

## Homework

"The worst thing a kid can say about homework is that it is too hard. The worst thing a kid can say about a game is it's too easy."

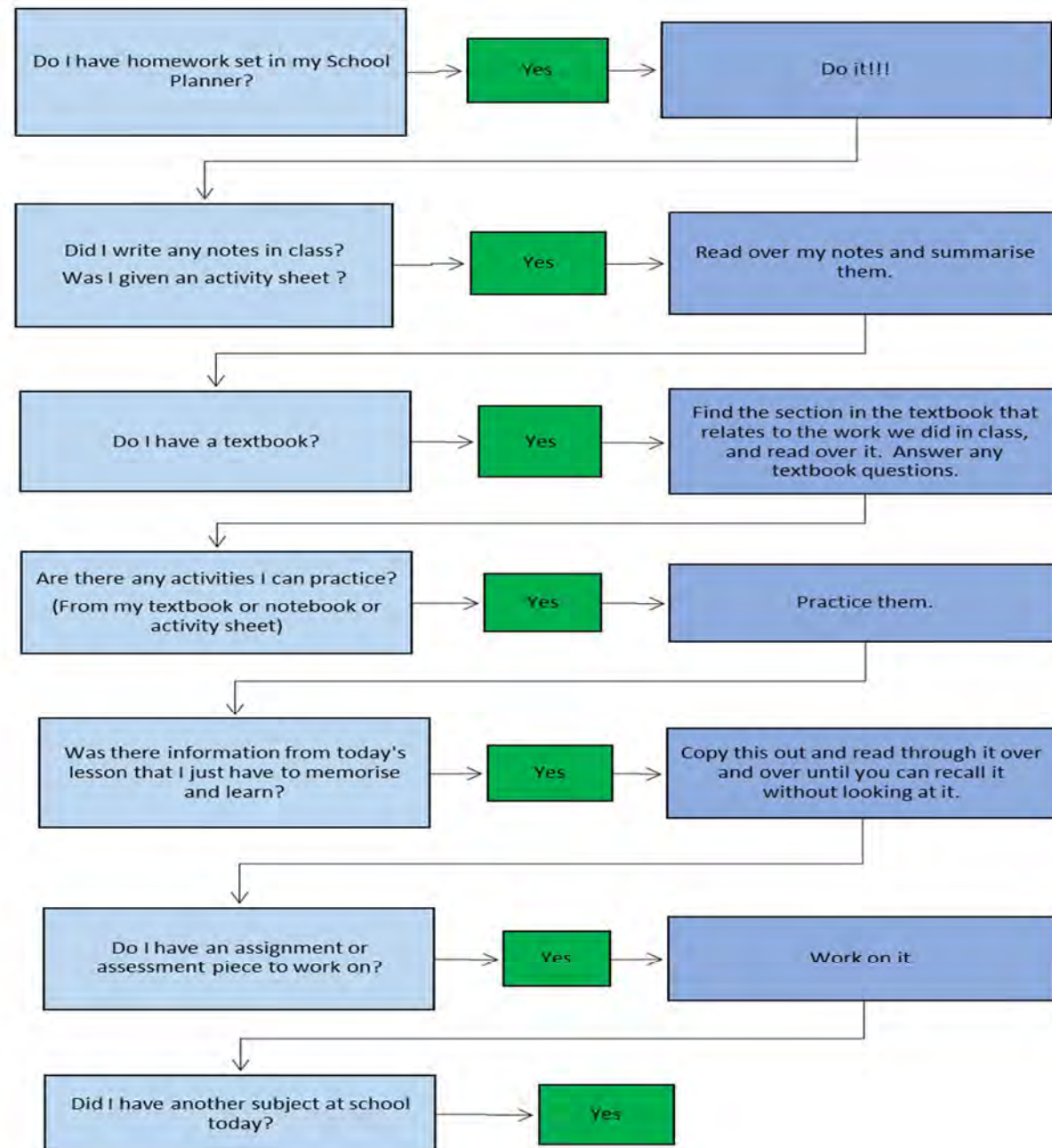
— **Henry Jenkins**

**How much time should students spend on homework during week nights?** The following is a guide for students and parents.

