

Musical Auditions - What's New Pussycat?

Calling all actors!! The school is performing the musical 'What's New Pussycat?' in Term 3 and we are looking for males and females of all ages to audition.

Date: Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th February
When: First Lunch
Where: D09 (Music Room)
Required: Singing Parts - perform song (own choice), Speaking Parts - script given on day

Those interested in non-speaking parts are to make themselves known to Miss Seeger or Miss Couatts.



P & C News

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Monday 21 Mar 2016 at 6pm

New office bearers / members needed as current members' children have now finished High School. A great opportunity to network, meet new people and have a say about your school. A small commitment in time and some fresh ideas are all that is required.
 (any queries email: pandc@gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au)

News from the HPE Department



The HPE department would like to introduce two new staff members this year, Ms Rebecca Wood and Mr Joel Jerome. Rebecca Wood is a graduate teacher from Griffith University and will be teaching grade 7 & 8 HPE this term. Joel Jerome is a transfer teacher from Herberton State School (Secondary Campus) and will be teaching grade 9 & 10 HPE, grade 11 Recreational Studies and will be coaching the grade 8 & 10 Rugby League Development Program. Our faculty also welcomes back Matthew Sperring, Douglas Hunt, Jacinta Evans, Nerissa Lee Long, Andrew Hislop, Melanie Craig & Callum Troyahn. At the end of 2015 we farewelled Anne Mison who transferred to another school. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Anne for her contribution to the HPE Department at GSHS and also for being our school sport coordinator for many years.

This year there are many sporting opportunities for students to participate in sporting events. TCS trials for a variety of sports commence in the following weeks. A list of dates and trial times can be found on the notice board outside the HPE staffroom. Students can self-nominate for trials by obtaining the permission

forms from the HPE staffroom. These permission forms include the GSHS clearance form, the TCS consent form & the TCS medical history form. Finally, our annual swimming carnival will also be taking place in week 8. More information regarding the carnival will be delivered home on an information sheet later this term.

TYC Drama Classes for 3yrs – 18yrs

Join in the dramatic adventures at The Young Company Theatre this semester! Develop confidence, explore your creativity, make new friends and learn the essentials of stage performance through improvisation, role-play, scripts, musical theatre and characterisation activities and then perform in front of a live audience with costumes, sets, props, sound effects, live projections and theatrical lighting! For more information phone 40414066, email info@theyoungcompany.com.au, visit our website www.theyoungcompany.com.au, visit us at 169 Bunda St, Cairns City.

High School Tennis & Music Beats Sessions!!

When: Tuesdays 2nd and 9th February
Time: 5.30pm until 6.30pm
Where: Norman Park Courts, Gordonvale



All Equipment Provided

Bring your own music if you wish

Still come and meet if raining as we are looking to set up a high school programme this term. Bring your friends!



Australian Red Cross
 THE POWER OF HUMANITY

Australian Red Cross

CENT SALE

Come along to the Gordonvale Branch Red Cross Cent Sale

Venue: Gordonvale State Primary School

Date: Saturday 12th March 2016

Time: Doors open at 1pm - 2pm start

Admittance: \$3.00

Great Prizes, Raffles, Lucky Door, Delicious Afternoon Tea

Issue 1 - 2016

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 9th - Safer Internet Day

Wednesday, 10th February until Friday 12th February - Year 12 Leadership Camp

Thursday, 11th February - GRIP Student Leadership Conference Yr 8 - 11

Monday, 15th February - P&C AGM

Wednesday, 17th February until Friday, 19th February - Year 7 Camp at Quinola Lakes

Friday, 19th February - Senior Induction



Nominations for Relay for Life - See Miss Craig



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GORDONVALE
 State High School

Personal Excellence, Successful Futures

Respect...Quality...Honesty...Safety

From The Principal



Jan Carr

Welcome Back....

