

# GORDON WEST BULLETIN

VOLUME 6 2021

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## Principal's Report

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**Welcome back to a COVID-19 environment where regulations and restrictions are being gradually eased.**

However we definitely won't become complacent and only have to look to numerous other countries that continue to battle a raging pandemic to see what can happen if we aren't careful.

Official visitors to the school must continue to comply with sign-in arrangements. This includes requirements to sign the school sign on sheet where they acknowledge that they will comply with the COVID-19 requirements for visitors.

This sign on sheet can be found in the Administration building.

Visitors must also check in using the Service NSW QR code at various locations around the school.

However if a parent is only "picking up" or "dropping off" a child, Department of Education policy states that they need only use the QR code.

**A strong focus is to be maintained on accurate record keeping to support contact tracing in case there is an outbreak given the relaxation of restrictions, so it is important that the QR code is used.**

**Congratulations again to "TeamKids" the successful tenderer for the Gordon West Before and After School Care and Vacation Care.**

The company has certainly hit the ground running so as to speak and have been very impressive in their enthusiasm and desire to make an instant impression.

There is certainly a great deal of excitement in the air with many new ideas and methods being enthusiastically received by those in attendance.

Parents are reminded that they need to register at <http://www.teamkids.com.au> to create an account and to place bookings that you require.



**Hopefully everyone enjoyed viewing the Easter Hat Parade video as much as we enjoyed dressing up and participating enthusiastically in the event.**

My apologies to the captains and prefects and all Year 5 fund raising participants for not including their presentations in the video. Given that the production company had a

## Dates to Remember

### Tuesday 4 May

Zone Cross Country

### Friday 7 May

Winter PSSA Round 1

### Tues 11-Fri 14 May

NAPLAN Week 1

### Tues 17-Fri 21 May

NAPLAN Week 2

### Saturday 22 May

Band Camp

### Monday 24 May

P&C Meeting

### Friday 4 June

Area Cross Country

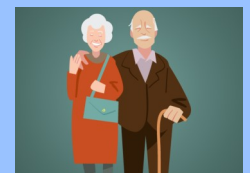
### Monday 14 June

Queen's Birthday

Public Holiday

### Tuesday 22 June

Grandparents Day



### Friday 25 June

Last day of Term 2

very short turn around timeframe to produce the video and have it previewed by the school, before distribution to the school community, we made a decision to keep the presentation as simple as possible, with the emphasis being on the participating children.

Congratulations to the captains and prefects on their wonderful speeches and for compering the parade. The main emphasis of my Principal's address, that we also deleted from the video, was to acknowledge and thank the Gordon West School Community for their wonderful support and achievements in handling the challenges that COVID-19 has presented during Term 1.

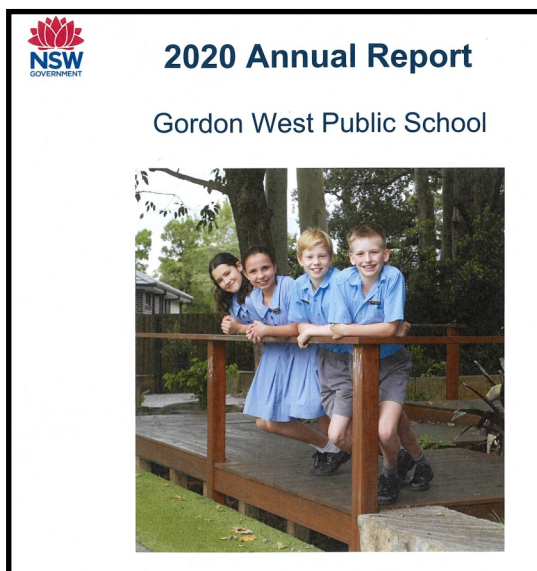
The Year 5 student's Chocolate Fund Raising raffle raised over \$2000 which will make a significant contribution to the cost of organisation of the Year 6 Farewell Evening later in the year.