- Year 7 1 hour per night
- Year 8 1 hour per night
- Year 9 1½ hours per night
- Year 10 2 hours per night
- Year 11 3 or more hours per night
- Year 12 3 or more hours per night

Prior to exam periods, students will need to spend additional time revising past work. Students should spend some time each weekend on the completion of homework, or assignments and projects.

There is no such thing as NO HOMEWORK study guide



You will rarely get to the end of this process without finding some HOMEWORK you can do.

## Issue 3 - 2016

### Upcoming Events

**Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th March**

- Visiting Architect

**Wednesday 9th until Friday 11th March**

- Year 11 Visual Arts Practice Camp

**Friday 11th March**

- School Dance 'Disney'

**Wednesday, 16th March** - GSHS Swimming Carnival

**Monday, 21st March** - P&C Meeting



Hospitality cooking up a storm!



"Spent the afternoon listening Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's speech on driving innovation in Australia, and to top it off managed to get a selfie as well. Great afternoon!!!"

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**GORDONVALE**  
*State High School*

**Personal Excellence, Successful Futures**

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

## From The Principal



Jan Carr

**School Resource Hire Scheme** Students have been issued 2016 student planners, textbooks, novels, access to computers and printers, class sets of dictionaries and thesauruses, photocopied worksheets or homework sheets, consumables and other material required for their subjects. Student ID cards are currently being produced and will be issued soon. Thank you to all parents/carers who paid or have negotiated a payment plan for the 2016 Student Resource Scheme. Family statements will be posted home at the end of each month for you to check. Parents/carers who have indicated on the SRS participation form that fees will be paid over the first three terms should now have Term 1 fees paid. If your account is in credit, this credit can be used for any other excursion as long as all the paperwork is completed and returned. This process is not automatic and if you wish to use a credit in this way you must inform the office. If you require further clarification, please contact the office on 4043 3222.

We depend very heavily on our school fees being paid in order to support the purchase of new text books, computer repairs and upgrades and the procurement of student resources such as planners, calculators, reference books and so on. It is so very important that school hiring fees are paid. A payment plan of as little as \$7-00 per week in the junior school and \$9-00 per week in the senior school over the school year can cover the total costs of our school resource hire scheme. Parents and carers can phone the school at any time to speak to our office staff about payment of school fees. Students wishing to participate in non-curriculum activities such as sporting events, school camps, and non-assessment excursions, cultural events or social events must complete a clearance form. To participate in the aforementioned activities students must have an attendance rate over 90%, have a very good behaviour record and have school fees paid or have in place a payment plan.

**Parent-teacher interviews – please note these dates in your diary.** Parent teacher interviews (all year levels) will be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April from 3.30 pm to 7.00 pm. The instructions on how to book your parent-teacher interviews online will be mailed and or emailed to you.

**Code of School behaviour** I am attaching to the newsletter this week a link to Education Queensland's Code of School Behaviour. This document clearly outlines the code in which we operate to ensure our school is committed to "providing quality learning opportunities that enable all students to achieve within safe, supportive and disciplined learning environments". With our focus clearly on student achievement across all areas and year levels, I encourage all families to discuss this document with their students, particularly the responsibilities and expectations of students and parents. As all of our students plan for successful term one results, I look forward to sharing many of the successes over the coming weeks. Please click on the link below to view Education Queensland's Code of School Behaviour- <http://education.qld.gov.au/behaviour/docs/code-school-behaviour-a4.pdf>

**Student Attendance—Every Day Counts.** Children do better at school when they go to school all day, every day. Schools, parents, caregivers and communities have a key role in ensuring all students attend school every day. At Gordonvale State High School we have a very positive school culture with high expectations for student attendance. We want to see EVERY student in EVERY class, EVERY DAY. We need to ensure teachers, families, students and the school community work together to monitor student attendance.

