



# Gordon East Public School

Built on the land of the Guringai people

Safe, respectful learners

Term 2 – Issue 8

June 3 2022

## School Newsletter

### Diary Dates

- **Wednesday 08 June**
  - Stage 3 Police Youth liaison Presentation on Cyber safety.
- **Friday 10 June**
  - PSSA (Netball @ Canoon Rd, Soccer @ NTRA)
  - K-2 Guide Dog Presentation
- **Monday 13 June**
  - Public Holiday
- **Thursday 16 June**
  - Area Cross Country
- **Friday 17 June**
  - PSSA (Netball @ Canoon Rd, Soccer @ Barra Brui)
- **Sunday 19 June**
  - Environs Day

### From the Principal – Mrs. Ruth White

Dear Families,

What a chilly, but busy two weeks we have had. Last week we held our Multicultural Perspectives public speaking Thank you to Mrs Campbell for her organization and Ms Wilson from Killara High School for adjudicating. I would like to compliment all our Public Speaking finalists. The speeches and delivery were impressive.

The children in years 5 and 6 have enjoyed camp at The Great Aussie Bush Camp over the last 3 days. Much fun has been had by all. I would like to thank Mrs D White, Mrs Rawlings, Mrs Smith, Mr Pullen and Ms Matthews for all their time and hard work making this annual excursion occur.

This week, we continue our series of articles about student reports. Our staff are currently working many long hours, writing, and reviewing student reports providing families with feedback about student progress across Semester 1.

Just a reminder to remember and make sure that your child has packed a jumper and/or jacket each day to wear or bring to school. With the very cold weather here, it is important to ensure that the children are well dressed each day to assist in preventing illnesses during our winter months. Don't forget to make sure that these are items are labelled with your child's name.

### 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 Reports -Academic Grades

## Academic Grading (A to E)

Last week we introduced the Common Achievement Scale (that is, 'grades'). The five-point scale for reporting student achievement (A to E) relates to a body of 'expected learning'. In NSW, this refers to the stage-based syllabus that guides the delivery of the NSW Curriculum. The scale provides teachers with a means of rating students' understanding of the curriculum taught that semester.

We can use Geoff Masters (Australian Council of Educational Research) descriptive interpretations – 'initial' (emerging), 'partial' (developing), 'complete' (proficient), 'sophisticated' (extending) to assist us in better understanding what each A – E rating means on the department's common achievement scale.

The following scale is used for Years 1 to 6:

Extending	
<i>The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.</i>	
<b>A</b> <b>Outstanding</b>	They have an extensive understanding of the content and readily apply this knowledge. In addition, they achieve a high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these to new situations.
<b>B</b> <b>High</b>	They have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student can apply this knowledge and skills to most situations.
Proficient	
<i>The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning</i>	
<b>C</b> <b>Sound</b>	They have a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.

Developing	
<i>The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.</i>	
<b>D Basic</b>	They have a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a basic level of competence in the processes and skills.
Emerging	
<i>The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.</i>	
<b>E Limited</b>	They have an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.

It is important to note that each semester, programs taught may focus on different aspects within a subject. Assessment, observation and reporting for that semester will reflect the content of the programs. *As such, it is **not** necessarily the case that a student who receives a lower grade in the first semester will receive the same or a higher grade the following semester.*

### How are grades awarded?

Every child at Gordon East Public School is known, valued and cared for. As such, their individual progress is an important part of assessment and reporting discussions. Teachers meet regularly to share student work samples and assessments with each other and discuss how a cohort is travelling overall.

Teachers use a combination of assessments, evidence in student work samples and in-class observations to allocate grades. Each grade (A to E) sits within a band of marks. This being the case, a single grade encompasses a range of students' marks: some students may sit at the higher end of the band, some at lower and others in the middle.

If you have questions about where your child sits within the grade range once it is awarded, you are able to make an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss this further.

### What does it mean if my child receives the same grade at the end of Semester 1 and Semester 2?

If a student receives the same grade for two consecutive reports they have made progress. For example, if a student receives a Grade C in the middle of the year and again at the end of the year they will be making progress. Between the two reporting periods the student will have learned new knowledge and skills of a more advanced nature. In order to receive a Grade C on the second occasion the student has *a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills* in relation to this new and more challenging material.



Next week, we will unpack the Effort Achievement Scale in our Week 8 Newsletter.

Take care

*Ruth White*

Principal

## Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp 2022





## Library News



Library News Term 2 Week 6

So far this year, 75 Gordon East Students have completed the PRC.