It gives me great pleasure in writing my first newsletter to the Gordonvale State High School community to report that we have had a very productive start to the school year. I would particularly like to thank Mr Brown (Deputy Principal – Staffing), Mr Stubbs (Deputy Principal – Student Welfare), Mrs Brosseuk (Business Services Manager), Mr Williams (Head of Department Senior Secondary), Mrs Laney (Head of Department Junior Secondary), Mr Chatterton (Head of Department, Cultural Perspectives), Mrs Parsons and Mr Maroske (Guidance Officers), Mrs Johan and Mr Teal (Community Education Counsellors) and our office staff for the tremendous work they have done in ensuring all the necessary interviews, timetables and processing of data have taken place in readiness for the start of our 2016 school year.

Our Heads of Department and teachers have also been hard at work preparing for the beginning of the school year.

Last Thursday night I had the opportunity to meet many of our year 7 parents / carers at our meet and greet evening. It was a very enjoyable and informative evening. Mrs Laney hosted a workshop session on School – Community engagement, seeking further ideas and suggestions to implement.

I have also spent a great deal of my time this first two weeks of the school year meeting students during lunch breaks and in classrooms. I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm, energy, passion and pride of all students and staff. It is so obvious how proud we all are to be part of this great school. As I walk around the school and through the classrooms, I can certainly see our vision in action: 'Personal Excellence, Successful Futures'. My focus is to ensure we maximise outcomes for every student in the school and that they behave appropriately, present themselves with pride and that they work to the best of their ability every lesson, every day.

Student Numbers

To date our enrolment numbers are close to 890 students. Year 12 student enrolment is certainly at an all-time high.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
160	155	107	165	145	143

Staffing 2016

We welcome the following new staff to the Gordonvale State High School community: Dr Gary Lake (Agriculture teacher); Mr Nathan Haydon (Business / Humanities teacher); Mr Philip Fernandez, Mr Jake McAlloon (Maths/ Science teachers); Ms Amanda Roberts (Maths/Humanities teacher); Ms Jessica Wood (H&PE / Humanities teacher); Mr Joel Jerome (H&PE teacher); Mr Kevin Boorman (LOTE teacher); Ms Cody-Lee Parsons (Drama/ English teacher); Mr Jamie Bain (Music teacher); Ms Jane Heraghty (Special Needs teacher) and Mr Greg Maroske for term 1 (Guidance Officer).

I would also like to welcome back Ms Shannyn McMillan and Ms Mary Provan, who have been on extended leave.

Senior Induction

This year senior induction will take place in the school hall on Friday 19th February at 10.00am. Senior students will be presented with their senior badges. It is always an important day of the year as it means our seniors are committing to being the leaders of our school. Parents and Carers are invited to attend this formal occasion. (Year 12 parents and carers will soon receive an invitation providing more details).

Senior Students 2015

Congratulations to all our 2105 year 12 students who received Overall Positions (OPs) which enabled them to accept offers to study at tertiary institutions throughout Australia. Well done.

In relation to our 2015 year 12 cohort:

94% were awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)

92% exited with Vocational Educational Qualifications (VET)

99% exited with a QCE or a VET

37 students were eligible for an Overall Position (OP). The distribution was as follows:

17 students received OP1-10

5 students received OP11-15

Term Dates for 2016 and 2017

Term dates for 2016 and 2017 for your information when planning holidays.

2016		2017	
Term 1	27 January to 24 March	Term 1	23 January to 31 March
Term 2	11 April to 24 June	Term 2	18 April to 23 June
Term 3	11 July to 16 September	Term 3	10 July to 15 September
Term 4	4 October to 9 December	Term 4	3 October to 8 December
18 November – last day for year 12 students		17 November – last day for year 12 students	
25 November – last day for year 10 / 11 students		30 November – last day for year 10 / 11 students	

School Immunisation Program - 2016 Vaccination Schedule

Dear Parent/Carer

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (QLD Health) are once again returning to Gordonvale State High School on **Wednesday the 24th February 2016** to conduct the *2016 Queensland School Immunisation Program*.