The research on student attendance shows that poor school attendance is associated with:

- lower academic achievement including literacy and numeracy
- early school leaving
- leaving school with fewer qualifications
- reduced opportunities for students to learn and access educational resources, further limiting achievement
- further absenteeism in higher year levels

Every day, teachers and staff record and monitor student attendance. We want students at school and in classes.



## Support for Parents / Carers

At Gordonvale State High School, Parents and Carers have the opportunity to contact the following people on 40 433 222 to discuss any concerns and / or information to ensure our teachers understand the students they are teaching. I look forward to meeting with parents and carers at the P&C Annual General Meeting, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March and other school functions during the year.

Name	Area of Responsibility for Semester One
Mr Warren Brown	Deputy Principal
Mrs Davida Laney	Deputy Principal, Year Level Behaviour Manager – year 7
Mr Robbie Williams	Head of Senior Secondary (10 – 12) – Year Level Behaviour Manager – year 12
Mr Matt Sperring	Head of Senior Secondary (10 – 12) – Year Level Behaviour Manager – year 11
Mrs Lauren Huth	Head of Junior Secondary (7 – 9) , Year Level Behaviour Manager – year 8
Ms Janet Van Rijssen	Head of English, Philosophy and Reason, LOTE
Ms Jo Paratore	Head of Mathematics, H&PE, Numeracy
Mrs Rhonda Martin	Head of Science, Agriculture, Marine Studies
Mrs Patrice Honnef	Head of Social Sciences and Business
Mrs Tennille Farnsworth	Head of The Arts, Hospitality
Mrs Margie More	Head of Special Needs
Mrs Helen Venables	Head of Teaching and Learning – Literacy, Reading, Learning Support
Mr Todd Chatterton	Head of Teaching and Learning – Cultural Perspectives
Ms Mel Craig	Head of H&PE, INTAD
Mrs Mechelle Zucco	Head of eLearning, Digital Technology and Resource Centre
Mrs Linda Tomic	Master Teacher
Mrs Andrea Watters	Year Level Behaviour Manager – year 10
Mr Rowan Cox	Year Level Behaviour Manager – year 9
Mr Greg Maroske	Guidance Officer – term 1
Mrs Cheryl Parsons	Guidance Officer – terms 2-4
Mrs Ange Hardy	Youth Support Worker
Mrs Veronica Johan	Community Education Counsellor
Mr Neal Teale	Community Education Counsellor
Mrs Cassie Carter	School Based Nurse
Ms Lyndal Jones	Student Service's Officer
Mrs Trish Singh	Student Pathway's Officer
Mrs Sonya Wiley	Student Enrolment Officer
Mrs Sharlene Brosseuk	Business Service's Manager

## 2016 Next Step Survey

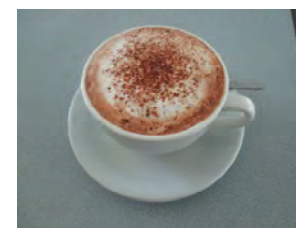
The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in the previous year. The *Next Step* survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician's Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate.

Thank you for your support of the *Next Step* survey in 2016.

Further information on Next Step is available online at [www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/) or on toll free telephone 1800 068 587.

## Hospitality Department



Things are getting busy in the kitchen in the Hospitality Department. Our Year 12 students will be opening their lunchtime café next week to complete their assessment in espresso coffee making. In the meantime there has been a lot of practice coffees made, theory about coffee and tea to learn, and some baking of popular café food items.

From the looks of this, staff and senior students are in for a treat!

Rebecca O'Brien - Hospitality Department

## Learner Licence Education Program

The Learner Licence Education Program (LLEAP) will be delivered 4 times this year during the school holidays and these courses will be held at DET Regional Office conference room.

These courses are held over 2 days with the 3<sup>rd</sup> day utilised for students to sit the written road rules test. The IDLU delivery style is friendly, non-intimidating and utilises visual resources similar to those, the students will see during their 2 days of training.

