

Blues News



Gosford High School & Community News

Find us at: Racecourse Road, Gosford 2250 T 4325 2048 F 4323 3175 E gosford-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Issue September 2017 – Term 3

4/09/2017

Gosford High P&C News

Next P&C Meeting:
Tuesday 5th September at 6:00 pm
Common Room- Everyone welcome

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Student Leaders

On Thursday 24 August the staff of the school were enthralled by the speeches presented by the Year 11 students standing for positions on the Student Leadership Team for 2018. While none of us were truly surprised by the fact that each student was highly articulate and engaging in their presentations, what was so pleasing to hear was the absolute passion that each had for our school and local community. To hear of the many experiences and achievements of our future leaders was astonishing, and their vision to build on the rich history of our school while leaving a legacy of their own for others to benefit from was inspiring. Following the presentations to staff, the students then presented to their peers the following day before votes were taken and counted.

Congratulations to the following students who were elected onto the Leadership Team for 2018:



Hamish Booth



Lachlan Blake



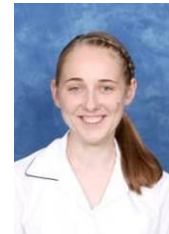
Amy Dunstan



Lulu Englund



Emma Holburn



Amelia Johns



Thomas Kelly



Arie Maljers



Jessie Martin



Mitchell Sigley

While I know that each of these wonderful young men and women will represent our school and its students with distinction, I have no doubts that each of the other candidates would have been equally adept had they been elected. However, as in most facets of our lives, not everybody can be a 'winner'. I know that those who stood for positions are equally as proud of our school and will continue to be wonderful students in our school, leading initiatives of their own and working in cooperation with the elected leaders and staff.

I am very much looking forward to working with our new leadership team and hope that together, we can continue to foster positive relationships and build on the extraordinary culture that has been built at Gosford by those that have gone before us.

School Administrative and Support Staff Appreciation Week

This week we say a huge thank you to our School Administrative and Support Staff. Our office staff, General Assistant, Farm Assistant, Technology Support Officer, Laboratory, Library and Kitchen Assistants all support our student's learning on a daily basis. Activities such as excursions, sporting events, visiting speakers, musicals, arts performances and student initiated clubs would not run as efficiently as they do without our SAS staff. In addition, our first aid, attendance records, enrolments, finance and maintenance are all programs that are overseen by these wonderful members of staff. Each of these highly valued members of our school community perform their duties with remarkable commitment. They also take an active interest in the progress and welfare of each and every student in the school. We are indeed fortunate to have the School Administrative and Support Staff that we do.

Trial HSC

It was wonderful to be able to welcome our Year 12 students back into classes last week following their Trial HSC examinations. In speaking with a number of students, they all seemed to agree that the examinations gave them a fair indication of where they are currently situated in their final preparations for the actual HSC examinations.

The most important part of the process now is for students to concentrate on the feedback they are receiving from their teachers and to use this feedback for further improvement. Students should make time to plan how that feedback can be effectively implemented into their study and preparation for final examinations – even redoing the questions under examination conditions and asking teachers to remark what you have done.

While the school assessment period has been completed, students can still improve the mark that has been sent to NESA. The HSC examination marks and school assessment marks are moderated against each other. If all students do well in the HSC examinations, there is still scope for the school assessment marks to be adjusted upwards.

Keep in the back of your mind - *"If we all do well, we all do well."*

In keeping with this, thank you to all students who are coming to the Library of a Tuesday afternoon to work in their study groups. This is an ideal way to effectively work with peers and share resources while still in 'work' mode at school. Everybody is welcome.

NAPLAN

Much was said and written in the lead up to this year's NAPLAN tests about the NSW Minister for Education's decision to link NAPLAN results to the Stronger HSC Standards. Students had their first opportunity to meet this standard by achieving a Band 8 result or higher in aspects of NAPLAN. Students will have further opportunities to meet this standard in each subsequent year.

We are very proud of our students' achievements every day and we know that in whatever they do, they give their personal best. Like in everything, one's personal best varies from day to day. Our NAPLAN results for Year 9 students demonstrated that overall, we had fewer students achieve results at Band 7 level or lower than in previous years and this was very heartening. However, there are still areas for us to improve upon.

If we think back to the original concepts underpinning the implementation of NAPLAN, it was to be a diagnostic tool for schools to be able to identify students, and areas within the curriculum, where additional support was required. At Gosford High School we are doing just that. We have staff who are currently working through the NAPLAN papers and examining the markers comments and schedules. They are looking at the scripts of our students and are identifying areas that we need to work on. Our school improvement teams will then investigate those and determine what strategies can be put into place for further improvement.

We will continue to strive for improvement in all of the programs that we offer at the school, both within the curriculum and in curriculum enrichment activities, and hope that we can develop this mindset in our students. It is this that will foster further improvement, not the narrow focus on the results of one test on one day.

Debating

Congratulations to our Year 10 debating team who have won the Central Coast zone series of the Premier's Debating Challenge. They have gone through the preliminary rounds of this competition undefeated.

On Friday 1st September this team, comprising Georgina Buckmaster, Emily Garnett, Sophie Baxter and Trinity Stockwell, travelled to Lambton High School to contest the Regional Final against arch rivals Merewether High. They rose up to a significant challenge and all spoke with impressive poise and substantial arguments. The team argued against the topic that arts and music subjects should be replaced by more science, proving once and for all that creativity is more important than facts. After debating together since Year 7, the team should be very proud of their achievement and are a credit to the Gosford High community.



Gosford High School
Regional Champion Debaters

Japanese Visit

Our school was fortunate to host a group of 20 students from Seibudai-Chiba High School, located in an area just to the north-west of Tokyo. It's always wonderful to have our students being able to experience the culture and language of students when they visit in this way. Our Japanese visitors attended a number of English language classes as well as other classes within the curriculum with their host from Gosford High. On top of this, they visited a number of local tourist attractions.

On their final day at our school, each of the Japanese students were asked to speak of their experiences through the design of their 'local' Hello Kitty. In what is a daunting task for many, to speak in front of an audience, the Japanese students speaking in English handled it with aplomb and gave a wonderful insight into what they valued most about visiting the Central Coast.

Thanks must go to Ms Brownlee and Ms Heinrich for organising this exchange and to all of our hosts and their families for making our visitors so welcome.

We look forward to the reciprocal visit when our students and staff visit Japan in the next school holidays.



