2016 Graduation Program

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm  Arrivals and Photos
6:00 - 6:30 pm  Doors Open for Seating
6:30 pm  Graduation certificate and farewell gift presented by Principal, Mrs Jan Carr and P&O C, representative, Welcome speech by school captains, Hayley Thomas & Sean Kelly
7:00 pm  Dinner Served
7:45 pm  Speech by Head of Senior School, Mr Robbie Williams
8:00 pm  Dessert Served
8:30 pm  Thank You speech by Vice Captain, Kyraui Barry
Senior Video
8:45 pm  Dancing
10:30 pm  Ceremony concludes
On Monday 31st of October our in school scientist Sue Helmeke, assisted year 7 students in a classification activity. Prior to this students worked with dichotomous keys in class but today they experienced firsthand the task of a Fisheries Biologist. The students worked in groups to classify what type of prawn they had by identifying the key features. Students discovered features they had never seen on a prawn and managed with some help to find the scientific name and even pronounce it. However, the most enjoyable part of the activity was the dissection of the prawn to locate its brain, intestine and to identify whether it was male or female. All students thoroughly enjoyed the hands on experience but weren’t keen to have prawns for dinner.

### Year 10 History - by Kelsie - Year 10 Student

On Thursday of week 2 Veronica kindly volunteered to talk to our 10D History class, she also visited the other year 10 history classes. Veronica shared the story of her grandmother’s ordeal as part of the Stolen Generation and her own brief experience of the Flora and Fauna Act as a baby.

It was enlightening to hear a first-hand account from the Stolen Generation and also to sympathise with the losses of those families affected. As we are doing an assignment on civil rights issues of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, this talk tied in perfectly with our assignment topic.

As most of us had heard Veronica’s story before we found ourselves more or less piecing together the puzzle as we recalled her story. Although heard before, Veronica’s story still held more information for us to hear and captivated us all the more as we tried to remember what happened next. We as a class can only try to understand how hard it must have been for Veronica to share her story and appreciate the emotional strain it may have on her. With this in mind, we become even more grateful to her for sharing her story with us and allowing us a glance into the past. We are busy working hard on our assessment which is an independent inquiry based case study on the significance of an individual from the Stolen Generations or a civil rights event that is significant to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

### Donation to Trolley’s Red Cross Big Cake Bake

On Saturday 22 October Trolley Café held a Red Cross Big Cake Bake to raise money for the Red Cross. We were asked to donate some cakes and our Year 12s, who are currently completing a cake decorating unit, were keen to assist. We donated 4 chocolate cakes, which we hope were enjoyed by those who bought them!

Gordonvale SHS will be hosting their own Red Cross Big Cake Bake event on November 9 this year.

### Science News

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At the recent DATTA awards organised by the BLA (Business Liaison Association) and the Regional Intad Teachers two of our students were good enough to obtain 1st place in their respective categories. The awards were held at Event Cinema in Cairns Central Thursday night, 27th Oct where sponsors provided approximately $12000 in value towards prizes for all of the award categories. Schools from the Tableland, Innisfail and all of the Cairns schools entered in the well contested categories from year 7 to 12 with various sections for graphics, workshop projects, student designed projects and community built projects. Of the students that entered from our school, Chloe Mangano received a 1st place for her very well made and presented Jewellery Box in the Junior Workshop section. Shylah Montague entered her design of a small cottage for a young couple, her design and presented drawings impressed the judges for her to also receive a first place in the Junior Graphics section.

Congratulations to both these young Ladies on their high quality work and their awards.

The Cairns hospital fundraising foundation conducted a recycled pallet furniture silent auction and ball which was concluded on Saturday night. Three of our students attended the ball to represent our entry, with only minor damage reported from the high heels worn.

Students volunteered to end up being part of a small crew of five that have spent one lunch hour each day for the last 7 weeks completing our project. After some research, the students built two chairs along the style of an Adirondack chair. Both seats turned out very well, we had lots of trouble getting the testers out of them when they sat in them. Mr Gill Cook kindly offered to deliver them for us and our wonderful Intad teacher aide Mr Phil Griffiths helped out with some timber assembly and guidance when we were running out of time especially towards the end. Having to pull old pallets apart without wrecking the timber and machining it to create useful pieces of timber took a considerable amount of time and hard work. The students all attended and participated in a wonderful spirit, keeping the end goal of helping others in their mind. It was a pleasure to spend this time with them all creating what ended up being two very nice, comfortable seats that raised $250 for the foundation.