This is a program aimed at those students that feel they **may** struggle to obtain their learners and/or are struggling to achieve their learners. If you feel you would benefit from this program (during school holidays), please do not hesitate to contact Neal on (07) 4043 3215

Every Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch Neal will be holding sessions to make sure students will be ready to take the leap in getting their learners.

- Week 6 1st information session - Provide forms to commence document collection, explain the process and the \$\$.
- Week 7 2nd information session - Introduce the LLP Kit, update on the document collection, any assistance required.
- Week 8 3rd session - Games and quiz
- Week 9 4th session - Update on documents and monies
- Week 10 5th session - Catch up with students and final preps.

Gordonvale Local Chaplaincy Committee

Invites YOU to

The Commissioning Service of our  
New Secondary High School Chaplain

Miss Francesca Perez

Tuesday 15th March

6.30-8.00pm

Gordonvale State High School M Block

Light Supper Provided



Gordonvale State High School  
Invites you to...

THE  
**DISNEY**  
DANCE

Friday March 11th

Frank Rich Hall

7pm - 10pm

Tickets \$5

**Year 8 Boys Rugby League** Gordonvale have progressed into the semi-finals of the Cairns Schoolboys Rugby League Competition, winning two of the three round games. A hard fought 20-10 victory against Bentley Park and a dominant win 56-4 against Woree has brought great confidence to the boys. The next game is Wednesday, March 9 against an undefeated Trinity Bay team, at Trinity Bay SHS 4pm.



## Junior Secondary News

Junior Secondary is a very busy department at Gordonvale SHS. While it will look different in every school, six principles have been developed to underpin Junior Secondary. Under these six guiding principles, Junior Secondary will provide challenging educational offerings that engage young adolescents, while giving them a sense of belonging and support through the changes they face.

How have we achieved this at Gordonvale SHS?

### 1. Distinct identity

Junior Secondary students are encouraged to develop their own group identity within the wider high school. This involved the establishment of dedicated school areas and a review of our junior secondary leadership roles.

### 2. Quality teaching

Teachers working with students in the Junior Secondary years are given the skills they need through additional professional development, so they can support young teens through these crucial early high school years. 2015 saw the introduction of the SUMMIT program which has proved very popular amongst students and parents.

### 3. Student wellbeing

We meet the social and emotional needs of Junior Secondary students with a strong focus on pastoral care. We understand the importance of explicitly teaching students our standards and expectations as they adjust to new routines and greater academic demands. This is supported by: Positive Behaviour for Learning team (PBL), Student Welfare Action Team (SWAT) and the school's pastoral care program Learn to Learn (LTL).

### 4. Parent and community involvement

We want parents to stay connected with their students' learning when they enter high school. Parent involvement at Gordonvale SHS has always been welcomed but in 2016 we are exploring new ways of engaging our parents and carers within our school community.

### 5. Leadership

Schools are encouraged to create leadership roles for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. We have always had junior leaders for each year level but in 2016 we have expanded our student leadership team to include: LTL class representative across 7, 8 and 9, a year level representative for 7, 8 and 9, two Junior Sports Captains and two Junior Social Captains.

### 6. Local decision-making

The needs of each school community will influence how Junior Secondary is implemented in each school.

As previously mentioned Junior Secondary is a busy department and continues to grow to offer more opportunities to our junior students and staff. It is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity to introduce Mrs Lauren Huth to the role of Head of Junior Secondary for Semester 1, 2016. This is Mrs Huth's third year at Gordonvale State High School after transferring up north from Bundaberg. Mrs Huth has been teaching for 10 years and since her arrival she has been working with and teaching primarily in the Junior School in the areas of mathematics and science.

During this time I have stepped into the role of Deputy Principal and continue to work closely with Mrs Huth and the Junior Secondary Students.