Snow Trip

Year 10 PASS students recently had a week in the snowfields having their physical skills tested while, for many, developing a completely new skill set. It was a wonderful time for our students to visit, as there had been significant recent snowfalls and the fields were in excellent condition. Apart from a couple of days of inclement weather, students were able to enjoy the 'mountain life' whether as a snowboarder or skier.

Again, thanks go to the PDHPE staff who gave of their time away from family to ensure students were able to participate in this experience. Staff included: Mr Madden, Mr Titheradge and Ms Malone.



Higher Ability Selection Test

This year, we have introduced that for students seeking enrolment into Years 8-11 the need to sit for the Australian Council of Educational Research's, Higher Ability Selection Test. The results of this test, along with a portfolio of other achievements will be used by our selection committees to determine who will be made an offer into Gosford High School should vacancies arise in any of those Year groups.

We have joined a 'consortium' of other selective high schools who require students to sit this test and all agree to share results so that should students be applying for more than one selective school, the common piece of data on student ability is available to all.

Of course, this is but one piece of evidence used by the selection committees in making their decision. Other evidence such as NAPLAN results, academic competitions and participation in curriculum enrichment activities, all 'paint a picture' of the students who we are able to offer placement to.

This test was administered in the school on Saturday 12 August with results being sent back to the school last week. Our selection committees will meet in the near future to consider the applications received and make offers for 2018 should places be available.

Gosford City Learning Community Awards

In yet another awards ceremony, held in conjunction with Education Week, the GCLC comprising Henry Kendall High School, Gosford Public School, Point Clare Public School and ourselves, also paid homage to significant members of our communities.

The following students, parents and staff were recognised:

- Kim Hewitt and Lisa Ambridge for their services to a number of school programs as parents of the school,
- Jackie Morris and Amanda Page for outstanding administrative skills in supporting the transition to the Learning Management Business Reform package,
- Charlotte Englund, Charlotte Michalowski, Darcy Dunlop, madeleine Stocks, Miles Tilley, Monika Shakeri, Peter Sutherland and Tasia Kuznichenko for achieving Premier's All-Rounder Awards in the 2016 HSC,
- Jessie Martin, Lachlan Blake, Lulu Englund and Mikhail Savkin for outstanding performances or contributions to current school programs, and
- Judith Heinrich for her support of students studying subjects external to the school through Open High School and Sydney Distance Education.

Again, on behalf of the school, I congratulate and thank all recipients.

Central Coast Public Education Awards

On Tuesday 15 August we were very proud to be able to recognise three wonderful members of our school community for their contributions to the school and its students at the Central Coast Public Education Awards of Appreciation ceremony.

Each of the recipients from Gosford High School, Ms Lea Colwell, Ms Judith Partridge and Ms Maxine Johnson received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Director of Public Schools, NSW Lisa Muir. The citations for each stated:

“Lea is recognised for her passion, enthusiasm and dedication to Gosford High School’s students and their families through the P&C.”

“Judith has made an outstanding contribution to the performing arts through the music curriculum, band programs and musical productions.”

“Maxine provides excellent leadership of the school’s TAS faculty. The direction she affords for Workplace Health and Safety practice is comprehensive and exemplary.”

On behalf of the school, I pass on my congratulations and thanks to these highly valued members of our community.



HSC Bodies of Work and Music Performances

Congratulations to all of our wonderful Year 12 Visual Arts students who assembled their Bodies of Work to be displayed to our community recently. Not only was the audience astonished by the quality of work, but the variety too demonstrated the wide range of skills and abilities of our students. With such an outstanding array of work, augers well for students to achieve wonderful results for their hard work and dedication once the works are presented to the HSC examiners.

This quality of work would not be possible without the advice, dedication and expertise of our Visual Arts staff Ms Susan Ange, Ms Liz Courtenay and Head Teacher Ms Wendy Mortimer.



Not to be outdone, on the same evening, our HSC Music students performed for a very appreciative audience, pieces from their repertoires to be presented to HSC markers. Again, it was the variety and quality of performance that was the highlight of the evening.

Congratulations to all students and their teacher Mr Matt Kelly for the expertise put into these performances.



40 Hour Famine

Congratulations to all students and staff who participated in the 40 Hour Famine and the students who organised it. Gosford High School set a target of \$3000 as a realistic goal to contribute to this World Vision program. At the completion of counting, the total had reached over \$9000. A magnificent achievement. In speaking with the World Vision representative at our assembly last Wednesday, he pointed out that the Gosford High School community has contributed a total of over \$100,000 to the program since its inception.

This is just one other example of how our students and community contribute to the wider community to support those in need. Well done to all.

Sascha Sails Sinbad

Recently, we were fortunate to invite former student Murray Emerton back into the school to speak to Year 12 students. Murray left Gosford High in 2003 and pursued a career in pharmacy. Later, his career took a change in direction into the corporate world within the medical field. It was here that he discovered the need for further research and resources to combat neuroendocrine tumours. As a result of that, Murray has now left the corporate world, bought a yacht (Sinbad) and is currently sailing from Sydney to far north Queensland with his partner Nia and dog Sascha, raising both money for The Unicorn Foundation and awareness of neuroendocrine tumours.

Murray's message to Year 12 was that it is essential to achieve your personal best level in whatever you do and through this you will be able to "top up your Opal card for as many journeys as you'd like to take in whatever direction". I thought that this was a wonderful analogy of what the HSC is all about – to open as many doors as possible. After that, students will choose their pathway; one which may change many times.

We can all follow Murray's next life journey on the social media sites Instagram - @sasch.sails.sinbad and on Facebook – Sascha Sails Sinbad.

We wish Murray (and Sascha) well in his adventures.



100 Guitars Project

A great initiative of Mr Andrew, who proposed that we have 100 guitarists playing in unison at a lunchtime 'jam session'. Through consultation with a number of students, a play list was established and the date set for Thursday 31 August.

While we didn't quite make the total of 100 performers, there was enough of a positive spirit and atmosphere to ensure the success of the event.

Thank you to all who participated and it has inspired me to continue practising (I need to) for the next event where we will endeavour to get closer to our target of 100 performers.