Congratulations to our latest finishers:

Year 4: Shiv M

Year 5: Ella S

Year 6: Aayu C

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.

It's always a great time to read!

Bronwen Campbell, Teacher Librarian

## Other School News

### The Premier's Spelling Bee!



Have you heard? The Premier's Spelling Bee is back for 2022!

Students in Years 3 – 6, this is your opportunity to have some fun while strengthening your spelling strategies.

Class finals will be held at the end of Term 2 (weeks 9 and 10) and then two finalists from each class will participate in our School Final early in Term 3. So it's time to get s-p-e-l-l-i-n-g and start p-r-a-c-t-i-s-i-n-g!

The Premier's Spelling Bee word lists are available on the Arts Unit website at <https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/premiers-spelling-bee>. The password will be emailed to you so look out for it in your inbox soon!

Ms Wiberg and Ms Preshaw  
GEPS Spelling Bee Co-ordinators

## Merits

	Week 5 Tuesday 24 May 2022		Week 6 Tuesday 31 May 2022
<b>KC</b>	Wyatt G, Marcus L	<b>KC</b>	Charlotte A, Eleanor J
<b>KR</b>	Adele B, Liam S	<b>KR</b>	Timothy L, Rocco L
<b>1L</b>	Max P, Milla C	<b>1L</b>	Emily D, Albi A
<b>1W</b>	Cornelia T, Elise T H	<b>1W</b>	Monty A, Liam S
<b>2A</b>	Marcus L, Angela F	<b>2A</b>	Hannah L, Natsumi S
<b>2P</b>	Meredith H, Zoe K	<b>2P</b>	Alice M, Maya S
<b>4/3C</b>	Ryan H, Ruby L, Shiv M	<b>4/3C</b>	
<b>4/3M</b>	Katie L, Mina W, Nick E	<b>4/3M</b>	Evan S, Daniel J, Toby T
<b>4/3R</b>	Grace T, Jacob S, Lena F	<b>4/3R</b>	Caroline T, Neil B, Isla H
<b>6/5M</b>	Nathan S, Kevin Y, William V	<b>6/5M</b>	Marisa L, Randolph T, Jacob M
<b>6/5P</b>	Oscar W, Jake R, Chloe V	<b>6/5P</b>	
<b>6/5S</b>	Yoonku H, Isaac M, Tomas G	<b>6/5S</b>	James A, Clare H, Tri N
<b>Mini Merits</b>	Reid M	<b>Mini Merits</b>	Annabel W, Malachi W, Iris L, Rachel H, Shiv M, Alexandra Y
<b>Banners</b>	Chloe L		





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

Congratulations Aussie of the Month  
May 2022

**Eloise T**

Eloise is a thoughtful student with a naturally caring nature. She perseveres and displays resilience by not giving up when faced with challenges.

Eloise's responses demonstrate a genuine concern for current issues, including world peace and the environment. She readily considers others' feelings and their wellbeing by offering words of encouragement and giving support.

Eloise is well-mannered and an excellent role model for her peers.

Congratulations Eloise, you are a most deserving recipient of this Aussie of the Month award.

**AUSSIE OF THE MONTH**

Congratulations Aussie of the Month  
May 2022

**Irene M**

Irene is a courteous, respectful and inclusive student who comes to school each day with a positive attitude. She consistently upholds the values of Gordon East Public School, exhibiting fairness, honesty and empathy. Irene is a wonderful role model for her peers. She always strives to produce quality work and perseveres with challenging tasks. Irene enjoys participating in a range of extracurricular activities including senior dance, PSSA netball and the tech team. She is a pleasure to teach and a well-deserved recipient of the Aussie of the Month award.

Congratulations Irene!



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## PSSA Reports

### Netball (Junior B) – 20 May 2022

We played Lindfield East today. The score was 1-0.

Our team played well. Our best players were Jessie, Maddie B, Emily and Kate.

Reporter: Tian

### Netball (Senior) – 20 May 2022

Today we versed Pymble Public School. The final score was 7-0. The whole team played well and we really enjoyed the game.

Reporter: Scarlett M

## What's Happening at GEPS!

### Multicultural Perspectives Speaking Competition

Every year Gordon East participates in the NSW Department of Education Multicultural Perspectives Speaking Competition, which encourages students to explore ideas of multiculturalism in Australia. It also gives students the chance to practise their public speaking skills and build their confidence.

Two finalists from each class in Stage 2 and Stage 3 were chosen and on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May they presented their speeches before a special assembly and our adjudicator Ms Rachael Wilson from Killara High School. Ms Wilson rated all contestants very highly but chose Tilly P (Stage 2) and Clayton W (Stage 3) as runners up, with Lena F (Stage 2) and Marissa L (Stage 3) as the winners.

