9 December 2013

PRINCIPALS REPORT:

On behalf of the staff I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of the Gorokan High Learning Community a safe and happy holiday. Another successful year has passed, the next generation of Gorokan High students have had their first high school experience and we eagerly await our 2013 HSC results, which will be released on December 18.

As with the close of any school year, a number of staff will be taking leave prior to retirement, transferring to other schools or moving out of the region for other employment opportunities. We would like to sincerely thank the following staff for their service and dedication to the students of Gorokan High, which for some has been over many decades: Mr. G. Fitzgerald, Mrs. N Hannah, Mr. R. Galt, Mrs. K. Black, Mr. S. Robertson, Mrs. C. Wotton. Also, two new Faculty Head Teachers will be joining our staff: Mathematics – Mrs. L. Andrikidis and Special Education – Mr. J. Glassen

On Wednesday 11th December we will celebrate our students’ achievements at the Annual Presentation Night Awards ceremony in the gymnasium from 7.00 p.m. Some other successes in the year to also acknowledge are the Open Boys Rugby League team making the semi-finals (top 4 in the state) of the CHS University Shield Knock-out, Debating and the Science & Engineering Challenge Teams, to name a few. Also, Gorokan High had a number of individual students who excelled in areas such as Golf and Surfing and represented themselves with honour at the International Fleet Review. Congratulations and well done to every student who challenged themselves and succeeded in achieving outstanding results.

Over the school holidays there will be a lot of building works. Concrete will be replaced over some areas, refurbishment of some classrooms and a new staff room added for the expanded Special Education Faculty, cleaning of corridors and the last of the Interactive Data Projectors should be installed, if all other building work happens as planned. Combine this with the garden refurbishment students will undertake on Monday 16th December, for Environment Day, and Gorokan High School should be looking pretty good for 2014.

Not only will we see changes in our school’s physical environment but there will also be changes to the curriculum for Years 7 and 9 in English, Maths, Science and History, due to the implementation of the Australian National Curriculum. Please take advantage of the Year 7 – Meet the Teachers BBQ on 19th February 2014 and the Years 8 to 12 – Meet the Teachers BBQ on March 5 2014 to come along and discuss the new curriculum and meet your child’s teachers.

Over the holidays, families may move house or buy new phones, and our records for students will need to be updated. So, if you move or get a change of phone number over the holidays, please let us know. It is also vitally important that you notify the school of any change in your child’s medical status. Please email or send a note to the school so we can update our records as soon as any change occurs.

Once again, on behalf of all the staff at Gorokan High School, we wish you all the best for festive season and a Happy New Year and look forward to Years 7, 11 & 12 returning on Wednesday 29th January 2014 and Years 8, 9 & 10 on Thursday 30th January 2014.

YEAR 8:

SCHOOL BOY GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to Beau Willett for receiving 2nd place in the School Boy Golf Championships.

2014 Trip

After some initial rumours about the Year 9 Trip being held at Camp Toukey, I can confirm that at this time Year 9 2014 will be given the opportunity to go to the Gold Coast, Queensland. More information will be given directly to students half way through Term 1 2014, however it looks like it will remain the same as previous years which is 5 days/4 nights visiting Dream World, White Water World, Wet’nWild and Movie World. Students will be given the opportunity to raise funds for their individual trips throughout next year. Only students who participate in fund raising activities will be assigned a share of any money raised. Any student not meeting school requirements in terms of behaviour will not be attending the excursion. Also, please be aware that students may not be eligible to attend if school contributions are not paid. This is a fantastic trip and I am very much looking forward to taking my year group.

Half-Day Passes

Please make sure that half-day passes contain the students full name and a contact number so that I can verify the note if need be. Students will not be issued with a half-day pass because they are not happy with their Thursday Sport Choice. Sport is a mandatory requirement for students and must be completed to satisfy Board of Studies requirements.

Classes for 2014

Year 9 classes are different from those in Years 7 and 8 in that they are typically streamed in each subject. Meaning that students will most likely not be in the same class for every subject. This also occurs due to the different electives being
offered. Due to the nature of elective subjects, students may not change elective classes, especially in the case of 200 hour subjects.

I am looking forward to next year and seeing more successful young people from Year 8 reach their potential. Have a great Christmas and see you in 2014!

HSIE News:

Tears of the Jungle

On Tuesday, the 17th December, Daniel and William, the boys running the ‘Tears in the Jungle’ campaign to save the Orangutan will be giving a presentation during Periods 3 and 4.

ALL students are welcome to come and support this very worthy cause. A gold coin donation would be appreciated. All donations will help the Orangutans.

They also have a book called “Tears in the Jungle – A Children’s adventure to save the Orangutan”. It is full of amazing photos & costs $16.95 for soft cover and $29.95 for hard cover. Books can be pre-ordered by collecting an order form from Ms Holland in the HSIE staffroom. These orders must be received by the 10th December. Other merchandise such as wristbands, lanyards, posters and toy Orangutans will be for sale on the day.