Tony Rudd
Principal



Coming Events

September 2017

Tues 5/9	P&C Meeting Year 8 Information & Open Afternoon 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm
Wed 6/9	Yr 11 Preliminary Exams (6–15 Sept) CHS Athletics (6-8 Sept)
Wed 20/9	Prefect Induction (9.10 – 10.20 am) Year 12 Presentation Rehearsal
Thur 21/9	Year 12 Presentation Assembly (9.15 – 11 am)
Fri 22/9	Last day of Term 3

October 2017

Mon 9/10	Term 4 - students return to school
Mon 16/10	HSC commences (16 Oct – 10 Nov)
Fri 20/10	Bandfest 2017 – CB2
Tues 24/10	P&C Meeting 6.00 – 8.30 pm

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

A Reminder To Parents To Notify The School About Your Child's Health

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops. Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the Principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing. Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts. We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Flu Season has arrived at GHS

The school, both staff and students, have been hit by influenza and many other viruses. I encourage students to remain home if they are unwell. The flu seems to take six days to recover from. Students must rest at home or we just spread the illness. Year 12 cannot afford to contract illness at this time.

Year 12

Our vision for all our Year 12 students as they begin their exit from secondary education and transition to post

school destination is that they will have maximised their academic potential, developed individual skills and talents across a variety of areas, developed learning strategies to equip them to be independent, self-motivated and life-long learners, developed emotional resilience, self-reliance, interpersonal skills, the capacity to connect to others and leadership potential with a strong sense of social justice as well as a commitment to fairness and equity. Next week sees Year 12 students commence their final four weeks of school. We have been really proud of the students' focus and commitment to their studies and the quality with which they have engaged in their preparations for Trial HSC exams. As is always the case, emphasis is to be placed on a growth mindset, with students encouraged to reflect on previous assessment and set new targets for improvement. The HSC is an ongoing journey with the goal posts set for HSC examinations in late October. The work leading up to then is about consistent effort and improvement in a balanced and healthy way that supports students to achieve their personal best. We wish our Year 12 students and their Year 11 accelerated peers every success for these exams.

Elective choices for 2018

Students are encouraged to recognise the importance of making good choices based on their strengths, interests and passions for learning so that they will enjoy their learning. Equally, it is wise not to make choices based on what friends are choosing, which teachers might teach it or what parents or siblings may have studied in the past. Good course selection is a key aspect of success for students. In the junior school, it may be about trying something new. The subject selection process is being completed online. We look forward to seeing Year 8 and their parents at our Subject Open Afternoon on Tuesday 5th September from 4.00 pm to 5.30 pm. Students will receive a unique web link on Wednesday 6th September and personal password via their school email account to access the selection platform. Once students have submitted their selections online, they need to print the submission and have this signed by a parent before dropping it into the box outside Mr Bennett's office. Further details can be found in the booklet issued to Year 8 and emailed to parents.

Year 11 NESA Critical Thinking Tests

NESA research indicates that universities and employers consider the ability to think critically as essential for success, and would welcome a formal indication of a student's skill levels in the areas of analysis, inference, interpretation, problem solving and evaluation. In response, NESA have introduced a Critical Thinking Test, which students complete online. Our Year 11 students have been given the opportunity to complete this test, with the test taking 90 minutes to complete. The test is non-curriculum based and focuses on the application of skills rather than the demonstration of syllabus content knowledge. The test assesses three broad domains of critical thinking – Logical Reasoning, Qualitative Analytical Reasoning and Quantitative Analytical Reasoning. Students, who have participated, will receive a detailed report in the next couple of weeks.

We would love to hear from you

You're invited to participate in the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) parent survey designed for parents and carers. This survey complements the TTFM student and teacher surveys, which focus on student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices. Your feedback is very important to us as we move into our next planning phase. Please access the survey through the following link: <https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/3w7w3>

Cyber Safety / Awareness

At the last Parent Learning Group Mrs Cooper presented on the ever changing face of social media, cyber safety and gaming. One discussion was about how parents and carers can ensure their children are safe on line by using the appropriate filters and supervision on their home internet. It is all too easy for our kids to unwittingly get caught up giving out personal information over the internet. Simple things like 'tagging' and 'checking in' via Facebook can give undesirables their current location potentially putting them at risk of harm. It is also very important that students do not send or 'post' inappropriate images of themselves and others. The laws around this type of behaviour are very strict and unfortunately, once these images are sent you no longer have control over what happens with them nor who gets to see them.

School Policy:

UNIFORM and LATENESS - We continue to remind students about the importance of school uniform and punctuality, please assist by encouraging students to be on time and in full school uniform. The correct school shoes are of particular concern at the moment as new shoes are purchased. Schools are bound by WHS legislation like all workplaces and enclosed leather (not suede) shoes are required. Your support is appreciated.

Mrs Rebecca Cooper –
Deputy Principal Year 7, 9 and 11

Mr Gary Bennett –
Deputy Principal Year 8, 10 and 12

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Absence from school is notified using SMS on the day of the absence.

Parents are reminded that if your child is absent, a note must be provided immediately on return to school.

Absences for part of a day, including late to school, are also required to have a note of explanation submitted.

CAPA

Welcome to our last Blues news for Term 3.

I have included a letter in this edition from Rosemary Gorman from NESAs on the importance of creativity in education and I hope you have the time to read and consider as you guide your young charges through subject selection. It is really important students sit in classes they are interested and engaged in, and that they have the confidence to do their best in.

Senior Visual Arts Exhibition



Thank you. As a community, the parents at Gosford High School are really very special. They are always there to support and encourage not only their own but also us, the teaching staff.



Bronte White
Winner of the Inaugural Clearer's Award



Charmaine Liu
Head Teacher's Award for Excellence



Highly Commended
Caelan Wiczorski



Highly Commended
Tiana Zou



Highly Commended
Nina Wilson



Highly Commended
Georgie Rayner



Highly Commended
Jade Jiang

Film by Annalise Walker, also Highly Commended, no image available.



Highly Commended
Seho Klm



Ms Cooper and Mr Rudd - welcoming
parents and families

Year 11 Award Recipients:

Highly Commended:

- Amelia Johns
- Alex Banks

Encouragement Award:

- Skye Magnus
- Mahni Luafalealo
- Olympia Shultz
- Rebekah Whight
- Whitney Luo

Studying Creative Arts helps promote essential capabilities for the 21st century

Topic: HSC

Learning areas: Creative arts

Stages: Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10), Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12)

NESA Creative Arts Inspector, Rosemary Gorman, encouraged Year 10 students to think about HSC Creative Arts courses as they made their subject selections; and wishes Year 12 students all the best as they begin their HSC performance exams.

Study in the Creative Arts subjects Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Arts provides students not only with strong discipline based knowledge but with the fundamental skills, creative expertise and learning mindset recognised as essential capabilities for the 21st century.