They will represent Gordon East at a local final later this term.

Congratulations to all our finalists for their persuasive and thought-provoking speeches.

Bronwen Campbell, MPSC Co-ordinator





## SRC Fundraiser June 15

On Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of June (in Week 8) the SRC will be hosting a fundraiser for **#TeamSeas**. The global foundation **#Teamseas**, is trying to clear plastic and trash from our ocean, rivers and beaches. Every dollar donated to or raised by **#TeamSeas** goes towards the removal of rubbish from beaches, rivers or the ocean.

On Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of June GEPS students can come to school dressed up in blue clothing or as an animal from the sea. They should bring in a gold coin donation, which will be donated to **#TeamSeas** on behalf of GEPS.



## Kindergarten Lego Engineers hard at work in STEM Robotics this week.



**Parent Tips, Tricks and Support Tools**

## What is Reading Comprehension?

Comprehension is an active process that involves the reader understanding and interpreting what is read. Comprehension is important in every subject and even good readers can experience challenges with comprehension at one time or another.

Different strategies work with different types of text, however, successful readers continually monitor if something 'makes sense' to them as they read and re-read sections. Coralie Janssens, a learning difficulties advisor for NSW public schools says this is an example of 'self-checking', something good readers do continually. "Some children who have difficulty with comprehension ignore that what they have just read didn't seem to make sense, and just plough on," she says. "They often think that being a good reader means not having to go back and reread things, but the opposite is true. Good readers continually ask themselves 'did it make sense?'. If it didn't they go back and reread it, and slow their reading speed accordingly," Coralie explains.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/learning/english/english-tips/build-comprehension-skills/comprehension-help>

### Three things you can do right now to help.

Whatever the stage of reading your child is at, the following three strategies are easily adapted to suit the range of ages of students throughout their schooling.

#### 1. Ask your child to explain the text to you.

When children put what they have read into their own words, it helps in two ways:

- Firstly, as a parent, you know they have understood what they have read.
- Secondly, putting it into their own words actively helps them to comprehend and remember the information.

#### 2. Ask them questions

If they can't explain the text to you, break it down by asking them questions like:

- What do you think this paragraph/story/page is about?
- What do we already know about the subject or characters? (Where is it set, who is in the story, what are they like?)
- What else might help us understand the information – are there pictures or diagrams that provide clues?
- Are there any words here that you didn't understand? (Then help them to look the word up in a dictionary or through an online search.)
- What do you think the main points were? (Perhaps underline them if the book is yours, or make notes. Some kids might even prefer to draw quick sketches if they are very visual.)

#### 3. Wait – take a breath, and let them answer in their own time



When we ask the above types of questions, the temptation is to rush in and answer, or to point a finger at the answer on the page. Don't.

Learning is a process. Your child needs to make the connection from A to B to C in their own brain in order to be able to repeat the process later. If you point to "C", they haven't created this pathway in their own brain, and so they haven't fully comprehended the text.

If your child seems to be taking a long time to answer, wait. Silence can be frustrating for a busy parent, but it's actually a sign your child is trying to make the connection from A to B to C in their brain. Give them the time to successfully find their own way there.

If they still don't have an answer – and any answer is a sign they are doing the work and trying to make the connection – ask a slightly different version of the question.

### **What are some other things you can do to assist reading comprehension?**

#### **What children can do to help themselves:**

- Use outlines, maps, and notes when you read.
- Make flash cards of key terms you might want to remember.
- Read stories or passages in short sections and make sure you know what happened before you continue reading.
- Ask yourself, "Does this make sense?" If it doesn't, reread the part that didn't make sense.
- Read with a buddy. Stop every page or so and take turns summarizing what you've read.
- Ask a parent or teacher to preview a book with you before you read it on your own.
- As you read, try to form mental pictures or images that match the story.

#### **What parents can do to help at home**

- Hold a conversation and discuss what your child has read. Ask your child probing questions about the book and connect the events to his or her own life. For example, say "I wonder why that girl did that?" or "How do you think he felt? Why?" and "So, what lesson can we learn here?".
- Help your child make connections between what he or she reads and similar experiences they have felt, seen in a movie, or read in another book.

- Help your child monitor his or her understanding. Teach them to continually ask themselves whether or not they understand what they are reading.
- Help your child go back to the text to support his or her answers.
- Discuss what your child has learned from reading informational text such as a science or social studies book.