You will receive an envelope with a letter about the 2016 Queensland School Immunisation Program, information about the vaccinations and consent forms. If you would like your child to participate in the immunisation program complete the consent forms and have them returned by the **12th of February** to the main office. The school immunisation program and vaccination schedule is as follows:

Date	Year 7 & 8 - Male & Female
Wednesday 24/02/2016	HPV (Dose 1) dTpa
Wednesday 27/04/2016	HPV (Dose 2) VZV (Chickenpox)
Wednesday 01/06/2016	Catch-ups
Wednesday 05/10/2016	HPV (Dose 3)

Gabriella McGuigan (School Immunisation Program & Clinical Nurse from QLD Health/Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service) is available to discuss any queries/more information you require. Gabriella can be contacted directly on 4226 4953 or email Gabriella.McGuigan@health.qld.gov.au

Safer Internet Day 2016

Be smart, play your part!

Tuesday 9th February 2016 is Safer Internet Day.

Join the global celebration and play your part for a better internet.

Gordonvale State High School intends to play a part in a safer internet. If you wish to learn more and access other valuable resources

please visit the website: <https://esafety.gov.au/>

For the *Parents' Guide to Online Safety* visit;

http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/~media/Cybersmart/Documents/Documents/Parents_guide_to_online_safety.pdf;

The infographic is titled "eSafety health check" and is designed to look like a medical check-up. It features a large stethoscope graphic that frames several key messages. At the top left, it says "Treat your password like your toothbrush—don't share it with anyone and change it regularly." with an icon of a toothbrush and a password "*****". Below this, it says "Revisit your privacy settings to protect your personal information." with a padlock icon. To the right, it says "When cyberbullying gets you down, report it: esafety.gov.au/reportcyberbullying" with a sad face icon. Below that, it says "Don't act in the heat of the moment—stay calm and chill." with a thermometer icon. To the right of that, it says "What you post online stays online—think about your digital reputation." with a hand icon. At the bottom left, it says "OMG! Nude pics can spread quicker than a virus—reconsider the types of pics you send." with a target icon. The bottom of the infographic says "*explore safely" and the website "esafety.gov.au".

Greg Maroske - Guidance Officer

My name is Greg Maroske and I am really excited to be here this term as replacement Guidance Officer. I recently retired after 35 years as Guidance Officer and Senior Guidance Officer. My most recent position was Senior Guidance in Regional Office North Coast Region Maroochydore. I was responsible for supervising Guidance Officers in 30 schools ranging from Prep to Year 12 as well as a Special School. I worked previously in the Lockyer area, Western Queensland and the South and North Burnett districts. I have spent the weekends so far doing the tourist bit north of Gordonvale, including up to Cooktown, and I am looking forward to seeing more of your beautiful country.

At the same time I will be treating my time at Gordonvale SHS very seriously and do the best I can to make a difference for students at this school. I look forward to meeting with students and families. There has been an overlap before Cheryl Parsons takes leave so I am grateful for the insights that she is passing on. My thoughts so far:

- I am very impressed with students and staff at the school and the very friendly welcome extended to me
- It is VERY hot!
- Pedestrians don't need to follow "Don't Walk" lights
- Thongs seem to be the footwear of choice
- Many sentences end with "eh"
- It is DAMN hot!!



Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Youth Support Program

The Youth Support Program within the school continues to provide ongoing support to students with the delivery of suitable programs to enhance student skills, knowledge and motivation.

Boys Boxing Program This year we are offering the Boys Boxing Program once again which will run on for 1 lesson per week. The Boxing Training is provided by 'Streets Movement'. The program works with youth through the medium of both fitness and boxing technique (the discipline, not the fighting) in which students are taught the values of fitness and highlight the major benefits of looking after their body. It is carried out by instilling discipline, dedication, commitment, improved focus, team work and respect for themselves and one another.

The program is also supported by the Youth Support Coordinator, covering areas of goal setting, team building and leadership.

'Dream Me' Program Following on from the Girls Boxing Program run in 2015, this year we are providing a new program for the girls called 'Dream Me'. The program is held once a week for one lesson and is a combination of fitness, nutrition, personal presentation, goal setting, team work and leadership. A dedicated teacher is allocated to the program with the support of the Youth Support Officer, School Nurse and other staff as needed.