David Laney - Deputy Principal



Mrs Lauren Huth

## Home Town Clean Up



On the 6<sup>th</sup> of March the Gordonvale community helped each other and the community to make Gordonvale clean as part of Clean Up Australia Day. 30-40 community members started in the Gordonvale IGA with a quick briefing from local councillor candidate Sandra Charlton. Some people went to Green Patch and others walked around town. After grabbing some gloves and a bag, adults and children spread throughout the Gordonvale town centre picking up big and small pieces of litter. It was a successful day, overall nearly every family picked up two whole bags of rubbish. After everybody had finished the church put on a morning tea which was fruit and punch. IGA donated bottles of water to the families that helped clean up our community. Everyone who helped out had a fun time.

By Jasmine - Year 7S



## Senior Secondary News



**QCE Attainment** To be awarded a QCE, students need to demonstrate a significant amount of learning, to a set standard and in a set pattern, while meeting literacy and numeracy requirements. Students must have at least 20 credits in the required pattern and have met the literacy and numeracy requirements to be awarded a QCE (QCAA, 2015).

Twelve out of twenty credits must come from completed core courses of study which include:

- Three Authority or Authority-registered subjects over four semesters **OR**
- A VET Certificate II course and two Authority or Authority-registered subjects

The 8 remaining credits can be achieved from a combination of any subject or course of study.

**QCE attainment is our main goal.**

Students are more than welcome to approach the Senior Schooling office in B13 and make a meeting to discuss their progress or concerns of the QCE.

For more information regarding the QCE, QCS and QTAC, there will be an information evening held in the GSHS library on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March from 6 – 6:45pm.

Furthermore, a QCE handbook published by the QCAA is available online at:

**Handbook:** <https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/certificates-qualifications/qce/qce-handbook>

## Student Leadership Workshop

On the 4<sup>th</sup> March, the 2016 Leadership Team had a workshop where they bonded and got to know each other.

Organised by Mrs Laney, Mr Williams and Mrs Carr, the students all had a lot of fun and

became closer with each other. It was a really fun day and it was great to see the junior and senior school bond so well. The day consisted of numerous leadership tactics, leader attributes, what makes a good leader and what each person's values are. Also, the year levels got to make up super hero powers for their peers and what their main value is. This was a really good activity in helping the students understand what each person's value is and who to talk to when they need a role model or inspiration. The leadership team was made up of all leader roles from the School Captains right through to the Class Representatives and Year Leaders.

To start the workshop students had to go around and introduce themselves to others and ask them questions to understand how they act in certain situations. With mixed personalities across the senior leader group, it was great to see the junior school get up, speak up and spread their opinions on the given topics. The workshop was a great way for the leadership



team to find out the attitudes towards certain questions, such as 'should police officers have a higher salary?'. Overall, the whole workshop was a great success in having all the seniors bond together.

Jake - Sports Captain

### BRONNIES HOUSE IS NOW HIRING !

To all the Senior students this year...We are looking for the ages 15-18yrs old who want their first taste of employment in Youth work. We will hire you for paid work, not work experience, paid work once you have completed our 12 week training program. Enrolment fee \$30 to secure your spot. Course fee \$25 per week. You will become part of our Youth Events Team for Cairns, organising community events for teenagers your age, run by teenagers, designed by teenagers. Learning leadership skills along the way. And if you dont stay with Bronnies House, you have had experience in a paid position with references from us to take you and your new skills wherever you want to go.

We need to fill the following positions  
Team Leaders- Social media assistants- Financial budgeting- Fundraising committee- Administration- Artists- and more

Email: [bronnieshouse@gmail.com](mailto:bronnieshouse@gmail.com)  
Find us on FaceBook

Become a gold star member for \$5 to win points & prizes

Free for juniors to join in on the fun

## Enrol now

### community events

**\$30 ENROLMENT FEE, \$25 WEEKLY PAYMENT PLAN**

- ✓ Fundraising committee
- ✓ Management committee
- ✓ Team leaders
- ✓ Social Media
- ✓ Administration

Bronnies House actively promotes awareness against Domestic Violence, Homelessness, mental illness, our youth & Remote indigenous communities

Pro quality letter required for private showing Abn 55856487420