



Gordon East Public School

Built on the land of the Guringai people

Safe, respectful learners

Term 1 – Issue 1

February 3 2023

School Newsletter

Diary Dates

Monday 6 February

- Best Start
- Creative & Performing Arts:
Junior Concert Band - Rehearsals

Tuesday 7 February

- Best Start
- Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 8 February

- Best Start
- Kur-ing-gai Zone Tennis Trials
- PSSA Trial #2 @ 8am

Thursday 9 February

- Best Start
- Creative & Performing Arts:
Senior Concert Band - Rehearsals

Friday 10 February

- Best Start
- PSSA Trials # 3 @9:15am

Friday 17 February

- PSSA - Round 1

Wednesday 22 February

- Swimming Carnival

Friday 24 February

- PSSA - Round 2

From the Principal – Mrs Ruth White

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2023 school year! I hope all our families enjoyed a wonderful break over the Christmas holidays and are ready to start a new year at GEPS! A warm welcome to our new families including Kindergarten who started on Tuesday. Thank you to Sally, our P&C Events coordinator, and her team for organising “Cheers & Tears” at Darnley Oval. It was fantastic to hold this event and welcome our Kindergarten families to our school.

Thank you for your patience as we hold classes on the return to school.

I would like to welcome our new staff to the school: Miss Emilie Usien, Miss Erin Christie, Miss Sarah Baxter and Mrs Belinda Reid, all of who form part of our Executive Team. I would also like to welcome Mrs Andrea Date-Chong who will be working 1 day a week RFF.



Canteen

Thank you for your patience as we complete the tender process for the operation of our school canteen. I hope to be able to provide you with an outcome by the end of next week. Our canteen will remain closed at this stage until the tender process has been finalised. I would like to assure you that I am working hard with the Department of Education to get this finalised as soon as possible.

Attendance and absences

Parents of children from Kindergarten to Year 12 must ensure their children attend school every day. On the occasion, your child may need to be absent from school, justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

Parents must provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Where an explanation has not been received within the 7-day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's record.

No Nut or Nut products

Due to the number of children with allergies and life-threatening Anaphylaxis at Gordon East Public School, we ask that children **DO NOT bring food containing nuts** to school. This includes such things as peanut butter, biscuits or muesli containing nuts or snack packs. We appreciate your support with this.



Dogs not permitted on school site

Just a reminder that no dogs are permitted on school grounds and for safety reasons are not to be left tied up unattended outside the school gates. We ask that due to the crowded footpath during drop off and pick up times that families avoid bringing their dogs outside the premises during those times. Your assistance with this is appreciated.

Digital Device Code of Conduct & Third-Party Provider Permission Notes

Students at Gordon East PS are provided with a range of opportunities to use digital devices to support their learning at school. In conjunction with our school Digital Device Procedures, safe use is supported by ongoing cybersafety & digital citizenship lessons and a school Digital Device Code of Conduct. The Digital Device Code of Conduct outlines expectations of safe use and consequences for misuse. Please discuss the school's Digital Device Code of Conduct that was sent home today via school bags and return it signed (on the side that applies to your child's grade), along with the Third-Party Provider permission note as soon as possible.

Take care

Ruth White

Principal



Welcome back to school!





Premier's Back to School NSW program to get your kids ready for back to school

Dear Families,

As we prepare for another year of learning in 2023, you can now apply for the Premier's Back to School NSW program, offering \$150 worth of vouchers (3 x \$50 vouchers) to help pay for school supplies like school uniforms, shoes, bags, textbooks and stationery.

Every primary and secondary school student in NSW is eligible for the vouchers.

Please [read this](#) the attached letter from the Premier about the program and the vouchers.

You can apply for and access your vouchers in your MyServiceNSW account, in the Service NSW app, by calling Service NSW on [137788](tel:137788) or by [visiting your local Service Centre](#).

To be eligible, your child needs to be a NSW resident and enrolled in a NSW primary or secondary school in 2023.

