22 November 2016

From the Principal

Approaching the End of the Year

As we approach the end of the year it’s time to commence saying goodbye to our Teaching colleagues and friends who’ll be doing something different in 2017. I’d like to extend my gratitude to each of these people for their work in our school during the time they’ve spent here and thank them for the difference they have made in the lives of the children.

A special mention to Miss Anne O’Connor who is commencing leave then retiring after 30+ years of teaching. Miss O’Connor has been a part of our school for over a decade and during this time has influenced the lives of hundreds of children. Parents have known Miss O’Connor to be a dedicated, firm, fair and caring teacher – qualities they’ve appreciated and admired. She is also held in high esteem by her colleagues who’ve learned from her or benefitted from her wisdom. She has influenced the organisation and operation of significant programs in her time here and I’ve appreciated her input. She’s going to be with us during our pupil free days in January where her colleagues will again learn from her.

Miss O’Connor has a hankering for travel and initially will head off to see parts of the world that inspire her. But I suspect she’ll never really get teaching out of her system and her thoughts will wander back to the business of educating and caring for Australia’s children. Thank you Miss O’Connor for your dedication to the lives of young Far North Queenslanders.

I’m sure as members of our community you’ll find a moment to thank all our departing staff over the next three weeks.

Transferring from of our school:

- Mr Nicholas Hiron, moving to Clover Hill State School, Gold Coast
- Mrs Paula Fuller, moving to Woree State School Special Education Unit
- Mrs Christine Reeves, moving to Northern Peninsula Area College, Bamaga
- Mrs Alicia Smith, moving to Woree State High School, Special Education Unit

Commencing leave of 12 months or greater

- Mr Matthew Allen, teaching in New Zealand
- Miss Anne O’Connor, retiring
- Ms Jane Yeats

Relieving at a higher level, 12 months

- Miss Samantha Hounslow, Advisory Teacher, Hearing Impairment
- Mrs Marie Janse, Head of Curriculum, Innisfail State School

Finishing contracts

- Mrs Tina Nissen

We welcome some new people joining us and some returning from leave.

Transferring into our school:

- Mrs Elizabeth Hansford, Head of Curriculum, from Western Cape College, Weipa

Returning from leave

- Mrs Sarah Jane Noonan
- Mrs Gillian Pollard
- Mrs Corrine Newman
New appointments

Miss Maddison Stuart Weedman

Presentation Parade

Each year we celebrate the achievements of our students at our Presentation Parade on the last Thursday of the term. We award a range of significant annual awards and prizes to children and recognise the end of primary school for our year six students. I invite all members of our school community to attend.

- Thursday 8th December 2016
- Venue: School hall
- Doors open at 9:00am for a 9:15am start
- Presentations conclude by 10:30am
- Morning tea is provided for parents, community members and guests

Cyber Safety – Date Claimer

In Partnership with Gordonvale State High School, we’ll be providing student sessions and a parent information evening concentrating on Cyber Safety. Noted Australian author and presenter, Susan McLean will run the program for us. Put Tuesday April 18th 2017 in your diary as a chance to update your knowledge of how to help your children stay safe in the online world.

Parenting Insights

Being able to solve your own problems is the epitome of independence. When we help our children be great problem solvers we’re helping them develop life skills that will be applicable anywhere and stand them in good stead forever. This week’s article from Michael Grose provides us some guidance on how we can do this. As usual it’s a short and interesting read.

Regards,
Mr Perkins

HOC News

Over the last few weeks there has been a major transformation of the Maths/Science storeroom. What was once a dumping ground for all manner of things has been sorted and organised. It is important for teachers to be able to access resources that are engaging for students in an efficient manner.

There have been a variety of people who have assisted in the transformation, these include:

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- Loretta who started the organisation process by removing old and broken resources
- The cleaners who reorganised and cleaned the area
- Deb, Carollyn and Liz who helped cull old and broken resources and printed labels
- David who delivered 5 trailer loads to the skip

As you can see by the photos it is now clean, tidy and organised. Well done to all who assisted in bringing about this miraculous change.