The quality of their work must have impressed as I am told they also won the best school entry category announced on the night. Congratulations to the dedicated crew of (year 12's) Morgan, Joshua, Crystal, (year 8's) Liliana and Alexandra. Your efforts are a credit to your determination and wonderful natures to give for such a worthy cause.

LATE NEWS. Our reporter for the night, Mrs Rebecca O'Brien took some photos and reported back on the night. Jamie Durie praised their work very highly, and seemed very partial to Adirondack chairs. The ladies who bought the chairs are taking one each and declared they would care for them very well. The organiser was full of praise for our entry and encourages GSHS to enter again next year. Ours were a cut above the entries from the other schools entries in terms of quality. We will receive a certificate and a cheque for $250.
ATTENTION: YEAR 6 STUDENTS
WITH SIBLINGS WHO ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT GSHS IN YEARS 7-11

As the end of the school year is fast approaching, we would like to take this opportunity to REMIND parents and carers that:

- If they have a student who is currently enrolled in Years 7 to 11 at Gordonvale State High School, and have a Year 6 student who will be attending Year 7 in 2017, that you are still eligible to enrol your Year 6 student.

Enrolment interviews will be held at Gordonvale State School Tuesday 8th and Tuesday 15th November from 10am until 2.30pm. Please contact the office at Gordonvale State High School to book an interview time.

Reminder - Transition Day is 25th November. Students need to be enrolled for 2017 to attend this day.

Year 6 to 7 Parent Information Evening is on Wednesday, 30th November from 6pm until 7pm.

Lauren Huth - Head of Junior Secondary

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**Year 9 Rugby League Program 2016**

In the RLP this year we’ve been lucky enough to organise a few friendly games with our southern corridor neighbour schools Bentley Park and Djarragun College. The results were secondary to the competition itself with the games an ideal forum to apply the skills we’ve been implementing during our Rugby League classes throughout the year.

Communication, reaction and anticipation are some of the areas of improvement identified by the students themselves upon reflection. With the attacking structures we’ve learned this year and a greater desire to improve our defensive techniques this class will be a formidable opponent when everything finally clicks into gear.

With students from the SEU playing alongside students that don’t play club rugby league mixed with regional rep players you could say we have a unique group. As the coach I’m pleased to have witnessed a lot of improvement throughout the year. It’s hard to single anybody out for praise however Jabin Miller was awarded our best on ground against the Djarragun College team in our recent friendly (selected by the opposition coach) and has been a solid consistent performer all year.

Andrew Hislop

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**Year 8 Business**

Year 8 Business ran a successful venture baking and selling cookies, brownies, and muffins. The students learnt all about market research and working as a team in a professional food production environment. We even managed a small profit!

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**Garage Sale - Keyboards - Music Department**

Gordonvale State High School has 12 Yamaha 61 note portable keyboards available for purchase. The keyboards will be sold on an ‘as is’ basis. Any delivery charges after purchase are to be borne by the buyer. No warranties are implied or given.

Details of keyboards are available on the Gordonvale SHS website.

Keyboards will be available to purchase on Thursday 17th November in A07 at Gordonvale State High School, 85 Sheppards St Gordonvale, from 1:30pm – 3:15pm.

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**2016 Cowboys Challenge**

On Thursday 20th October Miss Evans & Mr Jerome took 11 girls down to Townsville to participate in the 2016 Cowboys Challenge. Our school entered an U16s team as well as an Opens team. Our girls joined with students from Bowen SHS to play in modified games of Rugby League. Both our teams represented Gordonvale SHS with pride as they competed against some very challenging teams. Well done to all girls involved, we look forward to taking teams down again in 2017.

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**Indigenous Leaders of Tomorrow**

Recently our 8 Indigenous Leaders of the Future participated in a day of sharing success with 18 other high schools across Cairns and Far North Queensland. The leaders were required to present how students had engaged with cultural events at their school throughout the year.

All of our students presented themselves wonderfully in their formal uniforms. They conducted a speech that outlined their personal successes before they showed a power point of photos from Close the Gap Day, NAIDOC, Reconciliation Week, and sporting events that they had run during lunch hours. Our presentation ended with video footage of students providing some ideas for teachers to consider when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It is envisaged that this package could be shown to new staff as part of their induction.

The leaders were then given the opportunity to come back in the evening for a formal dinner. We would like to congratulate all of this year’s Indigenous Leaders of Tomorrow for their ongoing efforts. Their dedication was exemplified when they volunteered their time at the Gordonvale Indigenous football carnival that was run on the weekend. Many came down on both days to help out in the kitchen, selling drinks, filming or keeping the grounds tidy.