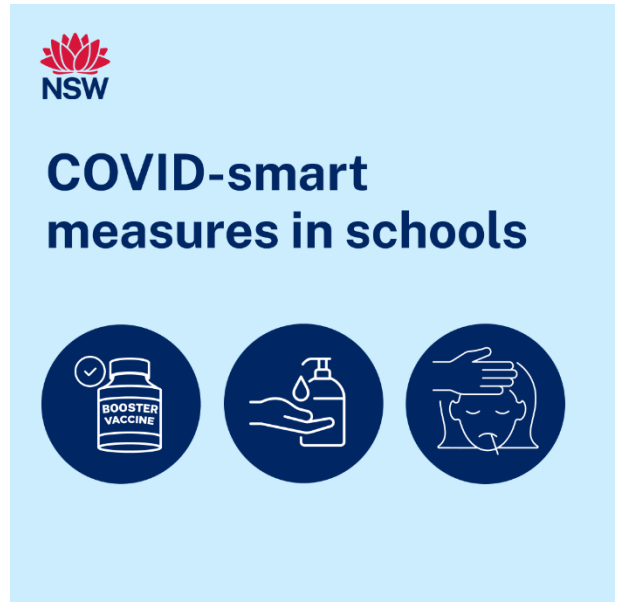
For more information and to access all vouchers, visit the [Service NSW website](#).

2023 COVID School Settings

Dear Families,

We are continuing our COVID-smart measures into 2023.

While the community continues to transition towards living with COVID-19, NSW Health advised that the unpredictable nature of the virus will continue to present a health risk to the community, with new waves of transmission expected this year.



Our school will continue to operate with baseline COVID-smart measures in place this term to minimise transmission. These include a combination of layered safety measures, such as:

- Staying home if unwell and test for COVID-19 if showing any symptoms
- Boosted day cleaning of high-touch areas in our schools
- Strongly encouraging masks to be worn by all students, staff and visitors, particularly when indoors or outdoors when physical distancing is difficult to maintain
- Requiring masks for staff and volunteers who interact with students at greater risk of serious illness if they were to contract COVID-19 – including in SSPs, support units and some mainstream settings
- Strongly encouraging up-to-date vaccinations for our staff and students, including COVID-19 booster shots for anyone eligible
- Maintaining natural ventilation with windows and doors open whenever possible, including when cooling/heating systems are in use
- Continuing to provide RATs and other hygiene products to schools free of charge.



Vaccination reminder from NSW Health



In certain circumstances, NSW Health and the Department of Education may recommend that additional COVID-smart measures be temporarily reintroduced at our school. We will provide further details of any changes to COVID-smart measures at our school, if and when required.

Please continue to notify our school if your child tests positive to COVID-19 as we will

continue to regularly notify the school community of any known positive cases, to prioritise student and staff safety and wellbeing. Although no longer mandatory, [NSW Health recommends you register your result with Service NSW](#); this helps you to access medical support from NSW Health, including antiviral medicines, if you're eligible.

For further information about the COVID-smart measures in place this term, refer to [Advice for families](#).



**Does your child have ongoing
symptoms? Talk to your local
medical practitioner**



P&C Presidents Report

President's Report

A very warm welcome to all the new families joining Gordon East! Also a very big welcome back to all our existing families of the school!

I would like to thank Sally Pearman and all the wonderful volunteers who have helped make the Cheers and Tears event at Darnley Oval happen on Tuesday morning for the Kindy parents.

The P&C meets once each term. In addition, we have a Wishlist meeting in March and an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in December. Unfortunately, we were unable to hold the AGM at the end of last year and has been postponed to this term. We are yet to fix the date for the AGM but look to update you very soon in this regard. The AGM and the first regular meeting for 2023 will be scheduled for the same day and that will be when all the volunteer positions within P&C will switch from the year 2022 members to the 2023 committee. We appreciate your support and patience as we work through the requirements to make this transition happen as soon as possible.

We welcome anyone interested in getting involved in the P&C. Should you have any questions or would like to be involved, please get in touch with me on my details below.

P&C Database:

The P&C Association maintains a database of contact details for each class to facilitate communication between the volunteer class parent/s, the class teacher, and the class families. It is also used to communicate information from the P&C Association to the GEPS community, regarding school social events, P&C meetings, uniform shop, canteen information, fundraising etc.

