

Friday 1 December 2023

Principal's Message...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Kindergarten is such a special year for our students, parents and teachers. These gorgeous children start the year with being unable to read and write and by the end of it they are readers and writers. I had the pleasure of 3 Kindergarten students visiting me from K1J last week who wrote two sentences with the 'exacerbated' and 'distorted' in them. Such clever little cookies.



Leadership by the Bay

Mr Penno and I had the pleasure of seeing our 2024 Leadership team present their project to all schools within the Port Hacking Network on Tuesday 21 November 2023 at Woollooware High School. Our leadership team had been working with Mrs Reece to plan, create and develop an Outdoor Learning Space for the students at GBPS.



School Spectacular



Last week from Wednesday through to Saturday we were lucky enough to take 15 of our Stage 3 students to dance in the 40th Schools Spectacular. This was an incredible opportunity for our students who experienced being part of a professional show. We are exceptionally proud of the way they represented our school. They showed the utmost respect to others and behaved beautifully the entire time. They performed in 4 shows across Friday and Saturday at Qudos Bank Arena.



Congratulations!

Year 5 - Port Hacking High School

Our Year 5 students enjoyed their day at Port Hacking High School, as part of their preparation for High school in 2025. We thank the staff at PHHS for providing this opportunity and high school 'taster' for our students.



Classing 2024

Students have been placed into classes and teachers allocated for 2024. These classes will be finalised when we return to school next year once all students return. I know that many parents query 'composite classes' so I have put together some information below for your perusal.

[Composite Classes – Information for parents](#)

Presentation Day Wednesday 6 December 2024

Please join us next Wednesday for our Presentation Day Assemblies.

Stage 3 (year 5 & 6)- 9:00 - 10:30am

Stage 2 (year 3 & 4) - 12:00 - 1:00pm

Stage 1 (year 1 & 2) - 1:15 - 1:50pm

Early Stage 1 (kindergarten) - 2:15-3:00pm

Final P&C Meeting

Last Tuesday night was our last P&C Meeting for 2023. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Parents and Citizens (P&C) committee for their unwavering support and contributions to our community. Your dedication to creating a nurturing environment and fostering a sense of unity has not gone unnoticed.

Together, as parents and citizens, you form the backbone of our community. Your selflessness and generosity make a significant impact on the lives of those around you. We are grateful for the positive influence you have on the community, and we look forward to continuing to grow and thrive together.

Thank you for being the driving force behind the strength and unity of our community.

Thank You!

Semester 2 Reporting

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of the teaching staff for their hard work and efforts throughout this reporting process. I had the privilege of reading many reports and was humbled to see how much our teachers care about and know your children.

Reports will be sent to families via School Bytes on Thursday 14 December 2024.

Walk for Respectful relationships

Thank you to everyone who came along to support this very important event. Despite the rain it was a wonderful way to start the day this morning.



Class Requirements 2024

Please see link below to the K-6 Resource Requirements for 2024.

[K-6 Requirements 2024](#)

BYOD 2024

Over the past few weeks, we have been seeking feedback from the community, local high school, students and staff about the BYOD program at Gymea Bay Public School.

Based on feedback a decision has been made that we will not be having BYOD in Year 3 next year. The students will be provided with access to technology including ipads and computers/laptops through school resources.

Over the next three years, we will be phasing out BYOD iPads and introducing laptops for our Year 5 and 6 students only.

To Mrs Davidson,

I am writing to you because I strongly believe that iPads shouldn't be used at school from years 3-6 at school. They make kids lazy, they are a huge distraction and they have affect on childrens behaviour.

Firstly, children get very lazy from playing around with technology every day. This can be proved because children in my class (50) cant tell the time of an analogue time of a clock that well. When they want to know the time while the teacher is teaching, the cause a massive distraction by fidgeting around with there belongings to open there ipad and look at the time. This is why checking your device consantly is very bad for children in 3-6 at school.