Creative Arts students experience and develop the complex skills required to create and test ideas, generate creative works with confidence, shape inquiry and to critically evaluate and reflect on what they do. Developing an independent, forward thinking, learning mindset is considered critical to the future world of work.

Creative Arts education develops skills in creative reasoning, independent decision making and reflective judgment – skills that are essential, transferable and applicable to the real world. Arts students know how to move from the abstract to the concrete, from idea to representation, from concept to realisation.

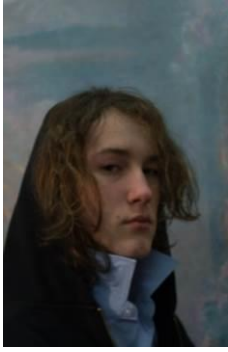
Students' work derives from their experiences, interpretations and concerns about this world. In response they can engage with contemporary arts practices that are designed to provoke strong reactions, and make audiences feel uncomfortable with innovative works that question assumed values, attitudes and ideas about big picture issues. They are able to reinvigorate traditional conventions by suggesting new associations, embracing new work, styles, genres and expanded repertoires.



Photography Short Takes

Year 9 PDM have been exploring studio lighting by creating portraits. The task was to find a painting and appropriate using digital photography.

This image is a self-portrait by George Fischer as Vincent Van Gogh



This image is a portrait by Matt Luxford of a classmate looking like a gentleman of the 18th Century.

MUSIC:

Congratulations to Year 12 Music students on their successful performances at the HSC Music evening. The program showcased the various talents of the students from vocal through to instrumental. The support from audience members was invaluable as the students prepare for the upcoming HSC practical examination in week 9 of this term. We wish them well as they complete the first part of their music exam.

DRAMA:

Monday 24th July was our **HSC Drama Night** where the current Year 12 class were able to showcase their major works and group performances for a live audience. This was a fantastic show which demonstrated the hard work, commitment and talent of the entire class.

Congratulations:

- Tom Kelly, Miranda Michalowski and Sam Luxford in Year 11 for their outstanding performance in **Young Frankenstein**, by Gosford Musical Society. A hilarious show full of talented individuals.
- To Izzy Gilbert for being cast in **Legally Blonde**. I can't wait to see the show.

Important dates for your diary:

Honk the Musical, by Gosford Musical Society Juniors, in the January school holidays, starring our very talented Year 11 students again. Tom Kelly as the cat, Miranda Michalowski as a featured soloist and Sam Luxford as the turkey. Be sure to get your tickets!

- Year 9 **Drama Playwright's Festival** Wednesday 20th September.
- Year 11 **Hospital Interaction Skills** excursion Monday 11th September.
- Year 9 Bell Shakespeare **Merchant of Venice** excursion Wednesday 4th October.
- Year 9 **Clowning and Physical Theatre Workshop** incursion Tuesday 10th October.

Watch this Space:

- The Year 7 Enrichment Musical: *Peter Pantomime*
- Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*
- Broadway Night.

Wendy Mortimer
Head Teacher CAPA



2017 Festival of Films

Mental health in the digital age - staying cybersafe

Is one of your students Hollywood's next big talent? There's only one way to find out – encourage them to enter Interrelate's 2017 Festival Of Films. The competition is now open for high-school students across Australia who would like to submit a film on this year's theme: Mental health in the digital age – staying cybersafe.

How to enter: For more details on the festival and to enter, visit our [website](#).

Awards ceremony: Ten finalists and their parents/carers will be invited to attend an awards ceremony in Sydney on November 3, with the overall Festival Of Films winner and People's Choice winner being crowned at the event.

Hurry – entries close October 6!

Photo Competition 2017



Human Rights Photo Competition

About the competition

- Enter <https://photocompetition.humanrights.gov.au/>
- There will be two categories for entries: Under 18 and 18 & over.
- Overall winners will receive their prizes at the 2017 Human Rights Awards on December 8 in Sydney. A selection of photos from the Competition will also be on display.
- Main prizes worth \$800, courtesy of sponsor Olympus.
- 4x runner ups receive a \$100 voucher at Momento Photo Books.
- The competition will close on 30 September 2017.



Photographic Competition

The competition raises awareness of macular disease - the leading cause of blindness and severe vision loss in Australia. This year's theme is [See My World – in your own backyard](#) highlighting the precious nature of sight. Of course, we don't just want photos of backyards, rather, we want entrants to show their creativity with photos that are meaningful and inspiring to them from their own place of paradise.

How can you help?

Direct your students, teachers and their families to www.mdfoundation.com.au/2017meyephotocomp for registration and uploading of their entry.

Go to the Foundation's Facebook and Instagram pages and share our posts. Don't forget to add in some encouragement to enter the competition when sharing the post and use the following social media handles. (Hashtags: #mEYEWORLD, #seemyworld #macular disease #mdfoundation #nofilter)

There are [four categories](#):

1. Open (Australians 18+). Prizes value over \$1,100.
2. Macular Disease Community (includes patients and carers). Prizes value over \$800.
3. Healthcare Professionals. Prizes value over \$800.
4. Juniors (Australians under 18). Prizes value over \$650.

[Prizes](#) will be awarded to the finalist in each of the above categories as well as a [prize package worth over \\$1,700 for the overall Grand Finalist](#). There is also a new **Peoples' Choice Award** for the entry with the most likes on Facebook and/or Instagram with a prize package valued at \$600.

Entrants can simply click [REGISTER](#), fill out their details and upload their photo with a description (30-60 words) of how their photo illustrates the theme **See my world - in your own backyard**.

Entries close 3 October 2017

SCIENCE

Paper Plane Competition

We also held a very well supported, paper plane competition during Science Week. Heartiest congratulations to our winners, Robin Slater from Year 7 who threw his plane 24m and Leo Carlton from Year 8 whose plane stayed in the air for 12 seconds. Both winners were invited to compete in the State Championships at Sydney University.



Practising for the Paper Plane Competition



Fine tuning before the competition



Lift-off

NASA Live

We celebrated Science Week at the school with a lunchtime live cross to NASA scientists and scientists from NSW University talking about some of the issues involved in planning a manned flight to Mars. Students from all years attended the presentation and I would like to thank Ms Fletcher for organising this exciting event.

Rocket Competition

The Gosford High School water rocket competition is ongoing, with the final planned for the last week of term. Students have to design a method of keeping a plastic (PET) bottle rocket in the air for the longest time. With a first prize of \$200, the competition has been strong. Students will have the opportunity to have three timed flights in the last week of term and the student who achieves the longest flight time will be declared the winner.