We need to have up to date contact information from each family in order to communicate effectively, so if you are a new family to GEPS or your contact information has recently changed, please follow the link and complete the form for your child/children at GEPS.

<https://forms.office.com/r/hUVYiAbdhs>



This information is not used or distributed for any other purposes. In the coming weeks you will receive an email from your child's class parent, if you do not receive this email please update your details using the same link provided, or contact the P&C: geps@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Looking forward to another great year ahead for all the families here at GEPS! As always, the P&C will continue to work closely with our wonderful school and am grateful to our Principal, Mrs White, and all the staff for enabling the collaborative and supportive relationship the P&C enjoys with our school.

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Kind regards,

Sarah Kim, 2022 P&C President

President@gordoneastpandc.org.au

Events

The P&C were delighted to host the annual Cheers and Tears for all the new Kindy families at Darnley Oval on Tuesday morning. It was a delightful morning with lots of new smiling faces and some returning families as well. We enjoyed welcoming all the new families to our school community.

Uniform shop

A warm welcome to all new GEPS students and families that started this week and welcome back to all 2022 students/families. It has been a busy week at the uniform shop and was great to see so many families taking advantage of the NSW government Back to School Vouchers. As a reminder, these are accepted towards payment of uniform items at the GEPS uniform shop and can be applied for through Service NSW. At this stage, the vouchers can only be redeemed in-person and not for online purchases through Flexischools.

As per last year, the uniform shop will be open each Tuesday morning during school term from 8.30am - 9.45am. You can also purchase new uniform items online, through Flexischools, and these will be delivered to the student's classrooms on a Tuesday (cut off for orders is 4.45pm each Monday). Once the new classes have been finalised, these will be updated in Flexischools and you will need to select the relevant 2023 class for your child. In the meantime, please continue to select your child's 2022 class for online purchases and I will ensure they are passed on to your child next Tuesday (for new families please just select any 2022 class within your child's year until Flexischools is updated with the correct classes/teachers for 2023).

A selection of second-hand items is also available for purchase directly from the uniform shop. If you have any pre-worn items in good, clean condition that you no longer need and would like to donate to the uniform shop, these can be dropped off directly at the shop on a Tuesday morning or left with the front office at other times. Thank you in advance for your generous donations as any profits made through the uniform shop are invested back into the school to help purchase items from the yearly wishlist.

If you have any uniform-related questions or concerns please get in touch at uniformshop@gordoneastpandc.org.au or stop by on a Tuesday morning to discuss.

Kind Regards,

Shari Allinson

GEPS Uniform Shop Manager

Community News



Kindies & Year 1 play for free!
In conjunction with an Active Kids Voucher

COME AND JOIN

GORDON FOOTBALL CLUB

Season runs from April to end of August. Register before March
All girls and boys welcome!

Unsure about football? Your child can come and have a try on
Sunday 12 February 2-5pm at Regimental Park

Visit www.gordonfc.com.au to register and for more
Email info@gordonfc.com.au with questions




COME AND TRY!

ST IVES JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

**SUN 26 FEB
SUN 5 MAR
FROM 5:30PM TO 7:00PM**

HASSELL PARK
352 MONA VALE RD, ST IVES

- BAR FOR PARENTS
- FREE BBQ
- PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS
- SOCIAL TOUCH RUGBY
- SPECIAL GUESTS



Mini Tag
Powered by Gordon Village Minis

Mini Tag is no-tackle footy for girls and boys aged 4 to 6 years old!

- No experience needed!
- Make friends
- Learn ball skills and get active!

www.stivesrugby.com.au



Mini Rugby
Powered by Gordon Village Minis

Mini Rugby is modified footy for girls and boys aged 7 to 9 years old!

- No experience needed
- Safe and fun!
- Learn the skills as you go...

minis@stivesrugby.com.au



JUNIOR RUGBY

Junior Rugby is for girls and boys aged 9 years old and above

- No experience needed!
- Make friends
- Have fun and get active!

juniors@stivesrugby.com.au

PLUS

SPEED & AGILITY CLINIC



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