Kindest regards,
Mrs Janse

Master Teacher News

I feel that I can’t emphasise enough the importance of mathematics. It is something we take for granted every time we pay a bill, measure out a recipe’s ingredients or calculate a deadline. It is also at the root of much of modern life, from the algorithms used by internet search engines and mobile phones, to the percentage calculations of political opinion pollsters. As a result, it is in high demand from employers recruiting across all industries, while the government has become increasingly keen to stress the importance of mathematical skills to Australia’s economic future.

We are working hard at school to increase your child’s ability in maths but attitudes are harder to change and it can hold students back. Make sure you are positive and interested in your child’s number sense, practise their timetables and counting with them or challenge them with addition and subtraction problems. If you are struggling to remember, like me, set a reminder in your phone!

Last Week’s Teaser

The answer to last week’s puzzle is answer D, the cylinder is the heaviest.

This Week’s Teaser

This week’s teaser is a hard one, good luck! What is special about the number 8549176320?

Warm Regards,
Ms Robinson

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From the Volunteer Chaplain

My name is Mrs Van Hassel; you can call me Miss Wendy. Thanks for the warm welcome to the school. I am new to the school volunteering as a school Chaplain; I have been involved in our school chaplaincy program for 7-8 years as secretary/treasurer on the Local Chaplaincy Committee.

I have been enjoying getting to know some students and learning their names. I’m sure you will see me around school so feel free to come up and say hello, I’d love to meet you! If you would like to organise a time to catch up please contact the office. Thank you for your support for our Free Dress for Chaplaincy day.

Regards,
Mrs Van Hassel

Sports News

4-7 Swimming Carnival 2016

This year’s swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday 7th December. Students should come to school as normal and we will walk up to the pool together.

- Wear togs under clothes.
- Bring: hat, shoes, sun cream, food, towel, change of clothes, drink and best cheering voice.

The kiosk will be open but there will be limited access with no lollies or soft drink available. Tuckshop orders for food packs can be placed at school in the morning and these will be brought up at big lunch. Students are encouraged to bring enough food and drink with them to last the whole day.

Regards,
Mr L’Orange

Class News!

Prep

Thank You Mrs Poglio & Mrs Lennox!

The Prep students would like to thank Mrs Poglio and Mrs Lennox for their fantastic efforts in creating a fun mural to brighten our playground.

Year 1A

A Christmas Exchange!

The Year 1 students at Gordonvale State School have once again joined with 100 other schools around Australia to participate in the Christmas Exchange. Each student has created a Christmas gift and written a short letter which has been sent to a class in another school. Over the remaining weeks of this term our students will receive letters from 25 of the other participating schools. We plan to mark on a map where the other schools are located and display their gift. It is a great way to communicate with other students and to learn about other places.

Happy Reading!
Miss Reichardt and Mrs Curcuruto
Warm regards,
Ms O'Neill

Year 6C
Operation Shoebox!

A huge thank you for all the support for Operation Christmas Child. I was overwhelmed with the amount of items donated – clothes, toys, games, books, pencils, jewellery and much more. 6C put together 27 boxes that were collected yesterday and will be distributed in early December in countries such as Thailand and Indonesia. Again, thank you for your generosity and for helping to put a smile on a child’s face this Christmas.

Warm regards
Mrs Wilkie

Five Citizens

Our school vision is centred on creating active and informed citizens for the 21st century. Our vision identifies five key areas for building the citizenship skill of our students. This week we demonstrate:

Informed
Out and About with Prep B!

On Wednesday the 9th of November the 3 Prep classes went on an excursion to visit the Gordonvale Post Office, Police Station and Park. The children have been learning how to write letters this term, and went to see what happens to our letters when we post them. We have been talking about being safe and the Police helped us to learn more about this.

The students in Prep B wrote about their day;

“On Wednesday we went to the Police Station and I got to hold the baton. Constable Glenn put on the sirens and it was very noisy.”

Joy

“On Wednesday we went on an excursion to the Police Station and Senior Constable turned the siren on and it was noisy for my ears, so much I couldn’t hear anything. I like the Police Car.”

Nate

“On Wednesday we went on an excursion to the Police Station. I got to put the handcuffs on and it was fun. Oh and Constable Glen turned on the siren.”