Physics Olympiad

The Physics Olympiad qualifying exam was held on Wednesday 9th August and I would like to congratulate the 15 Year 11 students who attended the lectures that were held after school for students preparing for the exams. For the first time we had a Year 10 student, Chelsea Inman, sit for Physics, Chemistry and Biology exams this year. I am looking forward to seeing how all the students performed in these challenging exams.

Dr Butler

Head Teacher Science

LANGUAGES

Why Learn Languages?

Understand the World

"Language is the means of getting an idea from my brain into yours without surgery" – Mark Amidon

Reveal the Heart of Culture

"To have another language is to possess a second soul" – Charlemagne

Improve Your Cognitive Abilities

"Those who know nothing of foreign languages know nothing of their own" – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Widen Your Career Choices

"A different language is a different vision of life" - Federico Fellini

Year 8 will soon be choosing elective subjects for 2018/2019. The Languages staff are looking forward to seeing many parents and students for the information sessions on Tuesday, 5th September. We encourage students to talk to their teachers about Stage 5 Language study and beyond. Although German was not available to students in Year 8 this year, it is included in the list of elective languages available for Years 9 and 10. Please see Mr Anthony if you wish to know more about the study of German.

By the time this edition is printed Year 12 languages students will be almost finished their Oral Examinations. The students have been pleased with their performances. Year 12 should now be focusing on practising and refining their reading, writing and listening skills in preparation for the HSC.

1000 Paper Cranes:

A huge thank you to all the students who helped us to reach our goal of 1000 paper cranes in under a week! We will now sort and string them together to take with us to Hiroshima in September as a prayer for world peace.

Seibudai Chiba High School Visit:

Thank you to the students and families who hosted our thirteen visiting Japanese students from 19th – 27th August. Students from Seibudai Chiba High School (near Tokyo) were immersed in Australian school life during the visit – learning how to play handball, teaching calligraphy to our Japanese classes, participating in multiple rounds of "speed dating" (English and Japanese conversation practice), visiting our cute and cuddly farm animals at school and braving the wild Australian animals at the Reptile Park. The week was over far too quickly, finishing with a fantastic Aussie Afternoon Tea complete with Australia-shaped fairy bread! Both the Seibudai Chiba and Gosford students enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about each other's language and culture, and we are sure they will keep in touch.



Year 8R Japanese after a round of speed dating - getting to know the visiting students



Reptile Park - Kangaroos



Reptile Park - Snake



Year 12 Japanese students interpreting and Year 11 Society and Culture finding out about Japanese culture



Year 80 Japanese showing off their family profile

2017 Japan Study Tour:

The students and teachers participating in the 2017 Japan Study Tour are counting down the days until our departure! We will spend fifteen days in Japan, experiencing the food, culture and making the most of all opportunities to speak Japanese. We will travel around the main island of Honshu, visiting Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Nara, Himeji, Nagoya, and spending four days visiting our sister school Kokubunji Metropolitan High School. We look forward to sharing photos and stories from our trip with you via the school Facebook page and in the next Blues News!

Keep an eye out for information about the 2018 Study Tour early next term!

German:

Year 9 German had a guest from Germany visit the class. Sophia, a former exchange student, staying with Emily Crellin's family, happily answered questions in German and English about herself, hobbies, school and daily routine. The highlight was listening to some German rap music! We thank Sophia for participating in our German lesson. Year 9 definitely benefited from the experience and learnt more about German language and culture.



Au revoir!

さようなら!

va!ete !

auf Wiedersehen!

from the Languages staff

PDHPE

Our students have been achieving excellent results and representing Gosford High School with pride, whilst displaying integrity and sportsmanship throughout a variety of different fields.

Cross Country

At the end of Term 2, we had a number of Gosford High School students represent at Gosford Racecourse in the regional Cross Country carnival. Our students achieved outstanding results, with ten progressing to the CHS carnival. Zac Martin (16 Boys) and Julia Hogan (18 Girls) became the Sydney North Age Champions in their respective divisions.

On Friday 21st July, ten students represented Gosford High School at the CHS Cross Country in Eastern Creek. Excellent effort from the U14 boys - Elijah Ross-22nd, Mackenzie Hilderbrand - 42nd, Luka Hildebrand 52nd, Luke Corcoran 56th out of 92 runners.

Zac Martin - 18th, Julia Hogan - 14th, Rachael McCarthy 96th and Nuria Olive 47th.

A highlight of the day was the 14 year boys team event- Elijah Ross, Luke Corcoran, Mackenzie Hilderbrand, Luka Hilderbrand (Pictured below).



Julia Hogan and Zac Martin
Sydney North Age Champions

Athletics

On Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th July, over thirty of our students competed at the regional Athletics carnival. An excellent effort was made by all, with four of our students qualifying for the CHS carnival to be held on September 6th-8th at Homebush. Good luck to Zac Martin, who qualified for the U16 Boys 800m and 1500m events, Hayley Corderoy in the U12 Girls Long Jump and High Jump and Luke Howard in the U16 Boys Long Jump.

Other commendable efforts were made by Courtney Schell, who qualified for U14 Girls Shot Put and Savannah Wheeler who came 3rd in the 400m.



Hayley, Savannah and Luke receiving awards for top three placements in Sydney North Athletics

Bill Turner Cup

Earlier this term, Mr Burge took the Gosford High School boys to play in the inter-regional final of the Bill Turner

Cup in Newcastle against Whitebridge High School. The team were extremely impressive throughout the whole tournament and valued fair-play and sportsmanship all the way to the final. Unfortunately they went down in a very unlucky final few minutes. Well done boys!

Touch Football

On Tuesday 1st August Miss Oman took the Year 7/8 Touch Football teams to the Gala Day at Adcock Park. The girls played well and progressively improved throughout their pool games - displaying excellent sportsmanship and representing Gosford High School with pride. The boys made it through to the quarter finals, where they went down to Hunter Sports High-who eventually won the day of competition.

Basketball

Well done to the U15s Girls Basketball team who achieved convincing wins over Central Coast and Sydney schools this year. Despite being knocked out of the competition by a very strong team, the girls put up a huge fight. They showed outstanding teamwork and determination. (Mr Abra - Coach)

Congratulations to the Under 15 Boys Basketball team who are now through to Round 6 after winning their Round 4 and 5 games. Gosford High School won against Turrumurra High School 37-30 and Carlingford High School 36-32.