**The Gordon West Public School Annual Report for 2020 has been published on the school website.**

A big thank you to Mr Moses for taking responsibility for the compilation of the report.

We are very fortunate to work in a school community that offers so much support to teachers and students. Our challenge is to balance systemic priorities, to provide an extensive range of extra-curricular activities and to continue to improve the learning outcomes for all students and perform at the highest level in school, state and national tests in literacy, numeracy and technology. We are confident that we are up to the challenge. Underlying all of these challenges, the school's main emphasis is the development of a well-rounded, happy, resilient, well-adjusted child.



**Individual school tours for the parents of prospective Gordon West students are now available.**

If you have a child commencing at Gordon West in 2022 and would like a tour please call the Administration office.

Also we would appreciate you advising friends or

neighbours who have children who may be considering attending Gordon West to contact the school to organise a tour.

**A number of projects were completed over the holidays as part of our on going efforts to make our school a very attractive, positive environment.**

**The hall and canteen now have a new roof.**

**The oval landscaping project is nearing completion with an order placed for numerous suitable native plant varieties, the planting of which will complete the project.**

**Two new fences were successfully constructed with adjoining neighbours.**

**Most school buildings were pressure cleaned to remove traces of dust, dirt and mould.**

**The ramp to the Year 6 MDR was resurfaced for safety reasons.**

**Three large truckloads of mulch were spread on our beautiful grounds and gardens.**

A big thank you to the parents of children who attended vacation care who may have been inconvenienced by the building projects that were taking place in the vicinity of the hall and school oval. We really appreciate your understanding of these situations.

Salvatore our Projects Manager was as busy as usual and we acknowledge and thank him for his enthusiastic commitment to Gordon West Public School.

Also I would like to thank our school neighbours, who may have been inconvenienced by the construction, for their understanding.

**I didn't realise that because of COVID-19 builders can now work to 8:00pm and also work on Sundays until 2:00pm.**

**Congratulations to all participants in the School Cross Country Championships held on Thursday of this week.**

A big thank you to Ms Paptic for organising the event. The top six competitors in each division will now compete at the Zone Cross Country Championships to be held on Tuesday 4 May at the St Ives Showground. It was also lovely that parents were able to attend the event.

We do apologise for the length of time that it took for parents to sign in as part of the COVID-19 requirements. We didn't anticipate the number of parents in attendance which was considerably more than usual. Normally we might have thirty parents in attendance at a



school cross country event. On Thursday we had over one hundred very supportive parents onsite.

**Congratulations to the captains and prefects for organising a lovely ANZAC Day commemorative service on Monday of this week.**

Children had the opportunity to acknowledge and commemorate those brave servicemen and servicewomen who served our country in times of war and peace and in some circumstances made the ultimate sacrifice of giving their lives for their country. Concert Band 1 in their first performance for 2021 played the Black Forest Overture beautifully.

**The Gordon West Public School uniform policy was determined and endorsed by the Gordon West school community under the Fair Discipline Code.**

The school community after careful consideration chose the winter and summer uniform and the expectation is that all Gordon West children will adhere to the policy. Of course we are a Public School and children can't be forced to wear a uniform. However the vast majority of our students wear the uniform with pride.

Full winter uniform is expected to be worn from next Monday 3 May 2021.

Sports jackets are not part of the winter uniform and can only be worn over the winter jumper for extra warmth not as a substitute.

Major changes have been made to the girl's winter uniform with girls being given the option of wearing slacks/ pants instead of wearing the traditional tunic.

Unfortunately due in part to COVID-19 the winter slacks haven't arrived as yet.



**The sharing of food has always been a contentious issue at the school and COVID-19 has further highlighted this very controversial subject.**

Initially our concerns related to hygiene and anaphylactic reactions.

Transmission of COVID-19 is now a major issue associated with the sharing of food.

Erring on the side of caution our policy has been not to share food and with the arrival of COVID-19 we have further strengthened our policy and determination.

