PAID PART TIME POSITION

Travel Support Officer
required to work mornings
and afternoons 5 days per
week.

Contact Georgina Moodie
(SEWS P&C President) for
more details on
0418 217 098