Both were hard fought, close games, particularly the game against Carlingford where we were 5 points behind in the last three minutes. The boys showed tremendous composure and resilience to regain the lead and thoroughly deserved their victory. (Mr Anthony - Coach)



Individual Sporting Representations

Congratulations to Dalice Gallagher of Year 9, who competed in the Sydney North Gymnastics team in the CHS competition earlier this term. She came second in the Vault and fourth overall, and was part of the winning team of the tournament.

Marc Sheather recently travelled to Western Australia to compete as part of the New South Wales CHS AFL team, in the Australian All Schools Championships. It was tough competition, with Marc and his team playing

well to achieve third overall. Congratulations on your efforts this year!

PASS Snow Trip

During Week 5, the Year 10 PASS students travelled to Thredbo for the annual Snow Excursion. Students attended lessons each morning to develop their snowboarding/skiing skills. They practised in rain, snow and shine throughout the week and significant improvements were made. Some students and staff were lucky enough to meet Olympic Gold Medallist Torah Bright. Mr Madden, Mr Titheridge and Miss Malone commend all students for their efforts, and positive representation of Gosford High School.



Good luck to all competitors in the upcoming weeks of individual and team sporting events.

Miss Malone Sport Coordinator

2017-18 North Avoca Rego Day
Sunday 10th September 17
10am - 3pm
North Avoca Parade, NORTH AVOCA
Enquiries please email us @ office@northavocaslc.com.au
Visit: www.northavoca.com.au

COME & BECOME A
WAMBERAL
SURF LIFE SAVER



REGISTRATION DATES @WAMBERAL SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB
Sunday 10th September 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Friday 6th October 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Ph: 4385 2322

admin@wamberalsurfclub.com

Please bring Birth Certificate or passport
for proof of age and ID

INSPIRED BY OUR OLYMPIC RUGBY 7s TEAMS?
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Fun and fast, FOXTEL VIVA7s is the new, exciting non-contact version of Rugby, suited for all ages!
Come try night 06 October 2017, with the
Competition duration 13 October -
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WWW.VIVA7S.COM.AU

TAS

The TAS block has been very busy this term with all students in Stage 4 and 6 reaching the final stage of their project realisation mid-term and designs submitted for assessment have been indeed creative and innovative.

The Year 12 Textiles and Design externally marked practical project work has been couriered to Sydney for HSC marking and a display of their most magnificent work is planned prior to the October P&C meeting later in the year, so hope you can join us and appreciate their creative textile work. It has also been pleasing as a design teacher to see the great work produced by Year 11 Design and Technology and Textile and Design students. It was obvious that students have engaged with the design brief, completed appropriate research and applied their skills and imagination to produce quality design solutions.

Year 10 Food Technology students spent a fabulous day in western Sydney recently visiting food outlets selling foods of cultural significance. As well as learning about food and its place and significance in culture, taste testing and sharing has enabled students to reflect on the positive contribution that diversity of culture has on both society and the foods available. The open outdoor classroom offered through an excursion such as this continues to embed valuable intercultural understanding and literacy through food for our students.

Year 9 Food Technology students venture soon on their food safari to Sydney and I thank their teachers Mrs Cartland and Ms Wellham for their organisation with unique food vendors.

We have two major competitions initiated this term with a focus on Robotics and collaboration. Teams have been organised by Mr McFarlane and Mr Shelley and students will be spending their lunchtimes coding and problem solving before competition day next term, see below for details. Also in the TAS block this term we welcome Sphero and Drones to our coding experiences for the classroom. Year 7 and 8 will soon be able to register their team for coding challenges at lunchtime in the TAS block. Year 9 and 10 Engineering students will also have coding challenges for the classroom drones purchased, supporting units of work on mechanics and flight.



Year 7 and 8 get coding, Sphero is here!

Form a team of 3 or 4 and register your coding timeslot with Sphero in the TAS block. Textiles room 2 will be the fun park or battle ground for you and your group members - so join in the fun. You'll need a smart phone and the free Sphero app to code your robot. Other TAS classes in Year 9 and 10 will have class time with Sphero, so brush up on coding for the class challenges. See Mrs Johnson or Ms Hadley for further details.

Coding classroom Drones



Year 10: Challenge 1: Code an accurate sugar drop to Mr Shelley's morning coffee!

Year 9 Engineering Lego competition – code and collaborate:

First Lego League

First Lego League is an international robotics competition for students 16 years and under. Students build, program and compete with a robot, while also learning about a modern problem in science and engineering and developing solutions for it. The entire competition for the year is based around one of these themes: Past themes include natural disasters, senior citizens, food health & safety, climate change, medical science, and nanotechnology. This year's theme is

Hydro Dynamics: What might become possible when we understand what happens to our water?

The 2017 competition is now underway with Gosford High entering an enthusiastic and motivated team of Year 9 students. Good luck team, we look forward to seeing your innovative solutions to this year's important theme; water management and conservation.

Zero Robotics:

The 2017 MIT International Zero Robotics competition has begun and Gosford High has another strong team entered, comprised of ten students from Years 11 and 12. The team will be aiming to match last year's stellar effort, with GHS team SPATAR finishing third in the world and having their code operate research satellites aboard the International Space Station. The competition has expanded in Australia this year, with 55 teams entered. The GHS team is being led by Year 12 students James Wright and Matthew Lucock, who were instrumental in the 2016 team's success. Good luck team, we look forward to your efforts as you strive toward the ISS once again.

Year 10 Food Excursion

On Tuesday 11 August Year 10 Food Technology students attended an excursion that involved discovering a range of culturally significant foods.

Our first stop was at a Turkish bakery in Auburn. We were offered a traditional Turkish bread called Sumit, which is generally eaten in the morning with coffee. Another product we sampled was Poğaçá'. This has a bread like texture and is often filled with black olives, olive paste, feta and spiced ground beef.

Our next stop was Merrylands at an Indian Pakistani supermarket that although it was very small, offered a huge variety of food items that many Australians would never have tried or heard of. Many of the products were Halal certified. Some of the products that we did recognise were rose water, kifir and saffron. Next door to the supermarket was a Syrian pastry shop that offered some beautiful and sweet pastries and biscuits that we purchased. Around the corner we visited an Afghan bakery where we watched flat bread being made. This was very popular and everyone loved the fresh, hot flat bread that was also really cheap.

Lunch was in Granville at a Lebanese fast food restaurant. Most people enjoyed either the Lebanese BBQ chicken or had kebabs with salad; it was a very delicious lunch.

