

Friday 20 October 2023

Principal's Message...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4. Term 4 is going to go extremely fast with lots of things happening across our school. I am really excited to be involved in so many more first, my first Kindergarten Orientation, my first year 6 Farewell and my first Presentation day to just name a few.

Connect to Culture

Last week we had our Connecting to Culture Day with Kev. We started with a smoking ceremony before engaging in different workshops with Kev and his team learning more about Aboriginal culture. This was such a powerful and special day that all children, staff and community absolutely loved being part of. Children were so incredibly respectful and so excited to learn, experience and be present in the moment. We thank Kevin Heath for his time in sharing this with us.



Curriculum Reform

In 2024, our Years 3-6 teachers will be implementing the new curriculum to our students. To support this implementation our teachers will be involved in ongoing professional learning around this.

[NSW Curriculum Reform | NSW Government](#)

High School Transition Weeks 3 and 4

Next week, our Year 6 students will begin the GBPS High School transition program in preparation for high school. The purpose of this is to support our students to have a positive transition into their new school so

that they are excited about their next educational journey. I thank all of the teachers for their time and efforts in organising this great program and to the teachers that have offered up their expertise to teach lessons across these days to provide our students with a real life high school experience. Your dedication to our students never goes unnoticed - I appreciate you all greatly!

Kindergarten Orientation

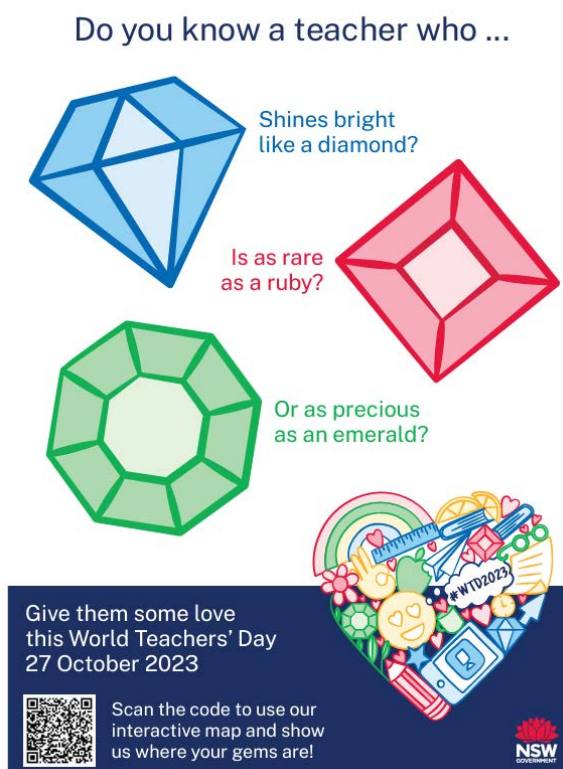
In week 4, our first of three Kindergarten Orientation sessions will begin. I am extremely excited to spend time with our new students and families and warmly welcome them into our GyMEA Bay Public School community. Thank you to Mrs Winning and her team for their hard work and commitment to organising extremely informative and fun sessions.

World Teachers' Day 27 October 2023

Next Friday, all Department of Education Schools will celebrate World Teachers' Day focusing on the theme *"The teachers we need for the education we want: The global imperative to reverse the teacher shortage"*. I want to take this opportunity to thank my amazing staff at GyMEA Bay Public School for being the most passionate advocates for education and for their commitment to our incredible community, especially our children.

Teaching is and always will be the best job in the world. Impacting the lives of our future generations and creating spaces for children to be curious, creative and passionate about their learning is an absolute privilege.

Happy World Teachers' Day to my amazing colleagues at GBPS.



Community Concern

I have received two more emails from community members since returning to school this term about concerns for the safety of themselves and others due to our families and students blocking footpaths before and after school. I kindly ask you all to please support our community by standing off the footpath if you are required to wait outside the school. Please know that I welcome parents and carers into our school from 8.30-9.10am and from 2.50-3.10 in the afternoon. I understand that gates opening at 2.50pm in the afternoon is an issue but we require the gates to remain closed until this time due to student safety. I appreciate your continued support and understanding.