Jack

“We got to look at the Police Car and it was fun.”

Alivia

“At the Police Station Senior Constable Glen let us hold the handcuffs and they were very heavy, and he put on the siren.”

Ruby

“At the Police Station I got to hold the handcuffs and I got to go in the suit and it was heavy but it fitted me and I had to wait my turn.”

Sebastian

“On Wednesday I went on the excursion to the Police Station. I got to hold the handcuffs and I got to see the Police car and inside the car. I got to hear the sirens on the Police car. It was very loud I had to cover my ears, I could still hear the sirens. I got to try on the Police jacket, it was very heavy and it was too big.”

Layla

“At the Police Station I got to hold the baton and it was very heavy, I saw the Police car and it was the best day ever.”

Elora

“At the Police Station we got to meet Senior Constable Glen and Constable Steve. We got to hold the handcuffs, hear the siren and hold the baton.”

Caleb
“On Wednesday we went on an excursion to the Police Station and Senior Constable Glen helped us to learn lots of new things.”

Levi

“On the excursion I went to the Police Station and I saw the Police car and I got to hear the siren and it was very noisy.”

Hope

“On Wednesday we went to the Post Office and we saw a lot of cool things. I learnt a lot of new things at the Post Office. Ruby bought the stamp for a letter we wrote to Mrs Janse, who is a teacher at our school. Levi’s Mum showed us where her Post Box is and got her mail. Levi and Emily put their letters in the red post box.”

Elora

“When we went to the Post Office, there was Melissa and she talked to us about letters.”

Isla

“At the Post Office we saw the Santa letter box. Melissa talked to us and gave us a pen to take home.”

Summer

“On Wednesday I went to the Post Office. Ruby posted our letter to Mrs Janse. Even I got to go out the back of the post office. There were boxes on the shelves, white bags and an express bag that was yellow. I got to see Levi’s Mum’s mailbox, the number was 82 and 2. I got to see the Santa letter box. It was really fun at the Post Office, I really liked the Post Office.”

Layla

“At the Post Office I am going to post Santa’s letter in the red mail box and the red van will collect my mail. I will give it to him when it’s December and the red van will take it faraway up in to the sky, because Santa lives up there.”

Sebastian

“On Wednesday we went to the Post Office. Ruby bought a stamp for our letter to Mrs Janse and then Kallen put it in the mailbox. Levi put his letter in the red mailbox. We talked to Melissa and we got to take a letter home to make for Santa Claus.”

Cheers,
Mrs Anderson

Eco

Aquaponics!

If you have no space, water and no money for a garden then there is a great solution, Aquaponics.

Aquaponics is farming where plants and animals work together to grow healthy crops.

This system is great to have because it uses 90% less water than traditional farming. When using this aquaponics system we save money, water, energy and other valuable resources.

When we use this system there tends to be less diseases and pest problems because the fish manure prevents bugs eating the crops. Fish manure also provides the nutrients for the plants to grow which saves money normally spent on expensive fertilisers.

We have enjoyed doing aquaponics for our project because we got to work together, using building equipment to make our aquaponics system and also being able to write an article for The Cairns Post has been a fun experience.

While we were working on our project we learnt how to use building equipment to make a working aquaponics system. We also learnt that aquaponics is a sustainable type of farming. We had a promotion stall at the Gordonvale State School Fete where many people enjoyed learning how the system works.

Written by Bianca and Mahlinee Year 6 Gordonvale State School

Creative

World War Two

I can see:
People fighting to get freedom
Explosions killing brave man
Infernos spreading, destroying cities
Lead bullets flying across me

I can hear:
Bullets exploding out of a gun
People yelling for help
Crying people ready to die
Sad soldiers leaving home

I can feel:
Lead bullets in my leg
Rocks raining from the sky
People carrying me to help
Pain inside ready to die

By Johnathon 3C
Tuckshop Talk

Closure Notice

Please note that the Tuckshop will be closed on the following dates:

- Thursday 8th December
- Friday 9th December

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Regards,
Ms Wilkinson

School Banking Day Reminder!