The program will provide a structured, supported and, most importantly, a fun learning environment for students to achieve the following:

- Improved fitness and personal presentation
- Improved self confidence and resilience
- Successful achievement of personal goals
- Teamwork skills
- Leadership skills
- Improved school attendance

Humanities & Business Department



Outstanding Data from 2015 Congratulations to both the teachers and students in our Humanities and Business Senior classes from 2015. The data was outstanding, with a minimum of 95% of all students achieving a passing grade or higher.

The following Senior classes achieved impressive results:

Year 11 Ancient History (teacher: Ms Andrea Watters) - 100% passing rate

Year 11 BCT (teacher: Mrs Janine Faulkner) - 100% passing rate

Year 11 Legal Studies (teacher: Mrs Jessica Williams) - 100% passing rate

Year 11 Modern History (teacher: Mrs Janine Faulkner) - 95% passing rate

Year 11 Social & Community Studies (teacher: Miss Jen White) - 100% passing rate

Year 12 BCT (teacher: Mrs Jessica Williams) - 100% passing rate

Year 12 Modern History (teacher: Mrs Patrice Honnef) - 95% passing rate

These results are a credit to the teachers making the classroom a friendly and inspiring work environment and to the dedication and enthusiasm from the students. Both the teachers and students worked extremely hard over the year, and this is clearly reflected in the exceptional results. There is no doubt this will continue in 2016 and we look forward to another rewarding year.

Junior Secondary News - Engaging our Parent Community

It has been a very busy start to the school year; we would like to thank all the parents who were available to attend our first official parade to welcome our newest cohort of year 7 students. Our annual Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet was on Thursday February 4th, as always, this was an excellent opportunity for our Year 7 teachers, students and parents to mingle, put faces to names and visit their child's classroom. It is always a pleasure to meet parents and share with them our school's vision and direction.

Gordonvale High has been working hard at improving our communication with our parents and community; last year our parent community provided us with valuable suggestions that were implemented in 2015 and 2016. This year our focus is on parent engagement, something we were able to brainstorm with parents on Thursday night. We wanted to highlight with parents the importance of parent engagement during their child's years at high school.

At primary school, families commonly assist with homework, volunteer as reading tutors, and are a welcomed visible presence. In contrast, successful involvement at the high school level might include parent information evenings; parent teacher interviews; special meetings to communicate information; meetings around subject selection and SET planning; senior schooling discussions around QCE, QCS and university preparation; participation in the school's parents and community team; or workshops designed to address adolescent issues. Involvement at high school is often much less visible, though just as valuable. Research (Henderson & Mapp, 2002) demonstrates that family-based processes that successfully support teenage academic achievement include interactions where families:

- talk often with their teenagers about school;
- help them make plans for post-secondary education; and
- keep them focused on learning and homework during the school year.

We enjoy parent input when improving systems at our school and posed the problem to parents who attended Thursday's session. How can Gordonvale State High School support and encourage family engagement? The feedback was as follows:

1. The issues

- Parents not knowing how they can assist within the school
- Availability between 9am – 3pm
- Overcoming the stigma of parent involvement – how can parents become cool at school ☺
- Family commitment with younger siblings
- Financial difficulties
- Transportation
- Unfamiliar and unsure who to approach at the school
- Children friendly
- Time poor
- Afterhours commitments with sports and other activities

2. Options/Solutions

- Full family inclusion, activities available for all children
- Subsidies for parents who become active parent members within the school
- More communication from the school about what parents can do to help
- Provide a list of skills required by parents and tasks to be completed so parents can volunteer their time
- Inform parents of tasks that can be completed off site
- Educate the students that parent involvement is cool at school ☺
- Parents to overcome the stigma and just get involved
- Open lines of communication
- Flow chart for parents for correct communication with appropriate staff

Now it is our job to see how we can implement some of these suggestion!

YEAR 7 CAMP QUINOLA LAKES, MALANDA

AN EXPERIENCE IN LEARNING, UNDERSTANDING AND ADVENTURE

Year 7s are invited to attend camp at the start of term 1, 2016. It is a great opportunity to develop personal and team building skills, not to mention a whole heap of fun.