Jump Rope for Heart Thank You

Thank you to all of the students and families who supported the Jump Rope for Heart program in Term 3, raising money for the Heart Foundation. Gymea Bay raised \$4 440 which is a fantastic effort. The prizes and certificates were distributed at the beginning of the week. The money raised will help support innovative heart research and programs that are transforming Australian lives.

Hot Weather

As we head into the hotter days, I remind all parents to ensure that their child/ren have a hat, water and sunscreen each day.

[Supporting students during hot weather \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/health-and-safety/articles/keeping-children-safe-hot-weather)

Community Survey

Your voice matters - please click on the link below to provide us with some feedback to support decisions moving forward into 2024. We do listen and appreciate your time. Thank you.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdBEWJjaalUQoCCA-oXI3KH5McNj9kJLGhD9qrf72zkuDI_sg/viewform?usp=sf_link



Maintenance Updates

The following maintenance jobs have been conducted across our school over the last few weeks.

- Carpet in office has been replaced
- New guttering around G and H Block
- Windows in G and H Block are starting to be replaced and will be completed by the end of the year.
- Maintenance has occurred in the hall to ensure that it complies with safety regulations including new stairs, railings and flooring repair.

Staff Updates

- Welcome back to Mrs Catherine Manning, School Psychologist who returns to GBPS on Thursday and Friday, after maternity for her gorgeous boy Austin.
- We welcome back Mrs Georgia Mason to GBPS for one day per week. Mrs Mason has been a teacher at our school for a number of years and has returned after being on maternity leave after the birth of her first child.
- Congratulations to Miss Pelekis, teacher of KP, for her recent marriage. Miss Pelekis had a wonderful day and looked absolutely stunning. Her wedding day was everything that she hoped for and more. We will welcome back Mrs Wiltshire when she returns after her honeymoon.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our students, staff, parents, and community members who continue to make Gymea Bay Public School a place of continued growth and learning.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

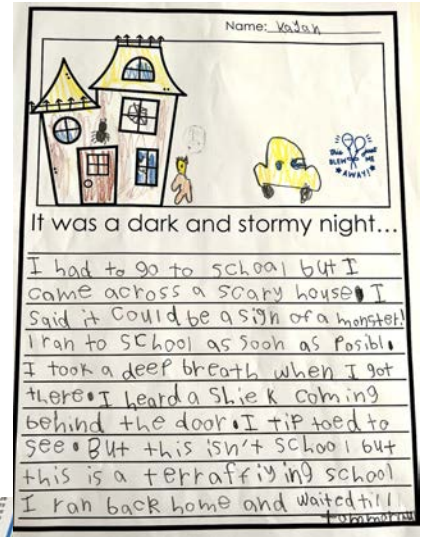
Mrs Cara Davidson
Principal

What's happening in ...



Writing Highlight! Kayan (K/1J) showing some incredible creative skills in his writing this week!

KM enjoyed the morning reading and writing with our buddies.



Stage 1

Our Stage 1 students attended an excursion to Sydney Sea Life Aquarium and Sydney Wildlife Park in Week 1. They showed exemplary behaviour and had a wonderful time.



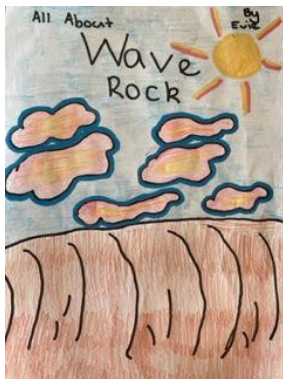
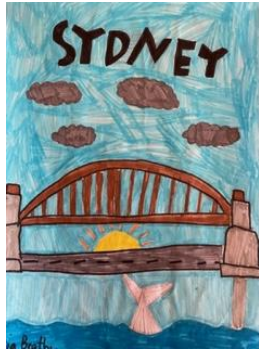
Stage 2

Week 1 Friday STEM Challenge: To build the tallest structure using playing cards. Lots of collaboration and concentration was in evidence as well as frustration as Stage 2 students attempted to build a structure from playing cards.





Some examples of the fantastic covers 3/4J created for their information books about a place in Australia.





Year 6 Farewell and Graduation December 7 2023 The Gymea Tradies Club

Exciting News

This year when we celebrate the students coming to the end of Year 6 and their primary school years we are going to have a combined Farewell and Graduation. Students will arrive at the Tradies for the Year 6 Farewell at 6.15 pm and parents/carers are invited into the room at 8.45 pm for the formal part of the proceedings when Year 6 students will graduate. Further information will be communicated.