## **P&C Report**

### **President's Report**

I would like to thank all our GEPS families for all the donations, time and effort for the federal elections two Saturdays ago. It was a huge effort on the Events team to organise and co-ordinate the day and all the families who took the time and effort to help out in different ways – we are really grateful. As Sally mentioned below, it was a great fundraising outcome and will assist greatly in the P&C's efforts to support the school.

### ***Annual donation request update***

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. Last couple of years were tough years for everyone and it was no exception for the P&C.

I would like to thank all the families who have contributed to the annual donation request the P&C had sent out at the beginning of this term. Every contribution makes a significant difference. The school and P&C have begun ordering the 'priority A' items from the 2022 Wishlist and the P&C is pleased to be able to support the school in the purchase of these needed resources.

Just a reminder for those who have not yet contributed, you are able to do so via Flexischool – scroll to the "payments" icon which will take you to the option for P&C donations. Alternatively, EFT payments are also welcome, the details are as per our donation request letter sent home with your children a few weeks back and also available via SchoolStream.

We thank you all for your generous support. Hope you all stay warm and well in this weather!

Kind regards

Sarah Kim  
GEPS P&C President  
[president@gordoneastpandc.org.au](mailto:president@gordoneastpandc.org.au)

### **Events Committee Report:**

The Events team is very excited to announce the total amount that was fundraised over the election weekend was \$8335!



Thank you to everyone who baked, volunteered their time, donated books, donated raffle prizes, purchased raffle tickets, or donated money!

Special thanks to the Events team: Lucy Long, Danielle Stone, Cat Douglas, Sarah Holmes, Karina McBride and Amanda Watts.

Sally Pearman

Events team

#### **Environs Committee Update:**

##### **Environs Day – Sun 19<sup>th</sup> June, 10am – 2pm**

If you are able to spare some time on Sun 19<sup>th</sup> June, please furnish yourself with some gardening tools from home and come along to the school to help with a tidy up of the school grounds. This is a great opportunity to get together as a community and to become reacquainted with the amazing natural resources we have at GEPS!

See further information in the attached flyer.

#### **Recycling**

We are in the process of putting posters on the recycling bins so it is clear what should go in what bin. The posters will include pictures of canteen items, so students know how to deal with the packaging.

- The yellow recycling bin is currently located between the hall and the COLA next to the fence – this is for mixed recycling
- The blue bins are located between the silver seats and the library – these are for paper recycling
- The red bins are located around the silver seats – these are for rubbish that can't be recycled

Note: there is a completely blue bin located along the path to the back gate which is being used as a standard rubbish bin - a poster will be going on that too!

Please see the canteen item recycling guide below for reference.

<b>Bin</b>	<b>Canteen Item</b>
Blue lid - paper recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frozen yoghurt – cup</li><li>• Juice cartons</li><li>• Milk cartons</li></ul>
Yellow lid – mixed recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frozen juice cups – cup and lid</li><li>• Sushi containers</li><li>• Frozen yoghurt – lid</li><li>• Flavoured milk plastic bottles and lids (remove lid)</li><li>• Hot food containers (need to be clean)</li></ul>
Red lid - standard rubbish bin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frozen fruit cups (BioCup) *</li><li>• Rice cups (BioCup) *</li></ul>

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pizza / sausage roll bags (these are foil lined so cannot be recycled)</li></ul> |
|--|--|

\*BioCups are made, in part or full, from bio plastic – this is commercially compostable however as there is currently no collection for commercially compostable materials they need to go in the standard rubbish bin. Alternatively, you could experiment with some home composting!

The Environs Committee

[environs@gordoneastpandc.org.au](mailto:environs@gordoneastpandc.org.au)

### Uniform Shop Report:

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 rainjackets (Sizes 12-14) 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](mailto:uniformshop@gordoneastpandc.org.au)

Kind Regards,

Shari Allinson  
Uniform Shop Manager

### Book Club Report:

Issue 4 of the Scholastics Book Club is now available and all orders are due in by end of day **Monday 13Jun22**. Orders can be placed online at <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>.

If you are interested in the role of Book Club manager for GEPS and would like to see what is involved by helping out with the next lot of orders when they arrive, please get in touch at [bookclub@gordoneastpandc.org.au](mailto:bookclub@gordoneastpandc.org.au)

Kind Regards,

Shari Allinson

### Canteen Report



I'm sure you'd like to know that recess / morning tea is back! We've had to wait for a long time, but we are back to normal now. Yaay!!!

