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2024 Principals Welcome

## Principal's News

Welcome back students, staff and families to 2024! It has been great to see our new and returning staff and students, smiling, laughing and engaging in learning in the first weeks of school. Our year 7s have flourished this week, learning about high school and engaging in all of their classes as they settle into the hustle and bustle of high school. If at any time, your child needs support please don't hesitate in contacting the school or your child's teacher. We have an excellent support services team based out of our Wellbeing Hub including our Guidance Officer Kate Veronese, Psychologist Lynn Robinson, Youth Support Coordinator Michelle Northage, Chaplain Wendy Van Hassel and School Based Nurse Shane Dustin.

### Meet & Greet

I invite all parents and families to our Meet and Greet, next Thursday the 1<sup>st</sup> of February from 5:30pm as a great opportunity to meet staff, receive key information for both junior and senior schooling as well as engage in a tour of the school.

[https://gordonvaleshs.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4951/2024\\_meet\\_greet\\_poster.pdf](https://gordonvaleshs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4951/2024_meet_greet_poster.pdf)

### Congratulations Amy

We would like to congratulate Amy Byrnes on achieving an ATAR score of 99.6. Amy showed an exceptional dedication to her studies whilst attending Gordonvale State High School. We are so proud of your accomplishments and we wish you the best in your future studies at JCU.

As we come together to celebrate Amy's remarkable achievements, let us also acknowledge the dedicated teachers,

our supportive families and the entire Gordonvale community that played a pivotal role in nurturing an environment where students can thrive.

This year, as with every year here at Gordonvale State High School, mobile phones are *away for the day*. This means that mobile devices/earphones are off on away between the first and last bell of the day, ensuring the focus is on learning and engaging with staff and students. Students needing to purchase from the tuckshop will need to use their physical bank card, cash or pre order using the flexi school app (and skip the line to collect at lunch).

During the first few weeks, staff will be communicating home and introducing themselves and units of work. If you have changed contact details please contact the office on 4043 3222 or [admin@gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au). A strong parent/family and school connection is a key factor in student success and I look forward to seeing all students strive to excel in 2024.

### Class Times

### Tuckshop Menu

Flexischools is Australia's #1 online canteen ordering, payments and communication app for parents and carers. Please click on the link below to get started:

<https://www.flexischools.com.au/>

### Student Absences Notification

If your student is going to be absent, please phone our Attendance Officer on 4043 3227 or use the QParents app.

QParents is a secure app that provides parents of Queensland State School students with a new and exciting avenue of communication with their school. Join the thousands of parents

who have already registered to gain 24-hour direct access to your student's information and communicate with the school easily and efficiently.

[QParents.webp](https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/login)

<https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/login>

Parents who register with QParents will also have access to information about:

- attendance details
- timetables and upcoming events
- report cards and assessments
- invoices and payment history

## New Staff for 2024

We would like to welcome the following teachers to our Gordonvale State High School school community. Your dedication to education is greatly appreciated, and we look forward to the positive impact you will make on our students.

- Rekha Hiremath - English/Humanities
- Lauren Forner - English/Humanities
- Lewis George - HPE/Maths
- Vince Musumeci - Maths
- David Maine - Maths/Digital Technologies
- Louis Haack - Science/Humanities
- Remy Crooks - Science/Agriculture
- Rohan Etherington - Science/Geography
- Kathleen Dawson - English/Humanities
- Harry Phillips - Maths/HPE

*Geoff Moore - Principal*



## Get Back to School Ready with the School Student Broadband Initiative!

Get Back to School Ready with the School Student Broadband Initiative: Free nbn internet until December 2025!

To boost education opportunities and narrow the digital divide,

the Australian Government is providing up to 30,000 eligible families with no internet at home a free National Broadband Network (nbn) service.

The Australian Government has announced that they have extended School Student Broadband Initiative, which now means free nbn internet service for all new families that take up the offer until 31 December 2025.

How can SSBI help your child?

• Children who can access online learning at home as part of their education are more likely to engage in classroom activities.

• Access to fast internet at home can also support children to build their digital skills, learn how to safely use the internet and participate in a world that is more dependent on digital technology.

Is your family eligible for the SSBI? To be eligible your family must:

- Have a child living at home that is enrolled in an Australian school (up to year 12 including Prep in Qld/Vic/Tas, Kindy in NSW, Reception in SA, Transition in NT/ACT and Pre-Primary in WA).
- Not have an active nbn Internet service at home. (Having a mobile internet service does not affect eligibility).
- Live in a premises that can access the nbn via a standard connection – this will be checked for you.
- Not have had an active nbn connection during the previous 14 days.