We're thrilled to have all our amazing students back in Stage 3 as we kick off the final term of this school year. We are ready for another term of learning , fun and growth. Stage 3 are engaging in the English unit of work, diving headfirst into the magical world of Roald Dahl where they will be investigating several texts and exploring concepts of informative writing.



More GBPS Information...

This term we have 15 Stage 3 students representing our school at School Spectacular rehearsals and performances over a number of weeks. They have already been working incredibly hard and we are excited to see the final product on the 24th and 25th of November at Qudos Bank Arena.

Tickets are on sale now.

Visit the link to secure your seat:

<https://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/show.aspx...>



14 NOVEMBER KINDERGARTEN DANCE GROUPS WAKAKIRRI	GBPS SHOWCASE  SAVE THE DATE <i>Performances will be in the evening, further details to come</i>	15 NOVEMBER BAND, UKULELE, SINGERS, STRINGLES, STRINGS, GUITAR
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Movember

This November
Gymea Bay Public
School is asking the
community to join us
for Movember.

*Scan to join the team or
donate*



PIC•COLLAGE



Mobile Phone and Similar Devices Policy

The Department of Education's Policy in relation to mobile phones and similar devices ie smart watches at school outlines that these are to be kept at home or in school bags during school time. I have included the link below to our guidelines based on policy for your perusal. I would appreciate your support with this and remind parents that students are not to use their BYOD devices, mobile phones, smart watches etc to contact parents during the school day nor are parents to contact their child. Please go through the office if required.



 [GBPS Mobile Phone/Similar Devices Guidelines](#)

Does your child know how to stay safe on social media?

For parents and carers

- [eSafety Commissioner's Online hate](#), videos and support services for young people.
- [eSafety Commissioner's Consent for sharing photos and videos](#), tips and support for young people.
- [eSafety Commissioner's Be an eSafe kid](#), online safety messages for young children.
- [eSafety Commissioner's eSafety](#), to help young people stay safe online.
- [Social media benefits and risks](#), managing risks for pre-teens and teenagers.
- [eSafety Commissioner's Use social media and online chat](#) and [Report online harm](#)


Kiss and Drop Zone

If you use the Kiss and Drop zone, thank you for following the road rules.

The Kiss and Drop Zone located on Gymea Bay Road (past gate 3) is for your convenience and for your child's safety. Designed for quick entry and exit, it minimises congestion and risk when used properly by all parents.

- The Kiss and Drop Zone operates under 'No Parking' traffic rules.
- Stopping for more than 2 minutes is not allowed in a No Parking area. Therefore the Kiss and Drop Zone cannot be used for parking between 8am-9.30am and 2.30pm-4pm on school days.
- You are obliged to remain in, or within 3 metres of your vehicle.
- If you are waiting for your child, please move forward to allow other vehicles to enter the zone.

Sutherland Council Rangers, Parking Officers and the Police enforce these rules and issue penalties, so always use the zone correctly to avoid fines.




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!





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](#)

Community Information...



HAVE A BLAST PLAY CRICKET



CRICKET BLAST SKILLS	CRICKET BLAST COMP
\$100	\$125
Girls & Boys Ages 5 - 8	Girls & Boys Ages 7 - 10
Fridays, 6pm - 7pm @ Gymea Bay Oval	Saturdays, 8am - 9am @ Kareela Synthetic
All equipment provided	All equipment provided
Introductory program, teaching kids fundamental skills & movements	Small modified games of cricket against other Clubs and teams
Great way for kids to learn essential motor skills - e.g. catching, throwing	FREE shirt for every new player!
BBQ in operation every week	Teachings kids the gameplay of cricket
Included: 	Included: 
  	
For more info email our Junior Registrar John @ juniors@gymeabaycricketclub.com	
<i>REGISTER HERE</i>	

Little Star Mandarin

WHEN: 3.10pm -- 4.10pm Tuesday

WHERE: Computer Room in Library

COST: \$18 / lesson (Please enrol for one Term)

Contact: Franny YANG

0426 365 003

littlestarmandarin2017@gmail.com



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你好!