We still have limited quantities and options due to the limitation on the number of volunteers, but I am sure that the children and teachers are happy to have their favourite morning tea snacks back. This all thanks to all the moms and dads who come to help me at the canteen. Without them it wouldn't be possible to offer morning tea.

Another thing I'd like to share... I'm pleased to inform that the Environs Committee has been busy making sure that all canteen items and packaging will be recycled if possible. Please see the Environs Report for more info.

If you have any questions about the canteen, please feel free to contact me:

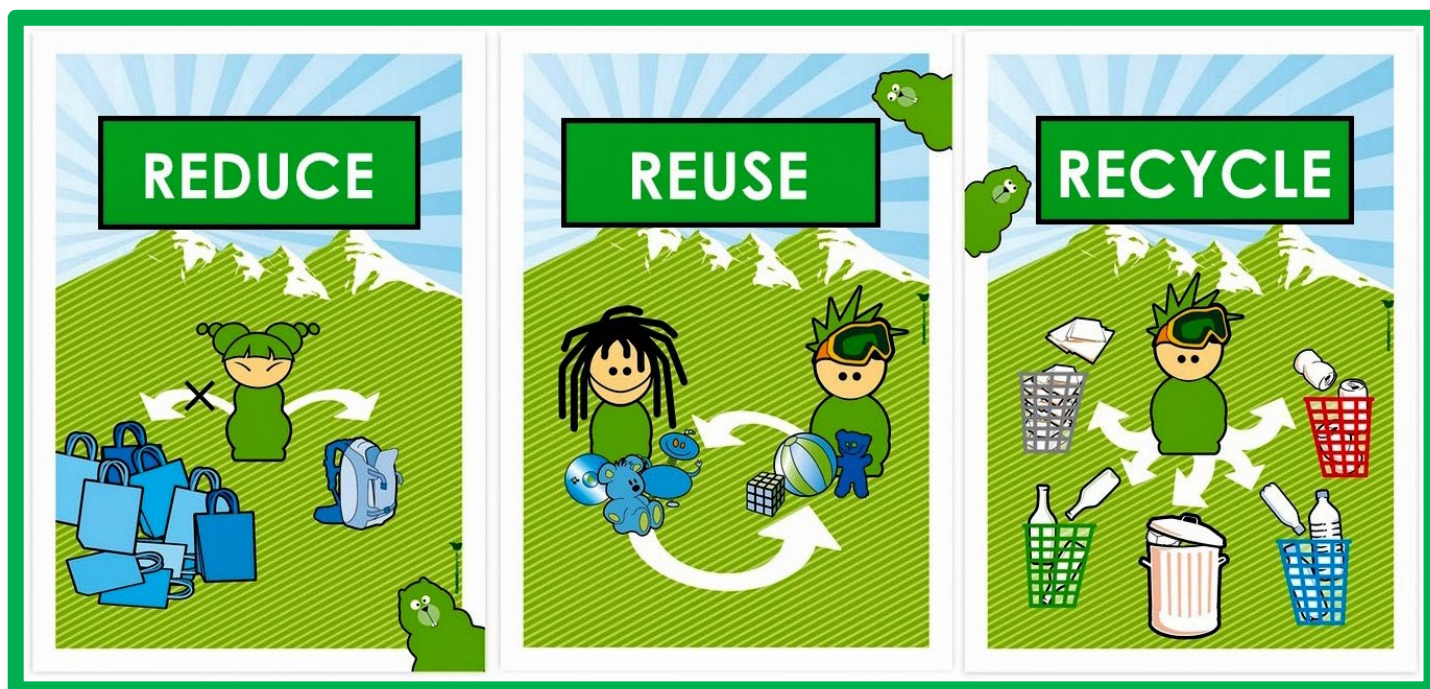
[canteen@gordoneastpandc.org.au](mailto:canteen@gordoneastpandc.org.au)

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,

Lia ter Horst

GEPS Canteen Manager



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\*We will comply with COVID restrictions

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Venue:  
Killara Lawn Tennis Club



P: 9498 1902  
[www.inspiretennis.com.au](http://www.inspiretennis.com.au)  
Register Online Today!

## Junior & Adult Programs

Based on school calendar!

- ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Coaching (3-15yrs)
- High Performance & Competition (9-18yrs)
- Ladies & Adult Clinics (Beginner to Advanced)
- Private Lessons and more...



## Holiday Programs

Every week of school holidays throughout the year!

- Camps held rain, hail or shine during all school holiday periods.
- Casual bookings, Sibling and full week discounts available!
- Before & After Care (7:30am - 6pm) at small cost & Free Racquet Hire.