Children can still celebrate birthdays at the school. Wrapping food or treats individually is one method of overcoming the challenges in the celebration of a birthday.

Also the school canteen has introduced an ice block program where to celebrate a birthday a parent can order ice blocks from the canteen.

Please refer to the Canteen News later in this Bulletin for more information on this initiative.

**Regards**

J Huckerby  
Principal

## 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**.

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.

**Stewart Donation Envelopes are due by the end of this week. No late entries can be accepted as we have to mail them off to Stewart House in time for the draw.**

# Scholastic Book Club is back!

A percentage of your total order will be given to our school to use as book club rewards to purchase new books for the library and classrooms.

It's a great way to access additional educational resources for our school.



Your order for this issue must be placed by **Saturday 8th May 2021**.  
If you miss the cut-off date for ordering, you will be charged a delivery fee and your order will be delivered to your home.

Once the orders arrive at school, they will be delivered to your children in their classrooms.

Please order online via **scholastic.com.au** or **Book Club Loop App**.

For more information contact Tina Lin: [gwps.bookclub@gmail.com](mailto:gwps.bookclub@gmail.com)

## Live Life Well @ School

### PLANT SOME VEGETABLES

Kids are more likely to **taste** and **eat** vegetables they have grown!



#### For more information:

- Search 'munch and crunch garden' online
- Check out composting and worm farming videos and fact sheets at [www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au)



Developed by Northern Sydney Local Health District

## We need a hand around traffic

It takes many years for your child to develop an understanding of danger and how to keep safe. While children are often keen to do things for themselves, **an adult must always be responsible for them in the road environment.**

Your child may be able to recite safety slogans and tell you the rules about how to keep safe but won't always be able to apply them.



August 2018 - ©Transport for NSW - School Kids RT24/20/2018/15/14



For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools, visit the parent section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)

# Mother's Day Special

## One time only

Support us. Buy  
your Membership  
& receive a **BONUS**

\$20

or

\$40

eGift Card\*

Support us & buy now



## Treat mum to 1000's of goodies

### New offers • Big brands • Great savings!



**Single City**  
BONUS \$20  
eGift Card\*



**Multi City  
& Multi Plus**  
BONUS \$40  
eGift Card\*

An Entertainment Membership is  
the perfect gift this Mother's Day

Support us & buy today

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/20040o2>

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

# STUDENT NEWS

## 2021 Gordon West Public School Cross Country

The Gordon West Cross Country Carnival was held on Thursday 22 April.

Congratulations to all our students who participated on the day. The weather was beautiful and it was fantastic to see our students from Year 2 to 6 challenge themselves and achieve great results. Our parents were able to spectate the carnival and it was wonderful to welcome them back on school grounds. Their sensational cheering motivated our students to perform at their best.

Thank you to Ms Paptic whose time and effort to the organisation of the carnival ensured it was completed successfully.

The Ku-ring-gai Zone Cross Country Carnival will be held on Tuesday 4 May Week 3 Term 2 at the St Ives Showground. Gordon West will have the following 48 students representing our school and we wish all our students the best on the day.

Place	Boys	Girls
1	Gus B.	Zara D.
2	Ivan C.	Alyssa P.
3	Kuno E.	Samantha F.
4	Liam A.	Cheryl W.
5	Robbie S.	Michella L.
6	Hugo W.	Sophia Z.

Place	Boys	Girls
1	Coby N.	Kimberley Y.
2	Gustav B.	Sophie F.
3	Nicholas W.	Georgia B.
4	Joshua D.	Willow H.
5	Kelvin L.	Amy B.
6	Kai H.	Abi B.

Place	Boys	Girls
1	Nihal B.	Scarlett G.
2	Will M.	Emily A.
3	Logan L.	Alisha C.
4	Leo H.	Holly G.
5	Evan E.	Sorcha K.
6	Ethan C.	Grace K.

