

GORDON WEST BULLETIN

VOLUME 5 2021

APRIL 1 2021



Principal's Report

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Term 1 2021 has certainly been very exciting with so much happening in a school environment still operating in the shadow of COVID-19.

However I would like to once again acknowledge and thank the school community for working so closely together to address the many challenges that have arisen because of COVID-19.

Everyone has cooperated so beautifully to minimise disruption to the normal school routine with all stakeholders working to ensure that our students have as normal a year as possible under the circumstances.

Our Gordon West Parents and Citizens Association has offered its full support including financial assistance if necessary to ensure that our children don't miss out on their usual activities.

However this doesn't mean that we aren't as vigilant as ever in our responsibilities in relation to personal hygiene and maintaining our social distancing to minimise the spread of this pandemic.



A big thank you to our COVID-19 hygiene coordinator Mrs Harvey for doing such a wonderful job.

Our School Improvement Plan has been signed off by our Relieving Director of School Leadership Ms Stacey Exner.

We thank Stacey Exner and Linda O'Brien Principal School Leadership for their very professional advice in relation to our School Improvement Plan.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FROM THE GORDON WEST SCHOOL COMMUNITY WHO WAS INVOLVED IN ANY ASPECT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS COMPREHENSIVE AND CRUCIAL DOCUMENT.

This plan will drive our school strategic directions over the next four years and we are very excited as we begin to coordinate, unpack and implement this plan. We thank those 50 families who participated in the school community Zoom consultation process in relation to the plan and look forward to presenting and discussing many aspects of the plan over the next four years with our parent body.

Our Annual Easter Hat Parade was a beautiful occasion as usual despite the fact that there were no parents in attendance.



Thank you to those families who temporarily suspended their Not to Publish Status so that their children could participate in this fun event and be part of the Easter Hat Parade video. The Not To Publish Status will be reinstated for these families unless we are notified in writing to the contrary.

All children in the school participated in this very successful event.

The Easter Hat Parade was scheduled to commence at 9:40am so that the video production company would have time to edit the video and distribute a link to all of the Gordon West School Community before school closed for the Easter vacation.

Dates to Remember

Thursday 1 April

Last day Term 1

Friday 2 April

Good Friday

Monday 19 April

Staff Development Day

Tuesday 20 April

Students Resume T2

Thursday 22 April

School Cross Country

Tuesday 4 May

Zone Cross Country

Tues 4-Fri 14 May

NAPLAN



Saturday 22 May

Band Camp



Friday 4 June

Area Cross Country

The Gordon West Jazz Band performed at the Easter Hat Parade for their first performance this year and enthralled the audience with renditions of two favourites; Green Onions and Everybody Needs Somebody to Love.

Well done!

Given the NSW Department of education emphasis on completion of the Situational Analysis and the formulation of School Improvement Plans all schools across the state have been given an extension in relation to the publication of the 2020 Annual School Report.

The Gordon West Annual School Report for 2020 will be published early in Term 2.

We never stand still at Gordon West Public school and are always looking for ways to improve the performance of our students and staff.

We are also very mindful of ensuring that our school buildings and grounds reflect a very positive image to our school community.

During the vacation the hall and canteen roof will be replaced.

The work on the oval embankment will be completed, filling the terraces with mulch and implementing the planting list designed by Joclyn Chenu from Kur-ring-gai Council .

A "Digging Area" adjacent to the rope climber will also be installed over the vacation.

Depending on the weather we also plan to mulch all of the school gardens.

If your children are attending OSHC vacation care please be mindful of this work being completed.

Congratulations to those students and parents who so sensibly handled a potentially dangerous situation when the Ryde Road Crossing lights malfunctioned Wednesday morning last week.

Everyone was so calm and responsible and walked down to the Kiparra lights so that they could cross safely.

Incidentally if you ever have to use the Kiparra Street crossing of Ryde Road please advise your children to be very careful in relation to cars turning from Ryde Road into Kiparra Street.



School Development Days (SDD) are extremely valuable for school organisation and teacher professional development.

Teacher Professional Learning will be a critical component of our School Improvement Plan.

We thank you in support of our School Development Day on Monday 19 April where teachers will begin to unpack the School Improvement Plan.