Next, iPads are a real distraction in schools, like ours, because children get to adicted to there device so then they stop listening to the teacher. They will fail there naper

or even worse, if they try out for a selective school, they will fail there selective schools test. They will get into lots of trouble at high school and then, if they dont get into a good high school, they will get into a bad job. All this because they had iPads in primary school.

Finally, when children have to much screen time, their behaviour gets affected. Children should only have time to, do the online homework (at home) and anything less than 3 hours of game time per week. If they have any more screen time than this, their behaviour will be affected in class. This is a bad example for smaller kids and could even damage the schools reputation.

After reading my passage, I hope I have persuded you to ban iPads at gymer bay public school. iPads make children lazy, they are a huge distraction and their behaviour will be affected. That is why I strongly believe that iPads should be banned. (Patrick 50) pag

Maintenance

- New playground equipment is now in use.
- Windows have been replaced in G BLOCK, currently H BLOCK and then J BLOCK

Staff

- Megan Pope will continue working at Waterfall Public School for 2024. Currently undergoing an EOI process for relieving School Administration Manager.
- Mrs Dawn Lee and Mrs Sue Stolk are continuing leave in 2024
- New staff transfers - Welcome Mrs Stephanie Casey and Mr Caprice Fogarty
- EOI processes for teachers and SLSO have been finalised. We welcome a number of new staff for 2024 - Ms Stacey Lyons, Mr Rowan Simpson, Miss Mirella Longo

Please continue to contact the school to provide feedback on what we are doing well or how we can improve. It's important that we all continue to work together to provide the best outcomes for our students. I appreciate the ongoing support.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Cara Davidson
Principal

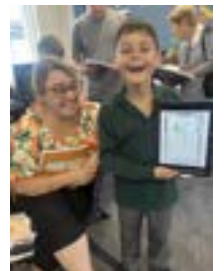


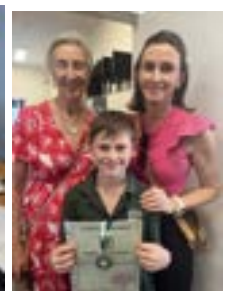
Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding achievements.

Celebration of Learning

Thank you to our wonderful community for their support and understanding with the changes to our Celebration of Learning Event on Wednesday due to the weather forecast. Our modified version was well attended with extremely positive feedback from our families. Congratulations to all of our students whether they received an award or not for a successful 2023. We are proud of all of you!







K-2 Talent Quest

Thank you to the teachers that provided this opportunity for our students. It was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. So much talent at GBPS!



What's happening in ...



Kindergarten had a fantastic time at Let Loose Fun Day last week, despite the weather.



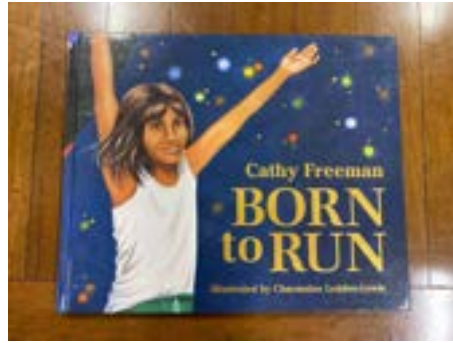
Our students have been involved in Transition to Year 1 activities. On Monday, KW visited the iW class and had lots of questions about what it will be like to be in Year 1.



KP visited 1Z and worked together to create posters, discussing and writing about all the things that will be the same and different in Year 1!



Year 2 have been looking at the book 'Born to Run' by Cathy Freeman. They have learnt a lot about the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and were lucky enough to see the real Olympic Torch that Miss Smith's dad carried in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Torch Relay. It was definitely a day to remember at school!