More information about their amazing story can be found at: http://tearsinthejungle.com/

Aboriginal Studies

The Year 12 Aboriginal Studies class are going on an excursion to local Aboriginal Sites with local Aboriginal elder Gavi Duncan. This is being organised by Ms Holland for the students of Stage 6 Aboriginal Studies and will be an important opportunity for students to develop awareness of their local area.

Science News:

Senior students have now commenced their Year 12 studies and all science subjects have been issued with their first assessment tasks. Please ensure that your child is completing these tasks and working with sustained, effort and diligence. It is important that students establish a regular study routine early rather than later. Remember that their Science Teachers are always available to help and assist students that require it. You just have to ask.

All junior students have completed their Yearly Exams, but they have not yet finished their courses. Many units of work are still not completed so students should be attending classes with their correct equipment up until the end of term. Some classes may be having topic tests to assess student learning of the material being covered in class.

Gorokan High School, Environment Day will be held on December 16th this year. Students at school will be spending the day, improving their school grounds so that it is a nicer environment. This initiative also helps our local waterways by removing rubbish and weeds from the area; it prevents seeds from the weeds and pollution from entering our creeks and ultimately the ocean.

Upcoming Events for 2014.

The Science and Engineering Challenge will be held in Week 10 of Term 1, next year. This is open to Year 8 & 9 students and is a fantastic day for students to demonstrate and apply their logical thinking skills.

Senior Science students will be undertaking their compulsory field work, assessment during 2014 and in Term 4, there is the Enviro Challenge. An extracurricular day available to students interested in pursuing environmental science careers.

Year 12, Biology and Senior Science students will have an opportunity to attend the Museum of Human Disease, at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. This is a fantastic and fascinating day out.

The Science Department would like to extend to the Gorokan High School Community their warmest wishes for a Joyful and Happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing students return in 2014.

Career News:

Honeywell Engineering Summer School

Engineers Australia have organised a Summer School for Year 11 students who have a goal to do Engineering at University and are studying Mathematics and Physics while at school. This is being held from 1st to 6th December. Our School Captain, Sandy Mason, applied to attend this Summer School and was accepted as a Participant.

Year 10 Work Experience

This week we have 155 students out in the Local Community doing Work Experience. Work Experience is a valuable Career learning tool, as it teaches skill about being organised to get to work on time, learning how to communicate in the workplace and work as a Team Member. They experience longer hours than when they attend school and find out more about what is involved in the career they are considering entering when they leave school.

I have made visits to a few of the students already and they are enjoying the variety of opportunities that are being offered to them. Students also get the chance to ask these employers industry and training related questions.

After two days on the job, one of our students has been offered casual employment. This is a very positive outcome from participating in the Work Experience Program.

Year 9 Mock Interviews

Year 9 students are in the process of submitting a portfolio ready to attend their Mock interviews which are being held next week on Thursday and Friday.

We appreciate the time that our local employers are able to set aside for one of the Human Resource staff members to conduct these interviews.

Thanks must also go to our Plan-it-Youth Mentors who once again have agreed to assist with the interviewing.
**UNSW Research**

Students from the Year 7, 8 and 9 Selective classes have been asked to participate in this research and letters have been sent home at varying times regarding the next step of this research. Could those students who have not yet returned their forms for permission to participate, please do so as soon as possible.

**NSW Health Nursing Course at Gosford Hospital**

At the end of each year, students in Year 10 who have a genuine interest in a Career in Nursing can submit an application to enrol in this course for Year 11 and 12. In September this year Allana Evans, from Year 12, successfully completed this course and her graduation was attended by Dr Rudmann, her Biology teacher. We have another student, Alana Funnell who is due to Graduate next year and have once again had success in securing places for more of our students in the course for next year. Please contact the Careers Department if you have any Career related enquiries.

*Susanne Thompson  
CAREERS ADVISER*

**Wild Fig YES Awards:**
*(Young Entrepreneur Support Program)*

Shay and Bruce Cottrill, organiser for the Wild Fig YES Support Awards

Congratulations to Shay Goddard who was awarded a Wild Fig Young Entrepreneurs Support Award recently for her original and innovative Business Plan for a Small Business ‘SMASHING’.

Wild Fig Service Alliance is a not for profit organisation consisting of members representing some of the most dynamic businesses on the Central Coast. As part of our commitment to support our local youth, we have launched the Wild Fig Young Entrepreneur Support (YES) Program. Planned to be an annual event, the YES Program is designed to encourage the Central Coast’s next generation of business leaders and reward the best of those students for their entrepreneurial potential.

Shay and Stephanie Smith submitted their business plans, to the Wild Fig Alliance and were both chosen as Finalists. In October, Shay, along with 4 other Finalists, ‘pitched’ business plan at a Breakfast Business Meeting to the Wild Fig Members. Stephanie was unfortunately unable to present hers due to injury.

In November, Shay was awarded a winner and praised for her innovative idea and presentation. For her efforts she received a significant cash prize and accolades from a number of business operators.

Gorokan High School would like to thank Wild Fig for their generous support of both Shay and Stephanie in their endeavour to develop their business ideas.