We realise the SDD can be an organisational challenge for parents and thank you in anticipation of your cooperation.

The majority of parent teacher interviews have now been completed and hopefully you were provided with an accurate, comprehensive overview of your child/ children's achievements during Term 1.

At the beginning of Term 2 we will ask parents to complete a survey as to the effectiveness of our first reporting process.

Children will return to school on Tuesday 20 April 2021. Please remember that Monday 19 April 2021 is a School Development Day.

Full winter uniform is to be worn from Tuesday 20 April 2021.

Thank you for your support over the past term. Have an enjoyable vacation.

Regards

J Huckerby
Principal



Team Kids Webinar link

For those parents who missed out on the Team Kids webinar last Wednesday you can now view it on the link below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/hufvvkg19zt07iu/Gordon%20West%20Parent%20Info%20Session.mp4?dl=0>

NAPLAN Online 2021

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Our school will be participating in NAPLAN Online between **11 and 21 May 2021**.

In preparation for NAPLAN Online, our school will also be participating in practice tests between 22 March and 1 April. The practice test is a trial-run and key preparation activity for NAPLAN Online in May. It is not an assessment of student ability and the tests will not be marked.

Excessive preparation for NAPLAN Online is not recommended. Students can use the [public demonstration site](https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site) (<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>) to familiarise themselves with the types of questions and tools available in the NAPLAN Online tests.

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact Mr Sparke.



The SRC is excited to be getting involved with the Nude Food Day initiative during Week 1 next term

Nude Food Day is a worldwide initiative developed to encourage kids and parents to **eat well** and **live well**, and help eliminate the unnecessary packaging and wrapping that goes into schools.

Essentially, kids bring their food – nude! This reduces the amount of rubbish that goes into the bins, that goes into the ground, that pollutes our planet.

Gordon West will launch our Nude Food Week in Week 1, Term 2 with Wednesday 21 April being our official Nude Food Day. On this day we encourage all children to bring in their food waste free. This might mean using more Tupperware containers, beeswax wraps or other reusable packaging.

Kind regards

The Gordon West SRC
Mrs Corrigan and Miss Joyce

J Huckerby
Principal



Part-Time Work

1x Permanent part time position – Gordon West Public School – West Pymble - 10065

Help protect our vibrant school communities

Become a School Crossing Supervisor!

- Keep our kids, parents and teachers safe on the road
 - Be a second pair of eyes for our local motorists
- Earn an income and still have time to live your life to the fullest

School crossings require 20 hours of supervising per fortnight. Shifts fall between 8.30am – 9.30am and 2.45pm – 3.45pm, Monday to Friday during the school term.

Does this sound like you?

- ✓ Reliable in good or bad weather
- ✓ Good communication skills
 - ✓ Community spirit
 - ✓ Positive energy

If it does, visit jobs.transport.nsw.gov.au to apply today!
Applications close Sunday 11th April 2021

<https://career10.successfactors.com/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=10065&company=TfNSW>



Live every day like it's

School Holidays!

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*Offer for a limited time only. For T&Cs visit [entertainment.com.au/promotions](https://www.entertainment.com.au/promotions)

Next FRASC meeting

Friday 23rd April from 9:10am

to be held in the vacant classroom (second block from Ryde Road).

The **F**undraising and **S**ocial **C**ommittee (FRASC) is planning some exciting events and functions in 2021 so please join us to help plan and have your say. All welcome.

All meetings and events are subject to COVID-19 guidelines and may be required to change.

CLASS PARENTS

FRASC still requires one more class parent for each of the following classes:

KA, 4M, 4J and 4/5D (x1 Year 4 parent)

If you can assist, please email Belinda Mark at GordonWestFRASC@gmail.com.

WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL



A Leader in Girls Education

OPEN NIGHT

Please join us online to meet our principal, teachers and students and discover opportunities for your daughter

<https://willoughbg-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/news/2021/3/virtual-open-night.html>

Principal: Ms Elizabeth Diprose
Mowbray Road, Willoughby NSW 2068
Phone: 9958 4141
Email: willoughbg-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

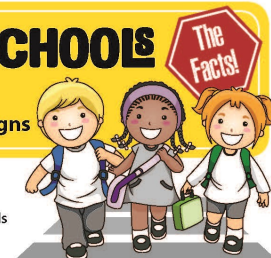


SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS

FACT SHEET 1

Parking Safely Around Schools: Parking Signs

Parking signs are planned with children's safety in mind. If you break the rules in a school zone you are not only putting your child at risk but other children too. North Sydney Council patrols school zones to ensure people are driving and parking safely. Please, always choose safety over convenience.