Don’t forget that **Wednesday** is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their regular savings habits. The class with the most banking deposits for the week is also awarded the Golden Platypus Award. So don’t forget your banking!

*Warm regards,*
*Sue O’Reilly, School Banking Co-ordinator*

Student awards go too…

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 4 Week 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>George</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kallen</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vince</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Xanthe</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jasmine</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jessica</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Zach</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gabriela</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Term 4 Week 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roharni</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zanda</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lyberti</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beau</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ben</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evan</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Haylee</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dean</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shama</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Daniel</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amelia</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bailey</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Mathletes of the Week!

Week 5 – Term 4

**Lower School**
1. William 3C
2. Alex 2A
3. Damon 3B

**Upper School**
1. Jayden 4C
2. Sabastian 6C
3. George 6A

Week 6 – Term 4

**Lower School**
1. Jack 2A
2. Alex 2A
3. Jessica 2B

**Upper School**
1. George 6A
2. Jayden 4C
3. Sabastian 6C
Attendance Award

Week 5 – Term 4
Lower School Class Grade – 2B 95.7%!

Week 6 – Term 4
Lower School Class Grade 2B 97.4%!

Upper School Class Grade – 4/5 96.9%!

Upper School Class Grade 4C 95.8%!

Admin News

CASUAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE
SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR

We are seeking interested persons for a casual position, approximately 1.5 hours per day, on a rotating roster, school days only. Positions available throughout the Gordonvale area.

Approved applicants will be required to undergo a medical assessment and pass a blue card application.

Pay rate starts at $28.00 per hour. Please call 07 4045 8515 for an application package.

Have you moved?

The end of year is fast approaching and the last day of school will be here before we know it. Report Cards along with next year’s booklist will be mailed home on the last day of school. It is imperative that we have your correct mailing address on file or you will not receive your child’s report. If you have recently moved or just wish to check your details please phone the office ASAP!

Prep 2017 Enrolments

Children born between 1st July 2011 and 30th June 2012 are eligible to enrol for Prep in 2017. A birth certificate and 2 forms of your proof of residency must be submitted with your application for it to be accepted. Gordonvale State School is a catchment school therefore you must have a Gordonvale address to attend this school or have siblings who are already enrolled. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the school office.

Lost Property

The end of the year is fast approaching. Please remember to check the lost property for any misplaced items. All items unclaimed will be donated to charity at the end of the year.

Bring Home a Big Brother Or Sister & Bring French Culture To Life!

Why not volunteer to host an international student from France next year? We have a small group of delightful French students coming to Australia for 10 weeks to immerse in local Australian culture, experience our High schools, sports, environment and lifestyle. All the French students are around 15 years old, speak excellent English, have their own spending money, cover all
school expenses, and we arrange all aspects of their program. They are looking forward to joining an Australian family for a short term. It’s fun and interesting to help these young people achieve their Australian dream. If you’d like to know more, please email your interest to Rob at Inter Cultural Management on rl@scce.com.au.

## Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November 2016</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Library books due back</td>
<td>Friday 18th November (Last Friday)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>All home readers due back</td>
<td>Friday 25th November (This Friday)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Instruction Concludes for 2016</td>
<td>Friday 25th November</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Banking</td>
<td>Wednesday 23rd</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Captain Speeches</td>
<td>Friday 25th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Banking</td>
<td>Wednesday 30th</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>December 2016</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Stall</td>
<td>Thursday 1st</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Stall</td>
<td>Friday 2nd</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Banking</td>
<td>Wednesday 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Wednesday 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
<td>Wednesday 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation Parade</td>
<td>Thursday 8th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuckshop Closed</td>
<td>Thursday 8th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuckshop Closed</td>
<td>Friday 9th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report Cards Posted Home</td>
<td>Friday 9th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Booklists Issued with Report Cards</td>
<td>Friday 9th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of School</td>
<td>Friday 9th</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 2017</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
<td>Thursday 19th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
<td>Friday 20th</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Year Commences</td>
<td>Monday 23rd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Banking</td>
<td>Wednesday 25th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>Thursday 26th</td>
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## Community Notices