We look forward to being involved in the program again next year.

**Erica Burge**

**Technological & Applied Studies:**

**STUDENTS WORKING IN THE**

**TAS FACULTY HAVE TO FOLLOW SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Please read the following information for your child to fulfil the practical component requirements of a course.

**UNIFORM:**

The Department of Education and Communities has a safety policy which states that footwear worn for practical classes must be impervious to liquids and completely enclosed leather shoes. Shoes are to have a “solid sole and firm uppers”. Students who wear joggers, open sandals or sandals will be involved in developing skills in other areas of the course and will not take part in practical lessons. This is also a mandatory requirement regarding uniform at Gorokan High School.

**CONSUMABLE COSTS:**

Students are required to pay the consumable cost of the course per year. This consumable cost covers the consumable resources that are used by your child to produce quality products. The purchase and preparation of the materials are done at a considerable cost saving to caregivers as the school takes advantage of competitive prices. Should parents/caregivers require financial support for the consumable cost they should contact the Head Teacher for support from the /Student Assistance Scheme. I would like to conclude by stressing the importance of the consumable cost to the maintenance of the educational provisions for your child. If unable to fulfil elective contributions, it may be advisable for your child to choose an alternative elective not requiring a cost or payment.

All elective contributions contribute to buying student resources; it would be appreciated if it could be paid by Week 3, Term 1. If there are any difficulties please see the Head Teacher. Thank you in anticipation for your cooperation.

**TAS AT WORK:**

Since TAS’s exposition earlier this Term I am proud to present further photos of what the Home Economic Section has completed. The HSC Textiles and Design projects have now been returned from marking and Mrs Sheahan is displaying them in the Library. We have a sample of these to show you. The focus has been on Year 9 this part of the Term and there displayed are some very creative samples from Year 9 Textiles taught by Mrs Hinks and Year 9 Food Technology taught by Mrs Douglas; both students and teachers have had great fun designing and creating.

Here are examples of HSC Textiles and Design Major Projects.
Here are examples of our Junior Year 9 Food Technology classes at work.

We have had a great year.

Have a relaxing and safe break.

Mr Russell Trimmer
Head Teacher
TAS

By Mr T.

There are many challenges that face companies today in bringing new products to the marketplace. Companies need to meet challenges involved in reducing cost to consumers and changing designs for consumer demands. A sad example of this is the decline of our car manufacturing industry, as people no longer want to buy large motor vehicles like Falcons and Commodores. Some clever design alternatives have been used to extend the range of the product. Smart Car design has found the solution. It is a low cost way to tailor for a brand new set of consumers. You be the judge. If you like it put one in your stocking for Christmas.

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is once again seeking volunteer host families to host international exchange students arriving in February 2014 for a stay of one Term, one or two Semesters.

LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th Century Novelist wrote: “the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes”. Volunteer to host an International High School student in February 2014 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for one term one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles.

Student Council Presidents Report:

As 2013 draws to a close, and what a busy year it has been, the Student Council continues to plan and run events for the rest of the Term and coming year.

On behalf of the Student Council both the Male President and I would like to say thank you to our wonderful staff, student body and the School Community for contributing to Fundraisers and events conducted by the Student Council.

The 2013 Year has been a busy one for the Student Council, with the usual running and also the addition of numerous events and traditions to the calendar. We have worked tirelessly throughout the year to complete these tasks. Some of the main events that the Student Council has completed in the last 12 months was being involved with the Sports Carnivals, Harmony Day, Pink Day (in which we broke our record, raising almost $3000), Board Shorts Day, Handball Tournaments, Orientation of the 2014 Year 7, countless BBQs and Year/School Assemblies and most recent Charities day, to name some.
Not all the work done by the Student Council this year has been fundraising. The Student Council has paid for the painting of the toilets, which have stayed graffiti-free. Earlier this year we have given back to the very much appreciated teaching staff by putting on The International Teachers Day Morning Tea and improved the school environment through Environmental Day. More of the SC contributions should become increasingly evident throughout early next year.

This year we introduced and implemented many changes to the Student Council, most obvious of all the name change. We began Term 4 with the change between Miss Hearne to Miss Jewell.

2014 is shaping up to be another busy year with our events already on the calendar.

Lastly I would like to congratulate the members of the Student Council on accomplishing such a wonderful year.

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Student Council presenting cheque to Stewart House. “Charity Day & BBQ Event” held 22nd November 2014

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Gorokan High School

Uniform Price List

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<th>GIRLS UNIFORM</th>
<th>BOYS UNIFORM</th>
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SPORTS UNIFORM

| Polo Shirt             | Micro Filte Shorts   |
| $25.00                | $20.00               |
| Shorts                |                      |
| $25.00                |                      |

Payment

Eftpos & Cash

Layby’s Welcome

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Holiday Trading

Saturday: 11th, 18th & 25th January 2014

9.00am—1.00pm

TRADING HOURS: TERM 1, 2, 3 & 4

Tuesday & Thursday’s

7.00am—9.00am

The Uniform Shop sponsors Gorokan High School