PARKING SIGN



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- You can stop in a **NO PARKING** zone (or Kiss and Drop zone) for a maximum of **2 minutes** to drop off and pick up passengers. You must stay within **3 metres** of your vehicle.
- No Parking zones provide a safe place to drop-off and pick-up children quickly. When picking up your children, only pull into the zone when you see your child waiting on the footpath and there is a free space. **Do not queue** - drive around the block if need be.

PENALTIES & DEMERIT POINTS

EXCEEDS:
\$194+
2 DEMERIT POINTS



- You cannot stop in a **NO STOPPING** zone for any reason (including queuing or waiting for a space).
- No Stopping zones keep sight lines clear between drivers and children/pedestrians.

EXCEEDS:
\$349+
2 DEMERIT POINTS



- You cannot stop in a **BUS ZONE** for any reason.
- Bus Zones provide a place for buses to drop-off and pick-up children safely.

EXCEEDS:
\$349+
2 DEMERIT POINTS



- Parking signs with specified time limits allow drivers to park their vehicle for a maximum period of time e.g. 5 minutes, 2 minutes, 1 hour etc.

EXCEEDS:
\$116

If times of operation are shown on parking signs, the restriction applies only at those times e.g. 8am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4pm.

These fines and demerit points apply in school zones and are current as of February 2021.



Kids!! Have fun learning to speak Mandarin

**Mandarin Language Club at
Gordon West Public School!**

The Mandarin Stars program offers:

- Small class sizes.
- **FUN**, engaging and *highly interactive* Mandarin classes for non-native learners.
- An immersion based program that teaches strong listening and speaking skills in Mandarin.
- Language building activities such as role play, puppet shows, puzzles and games.
- A *fun* introduction to reading & writing Chinese characters!
- The discovery of Chinese culture, festivals, Calligraphy, Tai Chi and even Kung Fu!

Classes on Tuesday afternoons Term 2

3:15pm – 4:00pm for K- Yr 2 Students

4:00pm – 4:45pm for Yr 3+ Students

Mandarin Stars
Language Clubs
for schools

Free Trial
Class!

mandarin stars



fun mandarin for kids

Please contact us directly & **BOOK A FREE TRIAL LESSON!**

Email: Charlotte@mandarinstars.com.au

Ph: 0435 795 222

www.mandarinstars.com.au ★ enrol@mandarinstars.com.au ★ Ph: (02) 8437 2498



You're invited to...
Get Active with Scouts!

Join 1st Gordon Cub Scouts

at the end of Cawarra Place, Gordon (near St Johns Avenue)

We welcome boys and girls aged 7½ to 11 to join our Cub Pack

Scouts offers a safe and supportive environment where your child can
make new friends, learn life skills and have fun

Get your child off their devices and into new adventures!

Email info@firstgordonscouts.org.au for details on how to join Scouts



STUDENT NEWS

MODBALL RESULTS

26/3/2021

Snrs vs Chatsw'd West drew 2-2
Jnrs vs St Ives won on forfeit
vs Roseville (friendly)
won 21-2

CRICKET RESULTS

26/3/21 vs ST IVES

Won on forfeit



TOUCH FOOTBALL RESULTS

26/3/21

Snr Boys vs St Ives Nth lost 3-5
Chatswood lost 5-6
Snr Girls vs Lindfield won 7-4
Roseville lost 2-5

Jnr Boys vs Beaumont Rd lost 3-5
Jnr Girls vs Beaumont Rd lost 4-7



PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the following students
who have completed the challenge:

Alonso O A KS
Ruby C 1T
Jed L 1J
Emerson O A 2D
Ella F 5W
Leila Z 5W
John K 4H
Isabella T 4M
Chloe Y 4M

Evan Z 4M
Nathan Y 2D
Edward S 3H
Joan H 4J
Logan L 4/5D
Stefan S 5T
Ann Y 5W
Bella G KP
Cheryl W 3H