YEAR 7: 17th-19th February 2016

COST: \$150

For more information about activities visit

<https://quinolalakes.wordpress.com/>



Personal Excellence Successful Futures

TEEN TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS SURVEY



How close are you to your teen? How much do you know about them?

Help us understand how parenting and family relationships affect teen behaviour and emotions.

If you have a teenager between the ages of **11 and 18 years old**, complete a brief and anonymous 30-minute survey about your parenting, your relationship with your teen and their wellbeing. Your teenager can take part in a similar anonymous survey about their behaviour and emotional wellbeing. Your participation in our research is greatly appreciated!

This research is voluntary and confidential.

For further information and to take part in the survey, please visit: <https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/parentingteens/project/tribulations>

Or contact: parentingteens@uq.edu.au

QParents is here - Have You Registered Yet?

By now you should have received an invitation by email or mail to register for QParents. If you have not, please contact the school office.

To complete the registration process you need to provide 100 points of identification. This can be done online. If you cannot provide the required identification documents there are other documents that you can provide to the school office in person. This enables Education Queensland to ensure that your child's information is not available to unauthorised users.

The QParents web and mobile application provides a more convenient, easier way for parents and legal guardians of Queensland state school students to interact with their child's school. Parents will have secure, online access to their child's student information, anytime, anywhere, through a smartphone, tablet or computer.

QParents allows parents to connect instantly with their child's school to access and manage their child's student information, including:

- Attendance and absence details, as well as the ability to notify the school of an absence
- Behaviour details
- Academic report cards
- Class timetables
- Viewing unpaid invoice details, payment history, and making payments online
- Viewing and updating personal student details, including medical conditions and address
- Enrolment details



QParents won't replace the traditional ways you communicate with our school, but it will provide another way to communicate with us.

More information about QParents can be found at <https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/about>

Round 7 of Get Started Vouchers opened for applications 27 January 2016

The program provides eligible children and young people aged 5 up to 17 (inclusive) who can least afford to join a sport or recreation club, with a voucher valued at up to \$150 for membership and/or registration fees. It should be noted that vouchers are issued on a first come, first served basis; therefore there is no guarantee that a child or young person will obtain a voucher.

Over 3800 clubs have registered for the program. Clubs can apply for registration for Get Started Vouchers at any time. Registration is valid for the entire program period so there is no need to register for each round.

Fact sheets for clubs, parents/guardians/carers and referral agents can be viewed at <http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthegame/getstarted/>. The factsheets provide an overview of the eligibility criteria and application process.

Senior School News

Welcome back to another year and a fresh start to 2016. There have been a handful of changes within the senior school office over the break. Following Ms Maehl's retirement over the holidays, Mr Williams has assumed her role of Head of Senior School with Mr Sperring becoming Head of Behaviour. Trish Singh continues in her role of Student Pathway Officer.

The senior school has hit the ground running to start the year with senior shirts already in distribution. If students have not collected their shirt yet, they need to see Trish in B13 with a completed SRS form. Senior jerseys are still in production and details for their collection will be provided in due time.

QCE tracking meetings have been held, and will continue to be held, with parents and students periodically throughout the year. These meetings are utilised to host discussions around how students are progressing towards attaining their QCE certificate at the conclusion of year 12. This certificate is relevant for all students whether OP or non-OP eligible and allow us as a school to ensure all students will exit with this certificate in 2016.

Grade 12 camp is on during week three on the 10th, 11th and 12th of February. It is mandatory that students not attending camp attend school. To remain eligible for camp and other extra-curricular activities provided by the school and district during the year, it is important for senior students to be mindful of their attendance and behaviour.

Finally, the Senior Induction will occur on Friday February 19th. Further details will be provided to students and invitations for parents will be sent out shortly. Welcome back to 2016, let this be another great year at Gordonvale State High School.



NQ School Photography took our school photographs on **Wednesday 3rd February 2016**.

You can still order online at www.ngsp.com.au using shoot key **VTWZNQEM**.

Regards, NQSP Team