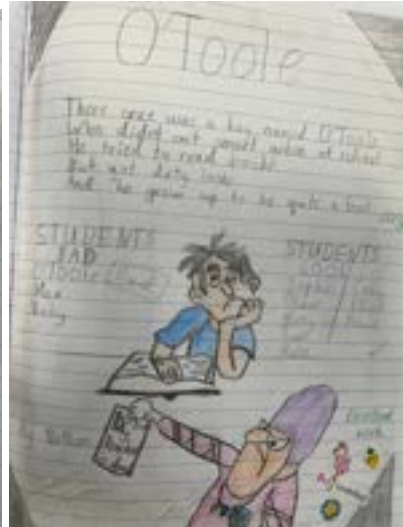
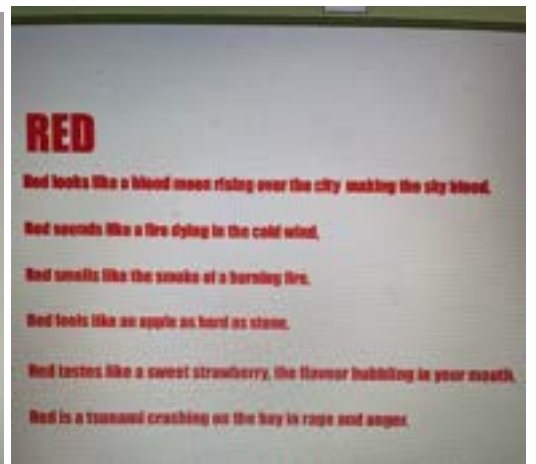


As part of our science exploration into the properties of materials, Year 1 students created their own "ice cream in a bag"! They investigated how materials can undergo changes when subjected to heating or cooling.