### Check your eligibility, by following these simple steps:

1. Contact the National Referral Centre on 1800 954 610 (Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm AEDT) or by visiting [www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet)
2. The National Referral Centre team will then help assess your eligibility for the SSBI, by checking several things including your residential address and current financial situation.
3. If eligible, you will be issued a voucher which can be redeemed at any of the participating SSBI retail service providers.
4. If further assistance is required, the National Referral Centre will also be available to assist with contacting your SSBI retail service provider of choice and providing follow-up support.

## P&C Meeting

Joining the P&C is an excellent opportunity to actively contribute to our school's success. Your presence not only adds valuable perspectives but also fosters a sense of community. Together, we can discuss important matters, share ideas and work collaboratively to enhance our children's educational experience.

Everyone is welcome and we hope to see many of you at our first meeting of the year.

# Cairns School Based Police Officer

Term one 2024

From the desk of Officer MARSHALL:

Welcome to the 2024 School Year. I hope you all had a safe and happy festive season creating beautiful memories with your families and loved ones.

I am the School Based Police Officer based in Cairns.

I have been approached by several Schools with concerns around E-Scooters, (personal mobility devices (PMD)) there use, safety and the rules.

Here is an easy-to-understand dot point of the rules and links to Streetsmarts Qld to support riders and everyone they interact with.

## E-scooter rules

Rules for riders of e-scooters, e-skateboards (PMD).

- The Speed limits for PMDs is 12km/h on footpaths and shared paths, and 25km/h max elsewhere unless signed otherwise.
- Fine for using a mobile phone whilst riding.
- It is Mandatory to wear a helmet (either bicycle or motorcycle).
- Devices with handlebars require bells.
- Age limits:
  - Only those aged 16+ can ride e-scooters and e-skateboards.
  - 12–15-year-olds can only ride with adult supervision. (*Adult supervisors must have close direct oversight of the juvenile PMD rider at all times to provide direction, guidance and potential intervention.*)
  - Primary school aged children, under 12 years, shouldn't be riding e-scooters or e-skateboards.
- No passengers – one person only at a time per scooter.
- Where to ride:
  - Paths – footpaths, shared paths, separated paths and bike paths.
  - Local streets (speed limit of 50km/h or less, no dividing centre line)
  - On-road bike lanes (where the road speed limit is 50km/h or less, or where the lane is physically separated from the road).



Visit for more details visit

<https://streetsmarts.initiatives.qld.gov.au/initiatives/pmd-rules/>.

Below are a list of helpful numbers and links for contacting Police.

If you are in danger call Ph: 000

Hoonline Ph: 134666 (13HOON) to report hooning or traffic complaints.

School watch Ph: 131788 Look out for and report any after hours crime in our schools.

Police Link Ph: 131 444 Non-emergency Police reporting 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Crime stoppers Ph:1800333000 Anonymously report.

Cairns Police Station Ph: 40307000

For regular police updates please opt to follow us on social media:

- MyPolice Greater Cairns Facebook Page for further community and crime updates <https://www.facebook.com/myPoliceGreaterCairns/>
- MyPolice Far North NEWS website: <https://mypolice.qld.gov.au/farnorth/>
- MyPolice Tablelands <https://www.facebook.com/myPoliceTablelands>
- MyPolice Cassowary Coast <https://www.facebook.com/myPoliceCassowaryCoast>



- MyPolice Cape York <https://www.facebook.com/myPoliceCapeYork>

MyPolice Torres Strait Islands and NPA  
<https://www.facebook.com/myPoliceTorresStraitIslandsandNPA>

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/QPSmedia>

Like us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/QueenslandPolice>

Watch us on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/QueenslandPolice>

Until next time, keep safe out there.

Officer Marshall

Natasha Marshall

Senior Constable 4032420

School Based Police Officer

Far North District Domestic & Family Violence & Vulnerable Person Unit

Far Northern Region

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, waterways and seas, I pay my respects to their elders, past present and future, and their continued determination to keep culture alive and strong.



## Valiant Vigoro Victories

Over the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of January, the Queensland Junior State Vigoro Titles were held at Johnson Park with a number of Gordonvale State High School students representing Cairns in the U14 and U18 divisions. In the U14 division Year 8 Mackenna and Year 7 Sofie batted and bowled Cairns to winning the state title. This makes it two state titles in a row for Mackenna (2023 and 2024.) Year 10's Ashley, Ella and Grace all competed strongly in the U18s valiantly placing 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ella received the award for most dismissals through catches and stumping. Well done to Ms Gammie who with her team "Cairns Hits and Misses" placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Queensland Club Championships.

Congratulations to Ella (wicketkeeper), Ashley and Mackenna who have been selected in the QLD Honorary Team for the U18 and U14s respectively. Well done Grace, Mackenna, Sofie, Ashley and Ella keep up the fantastic sportsmanship and skill in Vigoro!

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