Place	Boys	Girls
1	Baxter M.	Jemima C.
2	Liam B.	Emily H.
3	Lachlan D.	Caitlin V.
4	Lucas T.	Jasmin L.
5	Aditya K.	Alicia B.
6	Max S.	Jasmine C.



Mr J Huckerby  
Principal

Mr A Lee  
Sports Coordinator

# PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the following students who have completed the challenge:

Evelyn L KS  
Talon J 1J  
Jerry S 1J  
Oscar D 2D  
Royce C 3H  
Jayden X 3W  
Amy B 4/5D  
Ashley L 4M  
George S 4/5D

Arnav V 4M  
Alicia B 6G  
Marcus P KS  
Alisha G 2H  
Stephanie Z 2L  
Chloe L 4/5D  
Chester W 4H  
William M 5T

## Canteen News

You can now order packs of frozen Quelch sticks for your child's birthday to be distributed to the class.

You can buy a pack of 24 @\$7.00 and add on a pack of 6 @\$2.00 to allow enough ice blocks for the larger classes.

These can be ordered on flexischools under the category 'Birthdays'.

The canteen will need one week's notice, so please order a week in advance to guarantee stock.

Jo Greenway  
GWPS Canteen Manager



# GORDON WEST TEAMKIDS NEWSLETTER



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

It has been a wonderful start to Term 2, and we are very excited to be welcoming you all to TeamKids at Gordon West! Woop Woop!

During our last week, we have been learning about the TeamKids way and our five core values: FUN, GENUINE, INVOLVED INNOVATIVE, and REMARKABLE! We will be implementing our badge system over the next few weeks to reward children for living these values. Once you have each value badge you will become a TeamKids Hero!

At TeamKids we highly value your feedback and encourage you to reach out if there is anything you would like to see on the program or weekly menu.

Sign in/out: If you have not already, please log into your TeamKids accounts and set a pin for added security to our sign in and out process.

We also want to say a big THANK YOU for making us feel so welcome at Gordon West! Everyone has really made us feel valued and celebrated the transition.

## IMPORTANT DATES

 **Thursday 6th MAY**

Mothers Day TeamKids Morning Tea!

 **Friday 7th MAY**  
Soccajoeys begins!

 **Sunday 9th MAY**  
Mothers Day!



Who can help you with your questions?  
Laura the TK Director of service (DOS) or James 2iC



## TEAMKIDS CLUBS UPDATE:



Our club sign-up sheets are out and we are excited to see that many children already started signing up for these!

**When will they start?** We will be continuing to encourage children to sign up to these clubs during BSC & ASC this week so that they can be up and running by week 4.

**What is the cost?** There is no additional cost!

**Which clubs will run and when?** We will pick 5 clubs to run for the remainder of term 2 and new clubs will be chosen for next term.



**Service Mobile:** 0460 273 778

**Office Phone:** 1300 035 000

**Service Email:** [gordonwestps@teamkids.com.au](mailto:gordonwestps@teamkids.com.au)

**Office Email:** [info@teamkids.com.au](mailto:info@teamkids.com.au)



# SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS



## Walk or ride. It's fun!

### Walking or riding to and from school with your child helps:

- Reduce traffic and improve road safety.
- Reduce our carbon footprint.
- Promote physical activity.
- Provide an opportunity for supervising adults to talk with their child about road safety.

### Holding Hands

Until your child is at least **8 years old**, hold their hand:

- On the footpath.
- In the car park.
- When crossing the road.

Up until at least **10 years old**, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.



### Key messages for kids to stay safe when walking and riding:

- Stop! Look! Listen! Think! every time you cross a road or driveway.
- Stay alert, look up – don't get distracted by your phone.
- Use pedestrian crossings where possible.
- Always wear a helmet when riding a bike, scooter or skateboard.
- Take extra care around trucks and buses – they can't always see you.

If you are driving, always look out for people walking or riding. And remember: slow down to 40 when bus lights flash.



Why not walk to school on Friday 14 May  
for **Walk Safely to School Day!**  
For more information, visit [walk.com.au](http://walk.com.au)