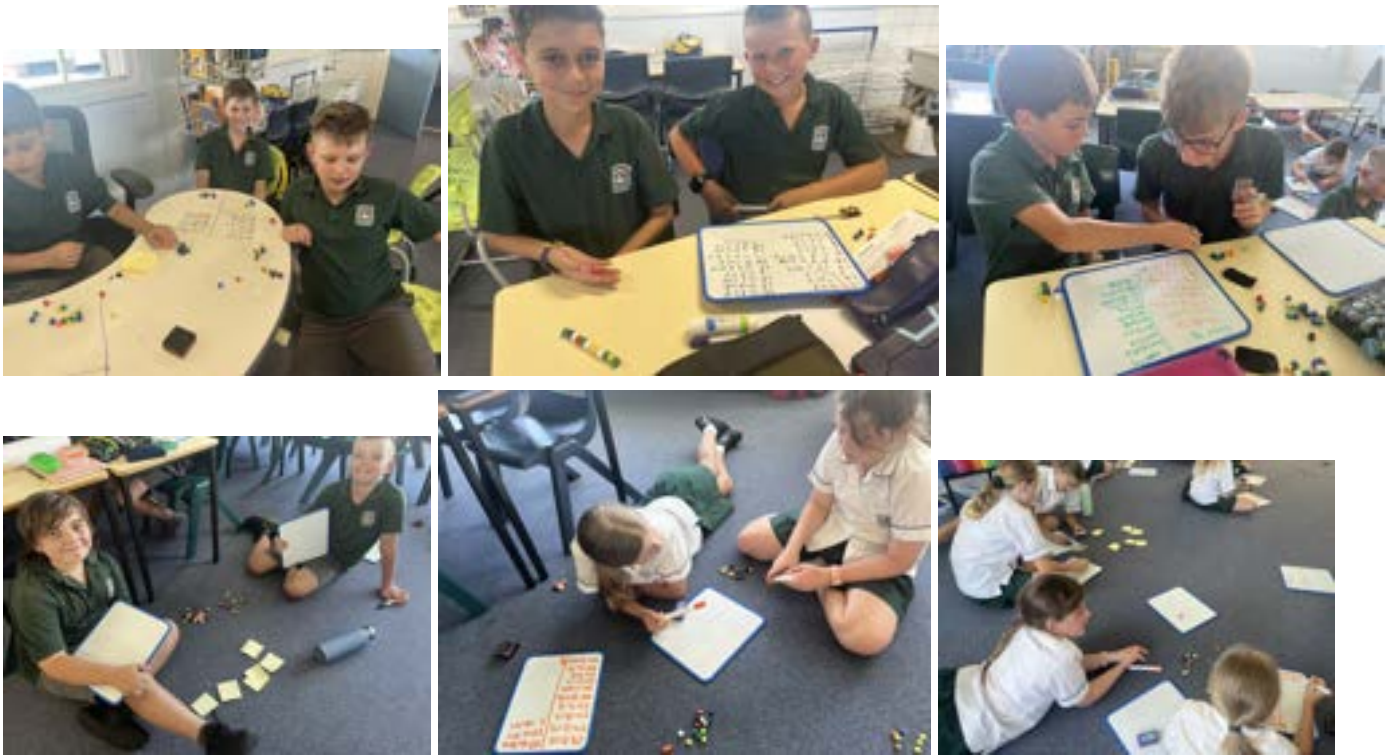


We might be heading towards the end of the year, but **Stage 2** are continuing their learning with some great things happening! From Maths Escape Rooms to poetry, the students are demonstrating that they are committed learners.





4C playing 'The Remainders Game' in a Mathematics division lesson.



Despite the weather, the students in **Stage 2** had a great time at the Let Loose fun day. They were enthusiastic and VERY competitive!





4C Celebration of Learning Award Recipients





Stage 3 enjoyed the morning of Let Loose Day with a morning of fun, laughs and challenging games which had them working together in their



As the term is coming to an end, Year 6 are soaking up the time they get to spend with their buddy classes, continuing to be positive role models for our Kindergarten friends :)



More GBPS Information...



We are looking forward to seeing you all at the following events over the next fortnight.

- Wednesday 6 December - Presentation Day Ceremony
- Thursday 7th December - Year 6 Farewell at Gynea Tradies (includes Graduation Ceremony)
- Whole School Assembly Friday 8 December to Farewell Mrs Helen Reece and Mrs Noelene Larkins who are taking leave in 2024 and then retiring
- Monday 11 December - Stage 1 Picnic Day
- Tuesday 12 December - Kindergarten and Stage 3 Picnic Day
- Wednesday 13 December- Stage 2 Picnic Day
- Thursday 14 December - Moving Day
- Friday 15 December - Last Day. Farewell to all staff/student leavers



School Calendar

The School Bytes Calendar is now live on the Parent Portal where you can view excursions and other events happening at our school.

Lost Property

Please see photos below of our current lost property. Please collect any items prior to the end of term. Any unlabelled items will be donated at the end of the year.



Attendance


NSW Education & Communities
Public Schools NSW

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS....

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ¼ a year of school
20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
½ hour a day	½ a day of learning a week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1 ½ years of learning
1 hour each day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year.	Over 2 ½ years of learning

Your child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day...

Check the time your school starts. DON'T BE LATE!



NSW Education & Communities
Public Schools NSW

EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!



Travel to School Safely

Sutherland Shire Council's Roads and Traffic team wish to ensure that everyone is safe going to and for School this term, in order to assist your School to create a safer environment, please find linked some [Fact Sheets](#) from Sutherland Shire Council to educate parents and carers when dropping off or collecting children from your school.

Please feel free to make these Fact Sheets available to your School Community. I hope that this information will assist you to create a safe environment around your school and to remind parents and carers that the parking rules are there to make things safer for all.

Council has put up some QR Code posters at each school for the school community to scan and access the facts for themselves. If you would like some more posters for your school please email me and I will arrange them.

[Parking in school zones | Sutherland Shire Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

[FACT SHEET Safe School Travel](#)

Further information about school road safety and the Road Rules is also available on the RMS website

www.rms.nsw.gov.au

[School safety | Transport for NSW](#)