Our last stop was Cabramatta to explore the many vendors selling fresh produce from fruit and vegetables, meat and seafood. We also had the opportunity to try some Vietnamese donuts.

Overall, it was a fantastic day that everyone enjoyed. We got to try new foods and experience cultural delicacies.

By Keely Ralphs, 10FT



TAS to Tasmania outdoor classroom excursion is planned for March 19th to 24th, 2018

Year 9 2017 students in a Technology subject will be offered the opportunity to travel to Tasmania as part of the TAS to Tasmania excursion for 2018. An information package will be delivered to classrooms of all current Year 9 TAS students. Details of the five night excursion and 24 activities included are outlined below. Current Year 9 students in TAS and their families are encouraged to consider this unique opportunity and indicate their interest with a deposit to be paid before the last week of term 3. Students should see their class teacher for further details or call into the TAS block and head for the blue information stand for a permission note.

Students spend five nights and six days travelling from Sydney to Launceston, the Tamar Valley and then on to Hobart and the Huon Valley regions by both plane and coach. We plan to visit a range of venues that focus on the design and making process for products in the fields of engineering, food and textiles. During the day we have scheduled visits to the engineered convict bridge structures in Ross and Richmond, Cataract Gorge suspension bridge, the Tahune – cantilever air walk and the Tasmanian wooden boat company. Venues with a food focus include Anvers- a niche Belgian chocolate maker, Ashgrove Cheese, Salmon and ginseng farm and a paddock to plate farm and café. We visit the 'yarns artwork in silk' exhibition and the famous Salamanca markets for a closer look at textiles. A visit to both the Beaconsfield mine and Port Arthur create a historical picture of Tasmania and we can't visit Tasmania without spending time with the Tasmanian devils at Bonorong wildlife sanctuary and next year we add a visit to seahorse world. At night we take a Penguin tour, go to the movies and play both mini golf and ten pin bowling together. Altogether 24 activities included!!



Proposed TASmania itinerary for 2018

<p>Accommodation: Tamar Valley Resort http://www.tamarvalleyresort.com.au/ Monday 19th March 2018 - Sydney to Northern Tasmania Coach travel from School mid-morning to Sydney Domestic airport via a pickup stop at Knox Grammar bus stop, Woodville Road, Wahroonga.</p> <p>Arrive in Launceston late afternoon and be met by your coach and coach captain, settle in to our accommodation and then travel north to Low Head and take a Penguin Tour</p> <p>Tuesday 'HERITAGE Trail' Northern Tasmania Cataract Gorge and Chairlift Gold & Heritage Museum at Beaconsfield Seahorse world Movie Night</p> <p>Wednesday- 'FOODIES DAY' Northern Tasmania Ashgrove Cheese Farm Arvo Park Orchard Anvers House of Chocolates, Latrobe Salmon & Ginseng Farm, Deloraine Yarns artwork in silk</p>	<p>Accommodation: Riverfront Villas, Hobart http://riverfronthobart.com/ Thursday – The Midlands - Launceston to Hobart Ross township Richmond candy shop and Australia's first bridge Coal River Farm Bonorong Wildlife Park Putt Putt golf City lights tour</p> <p>Friday - Historic Port Arthur Port Arthur Historic Site Isle of The Dead Cruise and guided island tour Tasman Peninsula coastal lookout Tenpin Bowling</p> <p>Saturday 24th March- Huon Valley TRAIL Salamanca Markets Tahune Airwalk Huon Wooden Boat Company</p> <p>Depart on a late afternoon flight from Hobart to Sydney. Coach meets us in Sydney and brings students to Gosford via a stop at Knox Grammar, Woodville Road.</p>
<p>Included in the price Return airfares, travel insurance, coach and coach captain, multi-share resort style accommodation, fully cooked breakfast each morning, two course dinners each evening, entry to each of the attractions and free food samples Students purchase their own lunch each day.</p>	

Maxine Johnson
 Head Teacher TAS

Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

10/05/17_27754

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>

Frequently asked questions

Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Students in Years 3, 7 and 9 will participate.

How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

How long is the school readiness test?

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

* Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.

When will my school participate in the readiness test?

Gosford year 7 and 9 will be completing the Readiness test in week 9 term 3

How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform will have state-of-the-art security protections. The assessment is delivered inside a locked-down browser. This ensures students cannot access the internet or spellcheckers while completing the test.

Will schools and parents be provided with information on the results of the readiness test?

There will be feedback to schools about the technical information gained from the readiness testing. **There will be no reporting of student test results from the readiness test.**



www.jobjump.com.au

Your future Career is here.

Dear Parent,

We would like you to be able to use all parts of the JobJump website to help your son/daughter plan and achieve their Career dreams. It is there to help through to an extra year after their Year 12.

To register with JobJump, go to the front screen of the website at www.jobjump.com.au

Click on **I'm New**. On the new screen, enter into the first white box the first letters of your school's name and **when the full name appears just below in blue**, click on your blue school name and it will enter automatically into the first white box.

In the second white box, enter your school password which is:

gosford

and click Continue. You then need to enter a few details and set your Personal Password. (Min 6 characters).

So whenever you then come back to Login to JobJump, all you will then need is your email address and Personal Password.

Two things to remember:

1. If you can't find the career from the list offered that suits your son/daughter, select a career which is in the field they like. For example, they may like the field of Tourism and the idea of having a career in the Tourism industry is not a bad idea. In the listing select 'Travel Agent' because all Tourism careers news will come to you.

2. When you register, remember you can select as many careers as you like from the listing. If your son/daughter changes their mind you can alter the choices at any time by going to the black head at the top right hand side after you are Logged In.

Watch the tour of JobJump in the brief video entitled 'Learn JobJump fully in minutes'.

Go the bottom middle part of the Home page.

Once you have registered, you can also use all parts of the website to enjoy all of the following:

- Year 10 subject selection advice across 100 careers.
- Writing letters, resumes, what to say to an employer, where to find your future employer.
- A comprehensive digital ATAR and University Course sorter that works hand in hand with the **UAC Handbook making life now a breeze** for you to search for your chosen courses.
- Job vacancies for over 100 options** based on your school location.
- Bonus points,
- Overseas Exchange,
- Accommodation across all Universities in NSW and their direct links.
- Earnings across 300 careers.
- EAS information.
- Find my Career quizzes.
- Hobby projects across 100 careers to inspire and engage students in their career.
- Interactive yearly calendar across all news items which can be personalised to your careers of interest.
- Undergraduate scholarship sorter across all NSW Universities.
- Universities Open Days listing and links.
- Videos across 100 careers.
- Gap Year and Volunteering opportunities.
- Alternative entry to University sorter and links across all NSW Universities.
- Interstate and overseas University admissions centres' links.
- Work Experience documentation.... and much more.