**What** | **When** | **Where**
---|---|---
Cancer Council Qld Cairns Branch Christmas Stall | Saturday 3rd December | Gordonvale Markets (cool gifts for your teacher)
Carols by Candlelight | Wednesday 7th December | Edmonton
Carols in the Park | Friday 9th December | Norman Park Gordonvale
Christmas for Kids Free Program | Thursday 15th 9:30am-12:30pm  
Friday 16th 9:30am-12:30pm | St Paul’s Presbyterian Church  
eas ages 6-13yrs ph.: 4045 3777
Little Lifesavers Program | Sept 2016 – April 2017 | Cairns Lagoon
Cartoon Camp | Monday 12th – Friday 16th Dec | Freemasons Hall
Drama Workshops Yr 3 - Yr 6 | Wednesday’s 3pm – 4pm | Gordonvale State School  
Contact: Natalie 0466 574 991
Dad’s Group | Thursday’s 9am – 11am | Living Waters 72-74 Gordon St  
Phone: Rob 0475 696700
Girl Guides | | Cnr Church & George Street  
Phone: Melanie 0416041510
Gordonvale Goannas Playgroup | Monday’s 9.30am - 11.30am | QCWA Hall Gordonvale  
Phone: Debbie 4067 5344
Outside School Hours Care

FUN STARTS HERE
PCYC EDMONTON-GORDONVALE SCHOOL AGE CARE
OFFERS AN ACTION PACKED VACATION CARE PROGRAM

Our program changes each school holidays, but you can expect to see the most exciting activities including:
- Sports, games, activities designed for kids
- Water activities in summer
- Science, cooking, crafts
- Academically more active

Vacation Care at PCYC Gordonvale School Age Care
Our program is accredited by the Department of Education Queensland.

Fees:
- Full fees are due prior to attending our program.
- Some activities are optional and are charged at cost.
- QLD State Government COG fees (COG 16) are charged to the Queensland Children's Cycle (QCY). You must be registered with Queensland Health if you are over 60.
- The COG 16 fee is 60% of the cost of school holidays.
- All payments are final and non-refundable.

For more information, please call us on 4226 4900.

CALL 4045 6540
www.pcyc.org.qld/vacationcare

Gordonvale State High School Presentation Evening!

It was fantastic to see so many past Gordonvale State Primary School students being presented with Academic Awards at the GSHS Presentation Evening. Three of our students also played in their High School Band, which entertained us throughout the night.

Mrs Robinson and Mr Perkins were invited to present Year 7-10 Academic Merit, Academic Distinction, Personal Excellence and Subject Awards.

Other Perpetual Awards received from past students included The Honourable Warren Pitt Scholarship Award, Member for Mulgrave Youth Volunteer Award, Junior Sportsperson of the Year, ADF Long Tan Leadership & Teamwork Award and the JCU Academic Encouragement Award.

One of the most prestigious Awards, Senior Dux, was awarded to Ryan Hoolihan a past student of Gordonvale Primary School. Ryan completed 8 years of schooling with us and is a true example of how you can Grow Strive and Succeed in everything you do. Ryan hopes to go to James Cook University to study Engineering. Congratulations to Ryan and all other students receiving awards!

Gordonvale State Primary Presentation Day parade will be held on Thursday 8th December. We look forward to seeing parents, families and friends attend the special event.

Kindest regards,
Mrs Houghton

We want to hear from you

Your input as parents and carers of Gordonvale State School students is greatly valued. If you have any feedback or ideas on how we can communicate better with the Gordonvale State School community, or have a good news story to share, please contact Jo by email at jcuda4@eq.edu.au.

Advertising in the SCHOME

If you would like to advertise your business in the SCHOME, please contact Jude Dawson, Schoolzine Advertising Accounts Manager.

Jude Dawson
Ph: 5414 2363
Mob: 0432 538 927
Email: jude.dawson@schoolzine.com.au

Back to School with TOSCO

Do your Booklist shopping the easy and affordable way.
Order Online at www.tosco.booklists.com.au and use the code GORD1805

Well Women’s Clinic at Edmonton Community Health

(These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)

Monday 5th December 2016

Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Domestic Violence, etc. All services are provided by a specially trained Women’s Health Nurse.

For appointments phone 4226 4900