We trust you will enjoy using www.jobjump.com.au

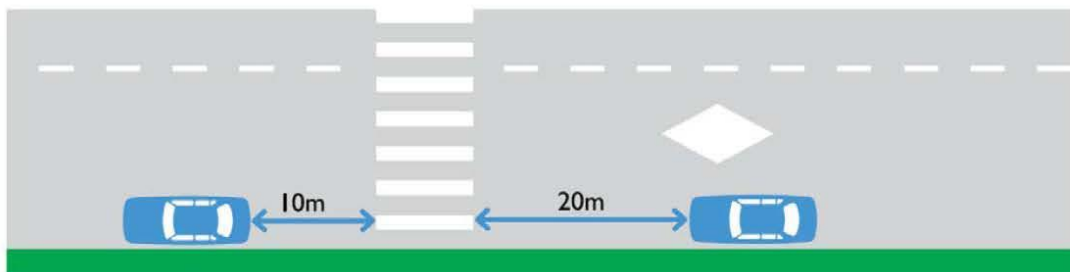


School Traffic and Parking Around Your Local Community

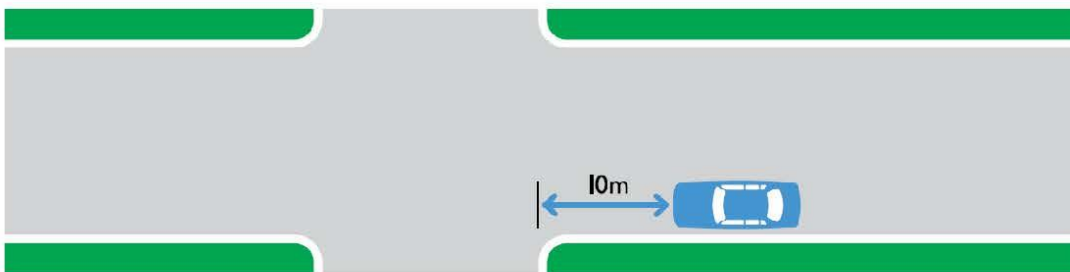
Parking rules are designed to stop vehicles from parking where it would be dangerous or inconvenient for others. Please consider the residents when parking in streets surrounding your school.

You must not stop your vehicle (that is, bring it to a stop and either stay with the vehicle or leave it parked) in the following circumstances:

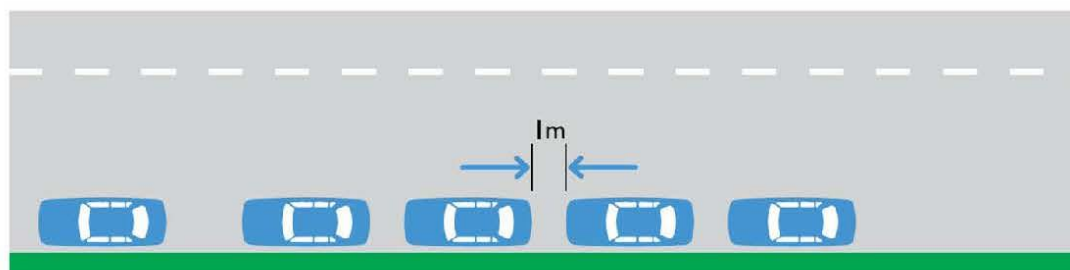
- ❌ Double parked (that is in the road alongside a car that is parked)
- ❌ Across a driveway or footpath
- ❌ On a median strip or traffic island
- ❌ On footpaths and nature strips
- ❌ On or within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a children's crossing or pedestrian crossing



- ❌ Within an intersection
- ❌ Within 10 metres of an intersecting road at an intersection without traffic lights unless signposted otherwise



- ❌ In Bus Stop, Bus Zone, Taxi Stand or Taxi Zone signed areas
- ❌ At least one (1) metre from any other parked vehicle, close as possible and parallel to the kerb, and facing the same direction as the traffic lane



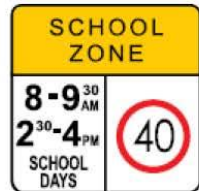
- ❌ Within three (3) metres of any double centre lines
- ❌ Within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a bus stop

Adherence to signposting, linemarking and road rules around your school will assist in providing a safe environment for the school community and residents.

- ✔ **School Bus lights** – buses use signs and orange flashing ‘wigwag’ lights to warn motorists and pedestrians that they are picking up or setting down school children. The lights begin to flash when the bus stops and the doors are opened. They keep flashing for about 30 seconds after the doors close and continue even after the bus moves off. You must not drive past the bus in the same direction at more than 40 km/h while the ‘wigwag’ lights are flashing as there may be children crossing or about to cross the road.



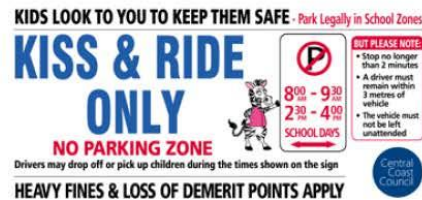
- ✔ A **School Zone** is the area around a school with a speed limit of 40 km/h. Between the School Zone and End School Zone signs you must obey the school zone speed limit. The school zone speed limit only applies on gazetted school days and during the times shown on the sign.



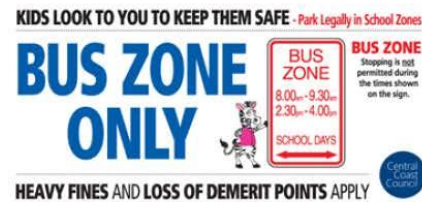
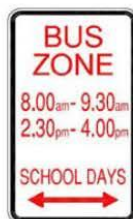
- ✔ A **No Stopping Zone** means no stopping at any time.



- ✔ A **No Parking Zone** means that you must not stop for more than two (2) minutes. You must remain in or within three metres of the vehicle. - No Parking Zones are suitable for ‘Kiss & Ride’ – but you must abide by the rules.



- ✔ A **Bus Zone** means that the area is restricted for bus use only. If hours of operation are shown, the restriction only applies to this time. You may use this area outside of these times.



For more information regarding parking restriction around your school please contact Council’s Road Safety Officers via email at: roadsafety@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

